

# DOES "COL. JOHN HASLET" MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU

## A Short Biography Of A Noted Delawarean or A Scrap Of Important State History.

Colonel John Haslet was Irish by birth, but for several years preceding the Revolutionary war lived at Dover. He had been educated for the Presbyterian ministry, and preached frequently after coming to America, but subsequently abandoned the pulpit and became a practitioner of medicine. He was a large, athletic and handsome man, and in courage and impulse a typical Irishman. From the earliest days of the American conflict he was a stalwart Whig, and Caesar Rodney early fastened upon him as a fit man for military command. Rodney wrote him daily from the Continental Congress in the early summer of 1776, inciting him to the work of raising troops. When the Declaration of Independence was adopted Rodney despatched a mounted messenger, Ensign Wilson, on the night of July 4th, to carry the news to Haslet. He found Haslet at Dover, extremely busy enlisting men. "I congratulate you, sir," wrote Haslet in reply, "on the important day which restores to every American his birthright,—a day which every free man will record with gratitude, and the millions of posterity read with rapture." A fine turtle feast at Dover announced and anticipated the declaration of Congress. After the death of Haslet, at Princeton, his body was deposited in the burial grounds of the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. In 1783 the Delaware Legislature caused a marble slab to be placed over his grave, and on February 22, 1841, they appointed a committee to superintend the removal of the corpse to a vault to be built in the Presbyterian Church at Dover, and authorized them to have a suitable monument, with appropriate inscription and devices, placed over his final resting place. On July 1, 1841, his remains were disinterred and conveyed to Dover, escorted by the military of the city of Philadelphia; and on July 3rd, after impressive religious services and an eloquent address from the Hon John M. Clayton they were deposited in the vault prepared for them.

Colonel Haslet left a son and two daughters. The son, Joseph Haslet, was twice, in 1811 and 1823, elected Governor of this State, an honor Delaware never conferred upon any other citizen. One of his daughters, Jemima, married Dr. George Monro, who was a skillful and learned physician, resident in Wilmington from 1797 until his death in 1820. Of Dr. Monro's children, the only survivor was Mrs. Mary A. Boyd, of Wilmington. The other daughter of Colonel Haslet married Major Patten, but died childless.

Colonel Haslet was in command of the Delaware militia in March 1776 when the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety was informed that the enemy were in Lewes Road, they ordered four of the armed boats to exert their utmost endeavors to take or destroy all such vessels of the enemy as they might find in Delaware. Col. Haslet was on the lookout and kept Mr. Read, then President of Congress, fully informed of the progress of affairs.

The first regiment raised was that of Col. John Haslet, which was in fact, in process of formation before independence had been declared. They were State troops and the regiment comprised eight companies of about one hundred men each. A large portion of the regiment was in Dover on July 5th, when the news of the Declaration of Independence reached there. The troops were assembled under the direction of the

1923  
Committee of Safety and a picture of King George was procured. The drummer bore it before the President and after a march around the square, a circle was formed about a fire which had been prepared and the picture was cast into the flames, the President pronouncing these words: "Compelled by strong necessity, thus we destroy even the shadow of that King who refused to reign over a free people."

On July 20th the regiment was ordered to Philadelphia where it attracted much commendation. On August 7th Congress directed that the regiment be equipped with arms lately imported and then report to General Washington at Amboy, N. J., where they were brigaded with some Pennsylvania and Maryland troops, under command of Brigadier General Stirling.

In the meantime the seat of the war had been transferred to New York which city the British General, Sir William Howe, determined to take and for the purpose landed over twenty-thousand troops on Long Island. Washington, who with the main army, was fortified on New York island, placed General Putnam in command of about eight thousand men posted in Brooklyn. Generals Sullivan and Stirling were under General Putnam with their brigades. Early on August 27th, General Putnam notified General Stirling that the enemy was approaching along Martense Lane and ordered him to take three regiments "advance beyond the line and repulse the enemy." Hastily gathering Haslet's Delaware battalion, some Pennsylvania and Maryland troops, Stirling advanced upon the left wing of the enemy. About eleven o'clock, the enemy received two thousand reinforcements whereupon Stirling ordered forward his Delaware reserves and a sharp contest ensued. After this battle the regiment went into camp at King's Bridge, Westchester County, New York. On October 28th the battle of Chatterton's Hill took place and again the Delaware men were called into the thick of the fight by the orders of General Washington.

