



**TREMENDOUS RIOTS  
IN SOUTHWARK**

**From *A Full and Complete Account of the Late Awful Riots in Philadelphia.*  
Philadelphia: John B. Perry, 1844.**

Five Thousand Military Under Arms. Fourteen Killed and Fifty Wounded. [1]  
The U. States Government applied to for Aid. The Governor and Command-  
er-in-Chief at the Head of the Volunteer Forces.

THE BEGINNING

On the morning of the 5th of July an attack was made upon a party who  
were encamped at Fisher's woods, by a band of ruffians. We mention the  
circumstance as a part of the history of the times, and as among the abet-  
ting causes of the recent riots. The encamped would seem to have been  
the commissariat department of the procession of the day previous, and  
had, for convenience, remained upon the ground where the picnic dinner  
was held, with their dishes, due., Arc. While they were quietly sleeping,  
they were suddenly attacked by a band of ruffians, about thirty in num- [2]  
ber, armed with bludgeons, &c., &c. Several of the encamped party were  
most inhumanly beaten—stagings were pulled down, crockery destroyed,  
and four American flags were torn up, burned, or carried away. The ruffi-  
ans who made the attack, decamped as suddenly as they came, and with-  
out being recognized. On Monday, a committee of the persons attacked,  
published a card, detailing the circumstances, and offering a reward of  
one hundred dollars for the detection of the ring leaders.

In this card, no charge was made against any set or party, religious  
or political, as having made or abetted the attack—and we find that the  
best informed among the Native Party, do not charge it upon the Irishmen.  
It probably grew out of some difficulty which has not been made public.  
Nor, so far as we know, did any Philadelphia paper, of Saturday, (on Fri-  
day there were none published,) charge the attack upon foreigners. But  
rumor, with her thousand tongues, exaggerated and circulated the story  
all on Friday and Saturday, making a comparatively small, though outra-  
geous attack, murderous matter, and distinctly charging it upon the Irish-  
men. The four torn flags, in connexion with the torn flag of Kensington me-

mory, (which was borne in the procession of the 4th,) added fuel to the flame which was smouldering among the more excitable portion of the population, and wanted only an immediate aggravation to break out. We know that the charge against the Irishmen as the author's of the attack was made, because it found its way into some distant newspapers, through correspondents. Whoever were the party who began this attack, they began the riots.

The next incident—the proximate cause of the disturbance, was the discovery, that, on Friday, muskets were taken into the church of St. Philip de Neri, in Southwark. There are various statements relative to this matter, as to how the guns came there, nor have we yet seen an entirely reliable and official account. One statement is, that a company of volunteers had been organized and detailed, for the defence of the church, under command of Wm. R. Dunn, a brother of the officiating Priest of St. Philip; and that twenty-five muskets were furnished from the State Arsenal. [3]

A gathering of thousands of people immediately took place, and the district watch and magistrates exerted themselves successfully, to prevent any violence until the arrival of the Sheriff, who had been sent for, and who promptly came to the church, having on the way down called on General Patterson with a request for aid. On the appearance of the Sheriff an examination was called for. After a search of about half an hour, the Sheriff and Aldermen came out with about twelve muskets, with bayonets, which they had found in the interior. These were given to the volunteer posse, who stationed themselves in front of the Church, and tried the guns with the ramrods, and proved to the crowd that they were not loaded. They then marched off to the Commissioners' Hall, where they deposited them. The Sheriff then addressed the crowd to the following effect :-

"I have, in company with Aldermen Hertz and Palmer, been into the Church, and have taken possession of all the arms we were able to find. A number of your own citizens, selected by your own Aldermen, are here to prevent any more arms from being taken in, as well as to protect the Church from injury. I therefore beg of you all, as good citizens, to disperse, and retire to your homes. Further measures will be taken to-morrow to allay the excitement and to preserve the peace." [4]

A portion of the assemblage here cheered the Sheriff, and a few of those around retired, but the great body remained upon the ground as late as 11 o'clock. As matters still looked ominous, Mr. Wright Ardis, (one of the wounded in Kensington,) addressed the crowd, and selecting a posse of twenty men, entered the church with the Sheriff, and perhaps one or two of the Aldermen of the District. A shower springing up, the crowd in a great measure dispersed.

At about 12 o'clock the City Guards, Captain Hill, came upon the ground. Meantime Mr. Ardis, with his posse, and Alderman McKinley, had found in the church, in addition to the 12 muskets taken out before —53 muskets and fowling pieces, 10 pistols of different kinds, a keg of powder, and a box of cartridges. Of the guns found, 23 were loaded, some so heavily that they could not have been fired without bursting the pieces. The greater part of the guns were "cancelled" or condemned United States arms. There were also found slugs, and bayonets fastened to poles, to use as pikes. In the church were found a number of the congregation, the Rev. Mr. Dunn, and others, who were prepared to defend the building in case of an attack.

The military then took possession of the building. The arms were taken out, and carried to the Commissioners' Hall. The crowd outside were addressed in a brief speech by the officer in command, and given five minutes to disperse in. The men found in the Church were taken before Alderman McKinley, and put under bonds to keep the peace, and on Saturday morning all was apparently quiet. [5]

It may be well to state here that these guns were out in the Church previously to the 4th of July, and that the Church on that night was garrisoned by 150 men in anticipation of an attack. It is stated on what appears, to be competent authority, that a portion of the "cancelled" arms, seeming untrustworthy, were sent to a gunsmith (previous to the 4<sup>th</sup>) to be put in order. It was his returning them to the Church on Friday, which made the fact public that arms were there; and of course it was to be expected, that the guard of the night previous would rally when the building was menaced.

