

*Preface.*

Massachusetts, to put together all the information concerning each man and arrange all names in alphabetical order. We have adopted the former plan for several reasons; first, because this is a volume of Maryland Archives and, as such, should contain the lists as they are found; secondly, because we have no sufficient means at hand to enable us to identify or differentiate the persons of the same name found in different lists; and, thirdly, because for certain purposes it is interesting and useful to know who were associated in any command.

Doubtless, it will be found that the records are not absolutely complete. The wonder is rather that so many lists have been preserved through so many vicissitudes and opportunities of loss. We have sufficient information from what has been preserved, to give us the record of most of the Continental soldiers. Unfortunately, we have not found the rolls of those two companies who marched from Frederick County to the siege of Boston, but many of the records of the Independent companies are in our possession. The muster rolls of the Flying Camp are preserved, but no record of their service can be found. The records of the Maryland Line are quite complete. A chronological arrangement of the muster and pay-rolls has been adopted as far as possible. The rolls of certain special commands, such as Lee's and Pulaski's Legions, which it is difficult to fit into any chronological arrangement, are placed at the end of the work. It should be noted that the term "deserter," when used without the addition "to the enemy," merely signifies that the soldier was absent from his command without leave. The discipline of the Revolutionary armies was not strict, and many left the ranks, when they were needed at home, returning to the service after a few months.

After most of the volume was in type, certain muster rolls were secured too late to be inserted in their proper place in the volume. These are contained in an appendix.

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Respectfully,

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*Committee of Publication.*

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