The general army return of November 3rd, 1776, showed Colonel Haslet's to have fit for duty 28 commissioned and no-commissioned officers and 273 rank and file; 254 men were sick and 21 were detailed on special duty. Washington was compelled to retreat through New Jersey to the banks of the Delaware and when Haslet's regiment was in camp there on December 22nd, the whole number present and fit for duty were 15 officers and 92 men. Much of this depletion was due to the fact that a large number of its officers as well as the rank and file had returned home to enlist in a new regiment which was being organized under a law of Continental Congress, for service during the war, and under conditions offering better pay and regularity of promotion. With less than a hundred men Haslet took part in the battle of Princeton on Christmas Day, 1776, but there are no records of the performance of the command in that affair. Its last service was in the battle of Princeton, January 2, 1777, in which Colonel Haslet was killed while leading his handful of men gallantly into action. They had reached Stony Brook at sunrise and were marching along the Quaker road when they came upon Mawhood's British Regiment. In the fight that immediately ensued Haslet was shot through the head.

*The  
Dedication  
Of  
The Colonel John Haslet Monument*



*Sunday, the Thirtieth of December  
Two Thousand and One*

***The  
Dedication  
Of  
The Colonel John Haslet Monument***

***Sunday, the Thirtieth of December  
Two Thousand and One***

***Battle Monument Park  
Princeton, New Jersey***

## COLONEL JOHN HASLET

A Patriot of considerable distinction, Colonel John Haslet was the Commander of Delaware's first Continental Regiment. A native of County Londonderry, Ireland, he emigrated to America in 1757. Haslet was a graduate of the University of Glasgow, and an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church. He was commissioned as a Captain in the Pennsylvania Militia in 1758, and was a participant in the expedition against Fort Duquesne. He later settled in Delaware and began the practice of medicine. Active in the civil affairs of his newfound home, Haslet was a leading proponent of Independence. In 1775 he was appointed as a Colonel by the Continental Congress, and charged with raising the Delaware Regiment. The distinguished service of the Regiment in the campaign of 1776 can be largely attributed to his inspirational leadership. With the discharge of the Delawares following the Battle of Trenton, he was attached to the staff of General Mercer. He was by Mercer's side when the General fell at Princeton, and was rallying the troops when he was killed by a British bullet. Noted for his bravery and devotion to the cause of Liberty, Colonel John Haslet died a hero to his state and nation.

*"...among the foremost in services of danger.  
He was indeed a gallant officer..."*

*Washington Irving*

## PROGRAM

OPENING MUSIC	<i>Brigade of the American Revolution</i>
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	<i>C. Russell McCabe, Administrator Delaware Historical Markers Program</i>
	<i>Timothy A. Slavin, State Archivist Delaware Public Archives</i>
REMARKS	<i>The Honorable Wayne A. Smith Majority Leader Delaware House of Representatives</i>
	<i>Charles Laverty Irish Brigade Association</i>
PROCLAMATION AND REMARKS	<i>Major General Frank Vavala Adjutant General Delaware National Guard</i>
<b>UNVEILING OF MONUMENT</b>	
WREATH PRESENTATION*	<i>Priscilla Zaller State Regent/Delaware Society Daughters of the American Revolution</i>
	<i>Nancy Lewis Regent/Colonel Haslet Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution</i>
	<i>Ralph Nelson Past President/Delaware Society Sons of the American Revolution</i>
	<i>Lyman R. Brenner Secretary/Delaware Society Sons of the American Revolution</i>
REMARKS AND BENEDECTION*	<i>Reverend William Harris, Archivist Princeton Theological Seminary</i>
CLOSING MUSIC	<i>Brigade of the American Revolution</i>
*Musical Interludes	<i>Fran Raftery Courtesy of the Irish Brigade Association</i>

**Special Acknowledgements**

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*Commissioner Robert Shinn, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection*

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*John Hakola, Century Memorials*

*Delaware Society, Daughters of the American Revolution*

*Delaware Society, Sons of the American Revolution*

*The Irish Brigade Association*

*The Brigade of the American Revolution*

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To the Honourable the Senate and House  
of Representatives of the State of Delaware  
now in Session.