### **SATURDAY**

The City Guard held possession of the Church on Saturday morning; and during the day, though large crowds gathered, no violence was attempted. But the story of the seventy or eighty stand of arm found in the Church was doing its work among the multitude, and was beginning to be retailed from mouth to mouth, creating immense excitement. Alderman Saunders, in a speech, besought the throng to retire, and in doing so, he assured them that every weapon and all ammunition had been removed from the Church, and that there was no cause for further excitement. He begged all to use their exertions to allay the present ill feeling.

About half past two o'clock in the afternoon Gen. Cadwalader rode into the street on horseback, and, in a short address to those gathered about, endeavored to persuade them to retire to their homes, but without having any effect. In reply to questions put to him as to the authority by which arms were taken into the Church, he stated that an order for twenty [6]

muskets had been issued under the authority of the Governor, and they had been delivered before he knew any thing of the order. He then repeated his endeavors to persuade them to disperse, but he had to retire without being able to accomplish any thing.

During the afternoon on Saturday, Gen. Hubbell, having learned that Wm. H. Dunn, who had been elected as captain of a new company was an unnaturalized citizen, proceeded to his house, in company with Dr. Stafford, and demanded his commission papers—these were given up, and of course the company was disbanded.

The excitement was increasing every hour. Women seemed more earnest than men, in their conversation upon these most exciting topics, and some of them used language most bitter and inflammatory. As night approached, the crowd swelled, till at last the place before the Church, and up and down the street in each of the four directions, became a dense mass of human beings. Extra constables were sworn in, and large bodies of peace police organised—but every incident, as is usual, only swelled the excitement. If a man tripped or stumbled, it caused a rush—the mass, of course, eagerly claiming to know the meaning of every motion into which they were compelled—each ignorant as the other.

St. Philip's Church is situated in Queen street, between Second and Third streets; and it maybe as well to remind our distant readers that the streets here cross each other, with few exceptions, at right angles, and (the larger streets) at regular intervals. The first street to the North, or "above" Queen is Catharine, and the next German. On the South, or below, the next street to Queen is Christian. There are in the neighborhood a vast number of narrow alleys, which placed the soldiery under great and fatal disadvantages during subsequent stages of the proceedings. [7]

At 7 o'clock, the Sheriff arrived from the city with a posse of about one hundred and fifty strong. With this force he succeeded in driving the throng that was congregated there towards the east end of the street. When all was clear from Second to Third street, lines of men were stationed, who prevented all ingress, except to those living within the square.

During the evening the military force was increased by the presence of the Mechanic Rifle, Washington Blues, Cadwalader Grays, Markle Ride, and City Guards. The crowd gradually increased in number and turbulence. About 11 o'clock the Junior Artillerists arrived with three field pieces; these were stationed at Second, Third, and Queen street, commanding every avenue to the Church. Gen. Cadwalader then, with a platoon of men, charged upon the throng in Second street below Queen street, driving them down to Christian street. The same measures were adopted up Second and in Queen

street, above Third and below Second, and a good many arrests were made by the military and police. In Third street, matters appeared to have a serious aspect. Stones having been thrown, and the officers in command struck by them, preparations were made to discharge the field piece stationed there. The address of Gen. Cadwalader, begging the mob to disperse, was received with groans and hisses, and he was bantered and dared to fire!

As this was a crisis, Gen. C. slowly and distinctly gave the command [8] to take aim! The crowd quailed and were disposed to waver, when Hon. Charles Naylor, late a member of Congress, stepped before the gun, and told the general, as in one account it is stated, that he "had no right to fire!" Other accounts say that he countermanded the order, or called upon Gen. C. to do so; and said if any one was killed he would be the first. He was immediately arrested, by order of the general, and put under guard, in the basement of the church. The mob cried out for his release, but the steady front preserved by the military awed them, and the mob gradually dispersed. Wherever any sign of disturbance was shown, immediate arrests were made under the direction of the military. Their moderation, firmness and decision had preserved peace, only to be broken on the next day, with most fearful consequences.

### **SUNDAY**

In the morning, the district seemed almost entirely deserted, and the military were drawn off, with the exception of the Markle Rifles, the Mechanic Rifles, and the Hibernia Greens, who took charge of the church and relieved the City Guards. About 11 o'clock the crowd which had collected, began to threaten that if Mr. Naylor was not released, the Church should be attacked. Up to this time, no guns had been discharged on either side. Nor do we believe any person supposed, except a band of desperadoes, that the Sabbath was to furnish this first instance in which the civil authorities of the country, supported by the citizen soldiery, who had endured taints, blows, hisses, and insults, without retaliation, were to be attacked by an armed mob.

A four pounder, loaded to the muzzle, was dragged to the front of [9] the church, by some villains, and a demand was then made for the release of Mr. Naylor. One of the Aldermen of the district, Mr. Hertz, defeated their villainous and murderous purpose, by pouring water into the priming; and thus foiled or diverted, pieces of scantling were brought, the door was broken in, and just at this moment Mr. Naylor, having been conditionally liberated, made his appearance, was loudly cheered, and led off an immense concourse as he went from the church to his residence. Meanwhile, a portion of the desperadoes were in Christian street, with an eighteen pound

cannon, which they fired at the circular windows in the rear of the church, near the top.

The gun was taken down to the wharf for the purpose of reloading, and about 1 o'clock it was brought back again, and with it another piece, regularly mounted on wheels, was posted in rear of the church. One of them, loaded with large pieces of iron, was discharged, but with little effect on the wall, the missiles with which it was charged rebounding to a distance of a hundred yards, to the greatest fright of the neighbors.

At this time, Thomas W. Grover and Lewis C. Levin arrived, and the latter, mounting one of the pieces, made an address to the crowd. That portion of a crowd which generally gather in case of riots to look on, assembled around him, and listened to his speech, during which he was repeatedly cheered. But at the same time stones were flying against the walls and the window on the left side of the altar.

Mr. Levin was followed by Mr. Grover and others, who succeeded in pacifying the crowd so far that they promised to spare the church if the Hibernia Greens were taken out of the building. This was at last done, and the Markle Rifles and Mechanic Rifles came out, guarding the Hibernia Greens. They proceeded together up Second street as far as German, a crowd following and cheering the rifle company, but pelting the Greens as often as they could get a chance. At German street, the Greens rapidly retreated, some of them firing their muskets as they fled. No other injury was done than the wounding of one or two of the crowd, and in the terrible beating which several of the Hibernian Greens received from the mob. Meantime the cannon had been taken away from the rear of the church, through the efforts of the more orderly citizens. [10]

The Hibernia Greens were hunted several squares by the mob, and one of them in particular was so badly handled that his situation continues precarious. The treatment they received showed how futile is any body's promise made in behalf of a mob.

Mr. Levin, Mr. Grover and others who had pledged themselves that the church should be saved, had hard work to keep the mob out. While they were addressing those who would listen, others were breaking the church windows; and although the main door was manfully defended by those who had pledged themselves to do so, the mob broke down the yard wall, and, entering at a side door, dispersed over the building. The defenders of the church now gate up the front door as hopeless, and the building was filled with people.

The protectors of the church still united their endeavors to persuade the people from any violence. In this they were aided by a great many per-

sons who flocked in for no other purpose.

After they had possession for about an hour, a smoke was seen [11]  
 issuing from the cellar. A few persons went down and extinguished it in  
 a short time. The throng then gradually left the building. and at last it was  
 taken possession of by a committee of twenty, who guarded the doors and  
 allowed no one to enter, but all to go out that desired to go.

### THE NIGHT

So ended the Sabbath. All seemed becoming quiet in Southwark,  
 the mob having risen in arms, and gained a victory over the small body  
 of soldiers which had been left in charge. The mob had compelled the re-  
 lease of Mr. Naylor, who, it is said, pledged himself to exert his best en-  
 deavors to pacify them. They had demanded the dismissal of the Greens,  
 and acknowledged the concession to their wishes by pelting the company  
 with stones and brickbats. They had promised the safety of the church,  
 and despite the persuasions and heroic labors of many of the good citizens  
 of Southwark, they had broken into the building and fired it. It is due to  
 Messrs. Levin, Grover, McElroy, Col. Jack and the others, and to the ma-  
 gistrates and many of the influential men of the district, to say that they  
 labored with a zeal and efficiency which do them great credit. During the  
 whole day, the respectable men in the District were laboring with all their  
 might to avert the danger, and to divert and pacify the infuriated ruffians  
 who, forming a comparatively small portion of every collection of people,  
 outrage every law, under shelter of those who intend to be mere spectators,  
 but are in effect shields for the rioters. It is in mercy to these unintentional  
 abettors of the tumult that rigorous measures are withheld—but a crisis will [12]  
 arrive in which it is the painful duty of the authorities to preserve the peace  
 and vindicate the majesty of the laws at all hazards.

Such a crisis had arrived. With their experience of the two days pre-  
 vious, to say nothing of the Kensington riots, it was manifest that it would  
 not answer to leave the District to the tender mercies of the desperadoes,  
 though nobody doubted either the will or the zeal of the good citizens of  
 Southwark. But the civil authorities had been set at naught, and the small  
 military force, in a certain sense, conquered. To leave the matter here,  
 would have been, in the opinion of the authorities, not only dangerous to  
 the immediate safety of the District, but a more pernicious precedent for  
 the future.

Several hours notice was given to the District that the military were  
 coming. A new proof had just occurred of the disposition of the mob. An  
 Irishman had been arrested for some misconduct by Mr. Strine, one of the  
 police, and taken to the lock up, under the Hall. While on the road, the mob

made a rush and beat him, and kicked Mr. Strine several times in the ribs. The man was considerably beaten about the head, and the blood streamed from him profusely. He was at length taken into the Hall, and his wounds were properly attended to.

At about 7 o'clock the military arrived on the ground in great force. The crowd showed a most fatal determination to resist, and an attempt was made more than once to dismount Gen. Cadwalader. His bridle rein was seized, and without turning his head he disabled the arm with his sword which had attempted to stop his horse. In every place there seemed to be a resolute determination to disregard the military. The crowd were earnestly besought to retire, but obstinately disregarded the appeals of the officers. [13] The military proceeded to take up the positions that had been assigned to them.

Cannon were placed so as to command Queen street, east and west, and Second street, north and south. Platoons of soldiers were stretched across the street at Third and Queen, Second and Queen, and around the Commissioners' Hall.

This disposition of force being made, Gen. Cadwalader informed Mr. Grover that the military would protect the church, and that the citizen force might be discharged, which was done, the men marching out two and two and mingling quietly with the crowd. On receiving the church from the voluntary police, General Cadwalader said to Mr. G., " Mr. Grover, you deserve the thanks of all good citizens for what you have done this day;" a sentiment which is echoed by all who know the circumstances.

But the affair had reached its turning point—from riot to civil war. The crowd in Queen street refused to give way. The soldiers were then commanded to charge, but the crowd resisted and stood before the bayonets. While the committee were going out of the church a collision occurred between the soldiers and citizens at the corner of Second and Queen. Capt. Hill of the City Guards, was disarmed and thrown down. An attempt was made to stab him with his own sword;—there was imminent danger that he would be trampled to death—at this moment the lieutenant of the Guards gave the word—fire!