The undersigned, a Committee appointed by  
Joint Resolutions of the Senate and House of Rep-  
resentatives of the State of Delaware adopted at  
Dover, on the 22<sup>d</sup> February 1841, and charged with  
the duty of proceeding to the City of Philadelphia  
before the fourth day of July then next following,  
for the purpose of bringing the remains of the late  
Col. John Haslet, Commander of the Delaware  
Regiment in the Revolutionary War, who fell at the  
Battle of Princeton in January 1777, from their  
depository in said City, and placing them in the  
burying ground of the Presbyterian Church in  
the Town of Dover, and to cause a suitable mon-  
ument, with appropriate inscriptions and de-  
vices, prepared by a skilful artist, to be erected  
over them under their superintendance, respect-  
fully ask leave to make the following report of  
their proceedings:

In the month of May 1841, pursuant to  
previous arrangement, the Committee met toge-  
ther in the City of Philadelphia, and entered up  
on the discharge of the duty assigned them. —  
Having ascertained that the body of Col. Haslet  
was interred in the old burying ground belong-  
ing to the first Presbyterian Church in said City,  
they visited the place, and were shown the spot  
where his remains lay, over which they found a  
marble slab which had been placed there by order  
of the General Assembly of this State in the year 1783,  
with the following inscription:

In Memory of  
John Haslet, Esquire,

Colonel of the Delaware Regiment  
Who fell gloriously at the Battle of Princeton,  
In the cause of,  
American Independence,

January 3<sup>d</sup> 1777.

The General Assembly of the Delaware State,  
Remembering,

His virtues as a man - His merits as a Citizen,  
and his services as a Soldier, have caused  
this monumental stone, in testimony  
of their respect, to be placed over  
his grave.

M D C C L X X X I I I.

They then asked the privilege of the Trustees of said Church to disinter and remove the remains which was promptly and cordially granted. With the view of carrying out the wishes of the Legislature according to their instructions, the Committee repaired to Laurel Hill Cemetery, and examined the monument erected over the remains of General Merce, who fell in the same Battle with Col. Hartlet, intending, if the means placed at their disposal would warrant it, to procure a similar one to perpetuate the memory of our own gallant Commander. They then visited the principal Stone Cutters establishments in the City of Philadelphia, were shown many plans for monuments, and ascertained the lowest price for which they could be obtained and erected, and regret to say that they found the appropriation made by the Legislature wholly inadequate to defray the expence of purchasing and erecting a monument such as they desired to procure, and had nearly determined, merely to remove the remains, and the monumental stone placed over them by the General Assembly in 1783, to be substituted at the reinterment at Dover for the monument ordered by the Legislature.

But anxious to comply with the instructions in said Resolutions, so far at least, as was within their power, with the funds granted them for that purpose, they finally concluded to purchase and erect a monument, which should not greatly exceed in cost the appropriation made by the Legislature, trusting confidently to the patriotism and liberality of the General Assembly to whom it would be their duty to make report, for their sanction of this part of their proceedings. — Accordingly they contracted with John Struthers and Son, Stone Cutters of the City of Philadelphia, for the monument now erected in the Presbyterian Church yard at Dover, which is based upon granite slabs procured from the Brandywine in this State. The original stone, before mentioned, with its inscription, placed over the body of Col. Haslet by this State in 1753, forms one of the sides of the monument, and upon the other side thereof, the Committee caused to be engraved, the following words:

Erected,  
By the State of Delaware, as a tribute of  
Respect, to the memory of  
Col. John Haslet.

Whose remains, according to a Resolution of the Legislature, passed on the 22<sup>d</sup> February, 1841, were removed from their resting place in the grave yard of the first Presbyterian Church of the City of Philadelphia, and here interred on Saturday  
3<sup>d</sup> July 1841.

The Committee then fixed upon Thursday, the first day of July following, as the day upon which they would cause the remains of Col. Harlet to be exhumed preparatory to conveying them, by the Steam Boat Kent, the next day, to Dover, to be there interred on the third day of July in the place designated by the Legislature, under the monument which would, before that time be prepared and placed there for their reception, of which intended proceedings they gave notice in the Newspapers of this State and of the City of Philadelphia, and by circulars of invitation, sent to the Governor, Secretary of State, the late Governor and late Secretary of State, the Judges of our Courts, and Members of the Legislature.

It was the intention of the Committee to procure a plain Coffin and after placing the remains therein, without previous ceremony in the City of Philadelphia, to proceed directly with them to Dover. But the Hibernian Society of said City, becoming acquainted with the arrangements for removal of said remains by the Committee, and claiming the late Col. Harlet as the Countryman by birth of most of its members, earnestly solicited the privilege and honour of conducting at their own Cost, the funeral solemnities, there, and the Committee seeing no good reason for denial, acceded to their wishes. Many Volunteer Companies of Militia, also tendered their services, in honour of the occasion, which were in like manner accepted.