Groans and shrieks filled the air, and the crowd now broke in all directions. Every body was struck aghast at the performance of a terrible duty, often threatened by proclamation, but habitually disregarded, and for a time a terrible quiet reigned, disturbed only by the groans of the wounded, and the shrieks of the women. - The number wounded in this first discharge, it is impossible to know. Among the killed was Mr. Isaac Freed, a resident of Spring Garden, who received a shot through the chest, [14]

and survived only a very few moments. He was mistaken for Mr. Jacob Korndaffer, and taken to his residence in Second street, to die. Mr. William Crozier, of Plumb street, was killed almost instantly—his whole face shot away. James Linsenberger, a lad, apprenticed to a druggist at the corner of Sixth and Parrish, was shot through the hip, and is since dead. Many were wounded, and among others Mrs. Lisle, wife of Capt. Lisle, in Front below Queen, who was leaving a house where she had been visiting, and receive a ball through her arm. Three or four others were killed at the first fire, when, indeed, nearly all the execution *known* to have been done by the military occurred. The death and wounds of those who fell at this time in the evening are in a certain light accidents, being the result of their fatal temerity,—in many cases mere curiosity. Two vollies were fired, one up, and one down Second street.

After this there was a rush on the part of a portion of the crowd for arms. Terribly exasperated, the mob—that is to say the active portion, now became regular assailants of the military. They broke into the Hall, and took therefrom a considerable number of the muskets, which had been brought from the Church. Threats were made against a number of soldiers, who were stationed in the lower part of the Hall, and finally a gathering was had at the Hay Scales, near the Wharton Market, below the Southwark Railroad, and about 9 o'clock, a body of men came down Federal street preceded by a four pounder cannon, roughly mounted and drawn with ropes. [15] The men who followed in the rear were armed with muskets in part, and with other instruments of offence. They proceeded to Front street, and up Front street to Queen, where they quietly placed the cannon at the middle of the junction of the street, so as to range along Queen street towards Second, at which latter street a body of military and a six pounder were placed. The darkness favored their operations, and they were undisturbed until they had fired the piece, which was heavily loaded with fragments of iron, that had been hastily collected. At the same time, the mob fired with muskets in the same direction, from such covered positions, -as they could find, and the fire was immediately answered by a volley from the military, and the discharge of the field piece. The firing on both sides was then kept up at intervals until about 10 o'clock, when it temporarily ceased. The mob had at that hour two pieces, placed so as to range Queen street, and had also a fifteen pounder, which they could not use, because it was not mounted.

At 11 o'clock, Major General Patterson detailed the German battalion, with two field pieces, and the companies of Washington Cavalry, and First County Troop, under the command of General Roumfort, as a reinforcement,

and the column immediately moved to the scene of action. The reports of the guns shook the houses in the vicinity—shattering windows and damaging furniture. Balls passed into many of them, and the inmates were compelled to retire precipitately by the back ways—leaving all their property behind them. In one instance an aged lady was obliged to be lifted over a fence, [16] and while this was being done, a ball cut off the branch of a tree near by.

During the night, the military were kept as much as possible under shelter, but were exposed to continual discharges. Rifle balls whistled from alleys; and the heavy guns of the mob were wheeled about in perfect silence, in the darkness, and the first intimation of the approach of an enemy was the discharge of their pieces, raking the street. They were evidently well drilled and officered, and pursued their work with a satanic malignity without parallel. Wherever an object was seen to move it was greeted with rifle or musket balls, from the places where the assassins lay concealed. When the door of a shop occupied as a temporary hospital was opened, whoever stood or walked in the range of its light, served as a mark for the concealed murderers.

A man named John Cook, who is among the dead, was killed at the gun which he had fired twice upon the troops. At each time his fire was answered by a shot from the soldiers. At the third time his gun burned prime, and he was shot by the flash, as he neglected his previous precaution of getting out of the way.

The mob did not attempt to keep their places, but hauled their pieces out of the way of shot to charge, and came back in the darkness, with muffled wheels, to fire. Many of the mob must, however, be killed and wounded, of whom we have no report.

Among the incidents of the night, a party of soldiers sitting upon the steps of a house, left and crossed the street, to claim a portion of some food which some comrades had foraged—for food was scarce, and comfort still more so. It was done in a spirit of desperate sport, and was loudly condemned by their officers. On their return to their place. the steps were found broken with a charge of iron scraps, which, fired from the gun the mob, [17] had swept the place where they had been sitting. Cole chisels, pieces of glass bottles, stones, iron scraps, and all sorts of missiles, were among the articles with which the gun were charged. But we must close this account with a few incidents culled from various papers, as they have been reported.

The mob had four piece of cannon, which were worked by sailor and watermen, with unexampled tact and ability. Their mode of attack was, to load at a distance, with pieces of iron and other metals, such as nails, pieces of chains, stonecutter's chisels, knives, files, spikes, broken bottles. &c.

The wheels of the cannon were muffled, and three of them were used with great effect. One of the most fearful shots was that fired from all three cannons at once, in the following manner. One was placed on Queen street wharf, unknown to the military—one in Queen street between Sixth and Seventh—one in Third street, about four squares south of Queen. Slow matches were applied; and, as if previously understood, all three were fired at once—making dreadful havoc. They were no sooner fired than dragged off into hiding places, unheard and unseen. Long drag ropes had been attached to them, and they were whirled off in an instant, and before the military could return the fire with any effect.

The greatest mischief was from the gun in Third street, which raked files of military stationed across that street at Queen. The State Fencibles, the Germantown Washington Artillery, and the Germantown Blues, lost several of their men by that fire. Their names will be found in the list of killed and wounded. No sooner was the tramp of cavalry horses heard, than ropes were extended across streets, which tripped the horses, and in most instances, threw their riders, when the mob pelted them with stones and other missiles from hiding places. Before daylight, the military seized and carried off three of the pieces of cannon which had been used by the mob. They observed them pulling one from its secret place, and made an attack—the mob fled, and the military took the cannon. [18]

All along Queen street, above and below the church for some distance, presented a truly warlike appearance. Window shutters, doors, fronts of houses, trees, tree-boxes, awning posts, lamp posts, pumps, watch-boxes, and signs, are all pierced with balls and shot; and the pavements, gutters, streets, steps, and doorjambs stained with blood. In some places it flowed down the gutters—this was mostly the blood of the military, drawn by the fire of the mob.