In pursuance of these arrangements, the remains of Col. John Harlet, were on Thursday the first day of July 1841, disinterred in presence of this Committee, a Committee of the Hibernian Society, and many Citizens of Delaware and the City of Philadelphia, placed in an elegant mahogany Coffin, provided for the occasion by the Hiber-

Hibernian Society, and conveyed to the first Presbyterian Church on Washington Square, where the Volunteer Militia, and the Hibernian and other societies met at an early hour the next morning (July 2, 1841), and formed in procession in the following order:

### Military.

#### General Prevost and Staff.

The various volunteers of the City and County of Philadelphia, the hilts of the swords of the officers, mounted with crepe - the drums muffled and in crepe - the flags similarly marked, and the various bands of music, including the band from the Navy Yard, playing solemn and appropriate airs. This part of the procession was closed with,

#### Major General Patterson and Staff.

A Hearse, drawn by four black Horses each led by a Groom in mourning.

Eight members of the Hibernian Society acting as Pallbearers, and wearing appropriate mourning badges.

The Coffin was covered with a United States flag, and also with a flag borne on the Battle field where Col. Haslet fell. A plate on the Coffin bore the following inscription:

In Memory of  
Col. John Haslet  
of the Delaware Regiment,  
who fell at Princeton in the cause of  
American Independence.

January 3<sup>d</sup> 1777.

The first City Troop, on foot, surrounded the Hearse, as a guard of Honour.

The Clergy in a Barouche.

Judges of Courts in a Barouche.

The Committee of Superintendance appointed by the Legislature of Delaware, and the President of the Hibernian Society in a Barouche.

The Judges of the District Courts of the U. S. and other distinguished individuals.

Officers of the Army and Navy of the United States.

The Hibernian Society, wearing green badges, and headed by Marshals.

The Natives of Delaware, residing in Philadelphia, and Citizens of Delaware, headed by Marshals.

The Citizens of Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The Escort proceeded along the route designated through several of the principal streets of the City, and as they passed, minute guns were fired, the bells which had been muffled were tolled, and thousands of Citizens crowded to the windows and side walks.

On arriving at Arch Street Wharf, Alderman John Beins, who had been specially selected for the purpose by the Hibernian Society, from a stage erected for its occasion delivered a complimentary and patriotic address to the Delaware Committee, which was responded to by one of its members.

The remains were then placed in the hands of the Committee on board the Steam Boat Keat, accompanied by a Committee of the Hibernian Society, two Volunteer Companies of Maryland, and a number of Citizens of Delaware, the same day conveyed to Dover.

In the mean time the Citizens of Dover had made ample preparations for our suitable and proper reception. A large Committee of Citizens, met the body and its escort, about a mile from Town, on Horseback and accompanied us to the Capitol, and the whole Cavalcade marched slowly around the town to the sound of solemn music, and the tolling of the bell, to the State House. The Coffin containing the body was then deposited in the Court room, which had been appropriately hung with mourning by the Ladies of Dover.

Joseph P. Cornegey Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of reception, then welcomed the strangers to Dover, by a handsome address to the Committee of Native Delawareans and Marylanders, the deputation from the Hibernian Society, and to the military respectively, and was answered by persons appointed for that purpose on their respective parts.

Sentinels were then posted over the remains for the night.

On Saturday morning July 3d 1841, the National flag was displayed from the State House at sunrise, as the signal for commencing the ceremonies of the day. At an early hour of the day a large concourse of Citizens of this State and from other States, assembled to witness, and take part in the solemnities of entombment, among whom were several old men who had personally known Col. Hartlet before he left this State to join the army of the Revolution, all of whom bore testimony to his virtues as a Citizen and gallantry as a Soldier. At ten o'clock in the morning, a prayer was made in the State

House by the Reverend, President Gilbert of New Ark College; after which eloquent addresses, suitable to the occasion, were delivered by him and the Hon. John M Clayton.

The final procession was now formed in the following order, under the direction of Genl. Henry Ridgely as Chief-Marshal assisted by Henry H. Lockwood and William H Cooper.

### Band of Music.

Escort - Philadelphia Grays and Washington Grays, in open column, under command of Capt. Cadwalader.

Funeral Car, with the remains, and eight Pall Bearers.

Mourners and Relatives of the deceased  
Legislative Committee.

Governor and Staff, Judges of Courts, Ex-Governor, Secretary of State, Ex-Secretary.

Hebrewians with their Banner.

Committee of Native Delawarians and Marylanders, residents in Philadelphia.