At one time during the night, for about two hours, all communication with the Major General, by his aids, was suspended. Ruffians were stationed in hiding places, along the streets over which the aids rode, and they were fired upon, intercepted, and stones, brickbats, &c., hurled at them. None of them were injured, however.

General Patterson sent a messenger express to Washington, to the President of the United States, with a request for an order for the U. States troops at Carlisle, in this State; for those at Fort Mifflin, and for Captain Ringgold's Flying Artillery, at Fort McHenry, Baltimore, to be here at the earliest moment. He also sent, by express, a messenger to Harrisburg, asking the Governor to order troops from Lancaster, Harrisburg, and other places in the State, to proceed to Philadelphia forthwith. [19]

## MONDAY

All was comparatively quiet, if we, except the movements of the military. At different points, the frequent arrival of country troops, giving the city the aspect and bustle of a garrison town, and the knots of men at every corner, anxiously discussing the terrible events of the day and night previous. No violence took place after day-light on Monday morning, though bitter threats were made, and it was said that tremendous preparations were going forward by the rioters.

During the afternoon, a committee from the Commissioners of the District of Southwark, waited upon Major General Patterson, and requested him to withdraw the troops at 4 o'clock, pledging themselves to preserve the peace in the District. The General replied that if the Commissioners would satisfy him that they were able, and could preserve the property and peace of the District, he would issue an order for the withdrawal of the troops.

A Committee also waited on the Sheriff for the same object, and, that, after a consultation with the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions, the Sheriff and Major General concluded, from the Courts recommendation, to withdraw the troops, and General Patterson then issued an order to withdraw the troops. The County Board, by advice of the County Commissioners, joined in the recommendation. The following is the correspondence which took place upon the subject.

*Southwark, July 8th, 1844.*

*Major General Robert Patterson:*

Sir—From the representation of a number of citizens of this District, we are persuaded that if the military be removed from the neighborhood of St. Philip's Roman Catholic Church, in Queen street, order will be immediately restored, and the citizens will protect the Church. We give our every exertion for the furtherance of the object. We do not hesitate to say that peace and good order will be immediately restored.

With much respect, we are respectfully,

R. PALMER,

CHARLES HORTZ,

N. MCKINLEY,

JAMES SAUNDERS

{aldermen}

*Southwark Hall, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1844.*

*Extract from the Minutes of the Commissioners of Southwark*

*"Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Board of Commissioners,*

that the continuing of the military force, now in this District, has a tendency to keep in existence, the present excitement, and that if the troops, now occupying the public streets of Southwark, are not withdrawn, there will be probably an additional shedding of blood."

"Resolved, That Messrs. Paynter, Tanner and Smith be a Committee from this Board, to call upon Gen. Patterson, and advise with him, upon the expediency and propriety of withdrawing the military now on duty, in the District of Southwark." [21]

A true copy.

Attest--JOHN OAKFORD-

HEAD QUARTERS, 1 St Div. P.M.  
Philadelphia, July 8th, 1844.

*Messrs. Paynter, Tanner and Smith, Committee of the Commissioners of Southwark.*

GENTLEMEN :—I have examined the extract from the minutes of the Commissioners of Southwark, which you handed me this morning.

It is my desire to preserve peace, and not to retain possession of any church or dwelling, if the civil authorities are competent for their protection and defence.

I will, therefore, without hesitation, place the Church under the care and protection of the civil authorities, as soon as I receive notice that they are able and ready to defend it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
Signed,  
R. PATTERSON.

*Southwark, July 8th, 1844.*

*Extracts from the Minutes of the Commissioners of Southwark.*

Col. Paynter, from the Committee appointed to confer with Major General Patterson, upon the expediency and propriety of withdrawing the military guard now on duty in the District of Southwark, reported a communication in writing, from General Patterson, in which he states that—"I will, without hesitation, place the Church under the care and protection of the civil authorities, as soon as I receive notice that they are able and ready to defend it." [22]

*Which having been read and considered, it was ordered, That the Clerk of this Board, be directed to communicate to Major General Patterson, in writing, and personally, that in the opinion of this Board, the civil authorities of the District are able and ready to defend the Church.*

A true extract-  
Attest, JOHN OAKFORD, Clerk.

*SHERIFF'S OFFICE, July 8th, 1844.*

*Major General Patterson:*

Sir—The Aldermen of the District of Southwark, have given me

notice that they are abundantly able to protect the property and peace of the District of SouthWark. I learn, also, that the Commissioners of that. District, have officially made a similar declaration; and, in view of these facts, I would respectfully suggest that the troops now having charge of St. Philip's Church, Southwark, should be relieved. You are, therefore, requested to order them to such other points as you may deem best suited to their comfort and repose, holding them in readiness to act, when necessary, at such places as may be menaced.

Respectfully yours,  
M. McMICHAEL

The troops remained still under arms, to the number of between [23]  
four and five thousand, having been largely reinforced from the country. Governor Porter arrived in town on Monday afternoon, and issued the following General Orders :

#### **GENERAL ORDERS**

DAVID R. PORTER, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Commander-in-Chief, &c.

#### **ORDERS AS FOLLOWS.**

The Governor and Commander-in-Chief deeply regrets that the renewal of riot, disorder and bloodshed, has again compelled him to repair to the city for the purpose of order. A crisis has arrived of the most appalling character, in which every good citizen is called upon by the highest obligations of duty to stand forward in the maintenance of the Laws. The origin of the existing disturbances sinks into utter insignificance, when compared with the disastrous consequences that must inevitably result from their continuance. Whatever opinion any citizen may have entertained at the outset of these disturbances, as to the cause, no man can view without the most poignant feeling, the deplorable state of things, already produced, and certain to succeed, if they are not immediately arrested. The question is now, shall an irresponsible mob, or the regular constituted authorities be forced to yield. No good citizen who understands the nature, and desires to enjoy the blessings of our free institutions, will hesitate an instant under which standard to rally. The friends of peace, order, law and liberty, will put forth their utmost might in supporting the legal authorities [24]  
in the discharge of their duty. Those who are enemies to these sacred objects will aid and countenance the efforts of the insurgents.

The Commander-in-Chief feels great satisfaction in announcing, his entire approbation of all the measures that have been adopted by Major General Patterson, as well as of the Hugh Sheriff for quelling and dispersing the tumultuous assemblages of persons that sought to intimidate and drive

from the ground the military force, while peacefully engaged in performing its duty. The retribution has indeed been terrible, but it was alike unavoidable and justifiable. If the laws cannot be maintained without the use of force, then force becomes as much an act of patriotism as of duty, and must be applied when the awful necessity arises. This remark is made in the hope that no repetition will be required of this most painful and terrific remedy.

Orders have been issued to the Majors General of, several of the nearest Divisions, to have all the Volunteer Companies under their command in readiness to march at a moment's notice, and in pursuance of this order, a large force will be mustered to repair to the scene of disturbance at any hour which may be designated.

### **THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF ORDERS**

1. That Major General Patterson detail as large a force as may be necessary to check, and occupy, all the streets, lanes, alleys, and places menaced with attack, and take immediate charge of all such places, and protect them from intrusion and assault.
2. That Major General Patterson to station and distribute his force as to command all the streets and other assailable points, to disperse or arrest, as may be necessary, all those persons who may assemble in considerable bodies for the purpose of exciting to riot, tumult, and disorder. [25]
3. That Major General Patterson adopt the most prompt and efficient steps to disperse riotous assemblages as soon as they begin to form, and before they have time and opportunity to mature and carry into execution their mischievous intentions.
4. That Major General Patterson treat all persons found with arms in their hands, or in possession of cannon, or aiding and abetting those who have, and who have not reported themselves for service to the Commander-in-Chief, as open enemies of the State, seeking to destroy the property and lives of the Citizens, and to trample on its laws.
5. The Volunteers from other Divisions, as they reach this place, will report themselves to Major General Patterson, and act in obedience to his orders.

In obedience to a spirit of considerate forbearance, the Military force has been withdrawn from St. Philip's Church, and a relief stationed there of the civil posse, at the instance, and under the direction of the Magistrates of the District. This measure, it is presumed, will furnish an appeal to the reason and patriotism of the Citizens which will not be in vain; but, should it unfortunately prove to be unavailing, the most decisive steps

will be taken. Not only the military force now here, but that ordered to be in readiness will be called to this place, and so employed, that every person found with arms in their hands, or in their houses, will be pursued to the utmost., and brought to punishment for their temerity and crimes.

Thus far the conduct of the citizen soldiery has been distinguished [26] by equal bravery and forbearance, and the Commander-in-Chief has no doubt, in any future emergency, they will continue to be actuated by the same determination to do their duty.

All well-disposed persons are cautioned to refrain from joining or countenancing any riotous assemblages in any part of the city and county of Philadelphia, either as actors or spectators. Prompt and efficient measures will be taken to disperse them; and it is difficult, in so doing, to distinguish between the guilty and the innocent.

Riot and bloodshed most be terminated at once, the duty of effecting this, rests with the executive; and those who act under his orders, and whatever the hazard, this duty shall be faithfully and fearlessly performed.

By order of DAVID R. PORTER,

*Gov. of the Coun. Of Penn., and Commander-in-Chief.*

ADAM DILLER, *Adj. Gen. P.M.*

HEAD QUARTERS, *Phila., July 8, 1844.*

The following is a list of the dead and wounded, so far as we have been able to complete it. It does not include all, however, for the number of wounded cannot be less than fifty, and the dead must amount to fourteen or more. The military have behaved with wonderful courage and forbearance, and the services of the country troops as well as our own cannot be too highly rated.

**LIST OF TUE KILLED AND WOUNDED.  
MILITARY.**

Capt. J. R. Scott, of the Cadwalader Grays, badly wounded in the side.

Col. Pleasanton, badly bruised with a spent ball. - Gardner of the Wash- [27] ington Cavalry.

Serjeant Marston, of the First State Fencibles slightly wounded.

James S. Crawford, of the Washington Artillery. of Germantown, wounded in the left shoulder, and taken to the Hospital.

First corporal, Henry G. Troutman. of the Germantown Blues, wounded in the groin. Since dead.

Serjeant John Guyer, of the Germantown Blues, killed

John Waterhouse, Jr., of the Germantown Blues, slightly wounded in the neck. The ball passed through his knapsack and grazed his neck.

Samuel Williams, of the Wayne Artillery, wounded in the shoulder.  
 Richard Ball, of the same company, wounded in the calf of the leg.  
 Charles Dougherty, of the same company, wounded in the cheek.  
 John Woolridge, of the Philadelphia Grays, slightly wounded.  
 Private Schriener, of the same company, slightly wounded.  
 Coulter Russell, of the City Guards, hit on the head with a brick-bat.  
 Private Morrison, of the same company, struck with a brick-bat, and slightly wounded.

Searjant Starr, of the Cadwalader Grays, hit with a brick-bat.

J. McCarren, a volunteer, wounded in the knee.

Richard Wagner, First Lieutenant of the Holmesburg Cavalry, wounded by a ball passing through his hand, and two spent balls on his body.

Private Linglay, of the same corps, badly same corps badly bruised [28]  
 by his horse falling over the ropes.

Private Charles Williams, wounded in the hand.

The Holmesburg Troop captured a piece of cannon from the mob, and it was during the attack that the above accidents occurred.

#### **NOT MILITARY**

James Lawson, who lives in Ninth street below Shipper, shot in the heel.

James R. Tully, Lombard street below Sixth, shot in the arm.

Mrs. Lisle, Front street, below Queen, shot in the left arm.

A boy, named William Manning, while standing on Queen street wharf, was dangerously wounded.