The Clergy.

Soldiers of the Revolution.

The Committee of Reception and Arrangements.

Citizens of Pennsylvania.

Citizens of Maryland.

Delegation from Newcastle County.

Citizens from Newcastle County.

Delegation from Sewer Town.

Citizens from Sussex County.

Citizens from Kent County.

In this order the procession marched slowly round the public square, and through the Town, and proceeded to the Presbyterian Church yard, where the remains were deposited in their final resting place, under the monument provided for their reception, with military honours. The monument is simple in design but ~~very~~ <sup>very</sup> appropriate.

By the subjoined statement and accompanying vouchers, the Legislature will perceive, that the Committee have necessarily exceeded the appropriation placed at their disposal, and that there is now due to John Struthers and Son, the sum of \$109.69 on account of the monument by them furnished, which they respectfully ask may be referred to the Committee of Claims for allowance.

All which is respectfully submitted.

William Huffington

C. M. Night

Charles J. du Pont

The State of Delaware Dr

For and on account of expenses incurred  
in purchasing and erecting a monument, in  
memory of Col John Murrell.

1841.

For	Bill of Sipple & Pennewill	\$	33:01.
"	do " David Clayton	----	18:25
"	do " John R. Bostick	----	6:00
"	do " James Phillips	----	60:00
"	do " William Wilkerson	----	2:50
"	do " Samuel Kemney	----	2:00
"	do " P. & E. Spruance	----	14:50
"	do " Miffelin & Parry	----	5:00
"	do " John Struther & Son	309.69	
"	do " F. B. Dick	----	49.00
"	do " St. St Cannon	----	3.00
"	do " Jos: R Chandler	----	3.00
To	Sundry expenses on Board Steam Boat Kent, postage, Stationary &c &c	----	13.52
"	G. H. Wright, for travelling and other expenses as a member of the Committee	----	40.22
"	William Huffinger for do.	----	30.00
"	Charles J. Du Pont for do	----	20.00
		Dollars	<u>609.69</u>
Cr	By appropriation received and expended - \$500.00	----	<u>500:00</u>
	Balance due and unpaid		109.69

Report  
of the Committee, ap-  
pointed to remove the  
remains of Col. John A  
Haslet <sup>from the City of Providence</sup> and procure  
a monument for their  
reception, to be erected  
in the Presbyterian Church  
yard at Dover.

House of Reps.

1843. January 10. Presented, with the  
accompanying vouchers, read  
and referred to the Committee  
on claims.

Thos. R. M<sup>rs</sup> Jee

Clerk of Ho

In Senate

1843. Feb 24. Presented for  
concurrent and read.

W 58

Dover, Delaware.  
November 8, 1934.

Mrs. E. H. Darrach,  
1502 North Meridian Street,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Mrs. Darrach:-

In response to your recent letter, I wish to say that our files do not contain a record of the exact date of Colonel John Haslet's marriage.

We find, on page 267 of Biographical and Genealogical History of the State of Delaware, published by J. M. Runk & Co., Chambersburg, Pa., 1899, the statement that:

"John Haslet married Jemima (Molleston) Brinckle, widow of John Brinckle, of Dover, who survived Mr. Haslet only a few months, leaving five minor children to the guardianship of his former friend, William Killen, Esquire."

The will of Henry Molleston, of Kent County, probated February 23, 1762, mentions daughter, Jemimah Brinckle.

The will of Jemima Molleston, wife of Henry Molleston, which was probated November 11, 1760, mentions daughter, Jemima Brinckle, wife of John Brinckle.

The administration on the estate of John Brinckle, granted on October 8, 1764, to his widow shows that Jemima, the widow, later married John Haslet. The date October 8, 1764 is probably very close to the death date of John Brinckle and it may

be presumed that the widow did not remarry until at least a year had elapsed. We know she was married to John Haslet by May 20, 1766, for an account rendered on the estate of John Brinckle on that date states that they were married.

The foregoing probate records are in this office. Henry Wollleston's will is in volume A 35, pages 204 and 205; Jemima Wollleston's, in the same volume, on pages 211 and 212; and John Brinckle's administration is in volume A 5, pages 177 to 181.

Very truly yours,

State Archivist.

LdeV:R.