T. Street, a brother of the Home Missionary, was shot in both legs.

James Liusenberger, who lives in the drug store, corner of Sixth and Parrish streets, was shot through the hip—since dead.

Mr. Freed, an elderly citizen, resident of Spring Garden—killed.

David Kitheart, shot in the abdomen, since dead. John Heusled wounded in the arm and cheek.

Thomas C. Saunders, mortally wounded in the breast. Since dead.

J. W. Barr, wounded in the shoulder blade.

A lad named Falkner, one of the Committee in charge of the Church, was wounded in the right arm at the first fire in the evening.

Henry Slack, bricklayer, wounded, carried to his home.

John Cook, an oysterman, and a member of the Weccacoe Hose Company—struck by two balls at one time. One entering the groin—the [29]  
 other in the region of the heart. Killed instantly.

Lemuel Poynter, wounded.

Dr. Appleton, wounded in the leg and arm.

A young lady, 18 years of age, whose name we could not learn, shot with a ball through the thigh.

Mr. Baggs, wounded in the leg, residing in John st. above Front.

Henry Jones, wounded in the right shoulder, residing in Christian above Third.

T. D. Grover, received a bayonet through his coat.

Joseph Silby, Southwark, wounded in the shoulder and thigh—mortally.

Mr. Gay, residing in Penn street above South, wounded in both legs.

A carpenter, named William Crozier, residing in Plumb street, was killed instantly.

Edward McGuire, Carpenter street near Sixth, a bayonet wound in the face.

John Quin, slightly wounded.

A blacksmith, named Enos Waters, killed.

A pilot, named Spiel, is among the killed, and a man whose name is said to be Fairfield.

Joseph McDaniel, killed—a ball through the heart.

Gerhart Ellis, a German, who could not speak any English, a journeyman of B. Hulseman, in Queen st. below Front, was shot through the head with a musket ball while looking from the garret window. He had undressed himself to retire to bed, but had run to the window on hearing the noise which preceded the first firing.

#### **WOUNDED, AT THE HOSPITAL**

William Manning, James W. Barr, citizens.

James Crawford, a volunteer, wounded in the arm —the limb since amputated.

J. McCarren, a volunteer, wounded in the knee.

[30]

John Heusted, wounded in the right arm.

Elijah Jester, wounded in the throat. Since dead.

James R. Tully, wounded in the right arm.

A woman named Jane Pennel, resident in Beck's alley, died from the effect of fright, occasioned by the firing at the riot on Sunday evening, the 7th instant.

#### **REWARD**

The Philadelphia County Commissioners, on Monday night, acted with commendable despatch, in passing the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the County Commissioners be and they are hereby authorized to offer a reward of five hundred dollars, for the future

apprehension of every person that may be convicted of using any deadly weapons, or assisting, aiding or abetting those engaged in using any deadly weapon against the civil authorities or other persons acting by their orders in the suppression of the late riots and insurrectionary movements in the District of Southwark, or elsewhere; and also a reward of one hundred dollars for the apprehension and conviction of every person in any other manner engaged in such riots and insurrectionary movements in opposition of said civil authorities or other persons acting by their orders—the said rewards to be paid upon conviction of the persons so apprehended.

### **ARRESTS**

The following is a list of the principal arrests which have taken place in connexion with, and in consequence of the recent riots :

**ON THURSDAY.** Lewis C. Levin—to answer to the charge of inciting to riot and treason in the "Daily Sun," of which he is editor. Held to bail in \$3,000 to answer, and in \$1,000 to keep the peace.

John G. Watmough, charged with exciting language, held in his own recognizance in \$1,000 to keep the peace for three months. [31]

Samuel R. Kramer, editor of the Native American, held in \$500 to keep the peace.

Wm. P. Hanna, exciting language and resistance of the Police, held in \$1,500.

**FRIDAY.** No arrests of moment. A few disorderly persons for exciting language.

**SATURDAY.** Ethan Harwood, a young man employed in a china store in the city. Held in \$13,000, to answer the charges of riot, treason, and murder. He is charged with bring an active rioter, and with being with one of the cannon. (He has since turned State's Evidence, and made some disclosures, in which he charges a man named Stephen House with being concerned in the riots.

Wm. H. Springer, of Southwark. Wm. H. Everly testified that on Monday week, Springer, in the course of a conversation, said that he was sorry that the Military were about to be withdrawn, for they would have fired brimstone at them, by which they would all have been killed. Mr. Springer was held to bail in \$2,000, for further hearing.

Washington Conrad, charged with having knocked down Capt. Hill. Bail refused by Recorder Vaux.

Christopher Wren, charged with having gone with the mob and obtained guns. Held in \$2,000. All the above except Mr. Springer were committed. They were conveyed to Moyamensing, in charge of a troop of horse. Wm. R. Rodgers, held in \$500 for insulting a sentinel, before the Girard Bank.

James Reese, held in \$500 for inflammatory language before the head quarters in Green street. Wm. Smith held for the same offence. [32]

**SUNDAY.** Wm. and David Simpson, inflammatory language. Held in \$2,000.

**MONDAY.** No arrests of consequence were made of persons connected with recent riots, but Abraham Freymire was arrested by Constable Charles Roberts, on the charge of having set fire to the Pennsylvania Hall in 1838, and committed to answer by Alderman Erety. The defendant has been absent from the city nearly all the time since the destruction of that building.

Hugh Develin, committed, charged with rioting in Kensington in May.

**TUESDAY.** John W. Smith was arrested by Hugh Cassady, the Police officer of Southwark, and carried before Judge Jones, charged with participating in the late riots in Southwark. Mr. Cassady identified him as one of the principle men engaged in directing the cannon against St. Philip's Church on the Sunday morning when Mr. Naylor was rescued. John W. Smith is the first name attached to the "Address of the Committee of Twenty," which was appointed by the crowd, on Friday night, to search the church for the concealed arms, and it is said that the prisoner is that individual. He was loitering about the vicinity of the Court House when arrested. The Police officer swears to him with great positiveness, and Judge Jones held him to bail in \$13,000, to answer the charge of riot, treason, and murder. He was committed in default.

George Merrick, charged with being concerned in the burning of St. Augustine. Held to answer in \$2,000.

John Turner, charged with participation in the Southwark riot, and committed. An attempt was made at Spruce street wharf to rescue him. [33]

**WEDNESDAY.** Andrew McLane surrendered himself, and after a hearing, was committed, charged as accessory to the murder of the Germantown soldiers, with riot, and with mis-prison of treason. Bail was refused by Mayor Scott.

Joseph Black, a second-hand iron dealer, was held in 55,000 charged with selling iron, &c., to the rioters. His two sons were held in 52,000 each.

[The following extract is taken from the North American, edited by Col. Childs, in whose testimony, relative to the Southwark riots, we have full confidence.]

During the time the above occurrence (meaning the evacuation of the committee of citizens headed by Mr. Grover.) were taking place, which probably occupied about 8 minutes, the ground had been cleared

to Third street, without difficulty. Toward Second street, however, the scene was different. Capt. Scott's company were threatened, then pelted by several persons with brickbats and stones, one of which struck Sergeant Starr on the breast, and broke two of his ribs, and caused a stream of blood to flow from his mouth. Another of the same company received a severe blow. General Cadwalader gave notice that the ground must be cleared, and if necessary the officers should use force. The company was brought to a charge, and moved forward, in double quick time. Several persons in the crowd fell, but were not injured by the military who succeeded in clearing the ground to Second street. There was, however, a determination evinced by a number of persons to seize their arms. About this time the defenders of the church came down Queen street in a body, on the south pavement, until they reached Second street, where they separated. Mr. Grover stepped out in front of the Cadwalader Greys, to try and pacify the crowd.

[34]

At this moment, some ten or fifteen persons in Queen, below Second street, advanced, and some of them ordered a sentinel on post in the street to retire. He coolly and repeatedly urged them to fall back, but they continued to advance. Captain Scott faced his company to the right, and moved them up to the house on the south-west side of Queen street; Capt. Hill at the same time marched his company forward, in order to form on Scott's left. He was opposed by most of the crowd, when he flourished his sword and ordered them to fall back. Most of those in the crowd were disposed to retire peaceably, but there were others, and not a few, who were bent on mischief. Believing that the forbearance shown by the military for the last ten years, would prevent them from firing, they seized several of the bayonets of the soldiers, who were at a charge, and attempted to force them out of their hands. At the same time one of Captain Hill's company received a severe blow, and the captain was seized, thrown down, and an attempt made to wrest the sword out of his hand. At this moment, when the arms of the soldiers were about being wrested by force out of their hands, and not before, Capt. Hill gave the word to fire. There were upwards of thirty muskets discharged, and only seven persons killed or wounded, which shows conclusively that there was no disposition to take life, but that the troops were acting on the defensive. The crowd quickly dispersed, but those who had assailed the military instantly departed, procured arms, and returned to attack those sent to preserve the peace. The fearful occurrences of that night are well known.

[35]

In consequence of the many conflicting statements regarding the arming of the church, we give the following testimony showing that they

had the highest authority for what they done.

*Testimony of General Adam Diller.* I am the Adjutant General of the State of Pennsylvania; there was an application made to me by Wm. H. Dunn for muskets, soon after the Kensington riots; the authority by which he claimed them was a few lines from General Patterson. I told Mr. Dunn that the law pointed out clearly the authority under which arms should be delivered, and that his requisition was not sufficient; that he could not and ought not to have arms for any such purpose; he went away, and in a few days returned with a similar application; I sent him away again; about ten days after he brought an order from the Governor. The order is as follows:

Executive Chamber, June 13, 1844.

To ADAM DILLER, Adjt. Gen. P. M.

Sir—On receipt of this, you will deliver to Wm. H. Dunn, Esq. 25 stand of muskets, taking from him at the same time his bond for re-delivery of the same in good order on or before the 1st day of February next. I am, respect fully,

DAVID R. PORTER.

Upon his giving the usual bond, I gave him an order on the keeper of the arsenal for 20 old muskets, mistaking the number mentioned in the Governor's orders, and Mr. Dunn only received these twenty; in a few days he sent a note, complaining of the mistake, and [36] claiming the remainder. This note is as follows:

210 South Eighth street, June 21st, 1844.

GEN. ADAM DILLER;

Sir—Of the twenty muskets received out of the Arsenal by me, under your order, but four have got ramrods, and one of the bayonets is imperfect. As my bond is for the re-delivery of what ought to be considered perfect stand of arms, I will thank you to do what is right in the matter.

I will also require of you an order for the remaining live stand of arms, to perfect the number directed to be given me.

Your ob't servant, Wm. H. DUNN.

Mr. Dunn gave a bond, with security, for the return of the twenty-five muskets on the 1st of February next; he only received twenty, however; he never received any other arms of any description; when the Governor was here I had a conversation with him on the subject; he said Mr. Dunn had presented such strong recommendations in favor of his application, and, among others, a letter from Major General Patterson, that he did not feel at liberty to deny his request; no other arms than those mentioned have been placed to that or any other church to my knowledge; during the Kensington riots, after consultation with the Governor, arms were delivered on the requisition of the Mayor, for the purpose of arming the peace police of the various wards; these were all called in, however,

before the Southwark riots commenced.

There are many ways in which muskets could be procured; there are sales at the United States' Arsenal, and various manufacturers of muskets for the United States, who sell those condemned as unfit for the service; the muskets delivered to Mr. Dunn, were most probably among those deposited at the arsenal by the military on their return from Southwark: among the fifty or sixty guns so deposited, are several shot guns.