REPORT OF CASH COLLECTIONS

PERIOD COVERED

Revenue Sub-Classification	TAXES	MISCELL.	BOARD TUITION	LICENSES	FEES	FINES PENALTIES	REFUNDS REIMBURSE
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John Haslet

John Haslet was born at Coleraine in Ulster, Ireland, the son of Joseph and Ann (Dykes) Haslet, at a date not noted but presumably between 1727-1735. He was ordained a Presbyterian minister at Bally Kelly, County Derry, Ireland, in 1753. He emigrated to America before 1758, since in that year he served in the French and Indian War, in the campaign against Fort Duquesne, as a captain in James Burd's 2nd Pennsylvania Battalion. Delaware Archives cites a letter from him, dated at New Castle, May 15, 1759. For a considerable time before the Revolution he was established as a physician in Kent County. Between September 25, 1764 and May 20, 1766, he married Jemima, widow of John Brinckle and daughter of Henry Mollleton. The Delaware Gazette for August 8, 1789 says that he was "frequently elected to the General Assembly of this State"; this service, however, was not in 1763, or 1765-1769 inclusive, for which Minutes are extant. He had brief experience as colonel of one of Kent County's two militia regiments before the outbreak of the Revolution.

check ref.

On January 19, 1776, John Haslet, Esquire, on the nomination of the Council of Safety of the Three Lower

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE TOTAL CASH COLLECTIONS MADE BY ME, OR UNDER MY JURISDICTION, DURING THE PERIOD STATED ABOVE, AMOUNTED TO:

REMITTED TO STATE TREASURER:

RECEIPT OF STATE TREASURER

DOLLARS (\$ )

DEPT, ETC.

DATE

SIGNED:

(Title)

Countries on Delaware, was chosen by the Continental Congress to be colonel of the battalion to be raised in that area. Shortly after July 9, 1776, the battalion proceeded to Wilmington, from there to Philadelphia, where it arrived August 3. Five days later it left for New York via Amboy, New Jersey, to join Stirling's brigade. The fact that it was completely armed and uniformed made it distinctive among the units assembled for the defense of New York. Its conduct was equally distinguished during the ensuing unsuccessful campaign and resultant retreat across New Jersey. In October, Haslet led a skirmish near Mamaroneck, and a few days later played an outstanding part in the battle at White Plains. On Christmas night, 1776, he was with the troops who attacked Fort Mifflin successfully. By December 20, 1776, however, the Delaware regiment had been decimated by casualties, termination of enlistment, recruiting cadres and desertions until it numbered only Col. Haslet himself, three officers and two privates.

Haslet remained with the Army, and took part in the action at Princeton on January 3, 1777, but in its early phases he was instantly killed while trying to rally the men of an officer who had just fallen. His services had been frequently commended by his associates and superiors. At the time of his death he had a fresh commission as colonel of a Delaware Continental, a command

a letter written to Caesar Rodney shortly before his death implies that he hoped to see him shortly if he survived the approaching battle.

*also in  
Jan 1  
Ref.*

L  
LIFE OF COLONEL JOHN HASLET OF DOVER

---

By

Catherine W. Tarburton

Historical and Literary Reciprocity Committee

Col. Haslet Chapter, B.A.R.

Dover, Delaware

FOREWORD

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Information for this paper was secured from the following sources:

Scharf's History of Delaware

Historical and Biographical Papers of Delaware

Records in the State Archives of Delaware

I am indebted to Judge Henry C. Conrad for his assistance in obtaining and collecting this information from the Dover State House. Also to Mr. John W. Hering of Milford, Delaware whose ancestral chart of Col. Haslet I have used.

The purpose of this essay is to do something, however little, to prevent the deeds of the Revolutionary soldiers from being forgotten. The image of John Haslet, who was the backbone of the Delaware Militia during the Revolution, will incite the most sluggish mind to virtue. His life was cut off in the beginning, but it was pregnant with valor and action, and worthy of emulation.

Haslet was born in Ireland. The date is uncertain. In 1755, we see him being ordained there as a Presbyterian minister in Bally Kelly Co. Derry. Sometime after 1755, John, as two of his brothers did, came to America. He settled in Kent County, Delaware, and for a while preached in the Presbyterian pulpit. But later, abandoning his theology, he became a medical doctor and practiced medicine successfully on Kent and Sussex Counties. He served in the State Assembly repeatedly; and it was probably there that he grew to be a friend and intimate of that famous Delawarean, Caesar Rodney.

Just before the Declaration of Independence was signed we see Rodney in the Congress in Philadelphia working heartily for American Independence, so some converting towards the cause had yet to be done in Delaware. Rodney used Haslet to manage this in Delaware in headquarters in Dover. And from letters between the two, we feel again the intensity of the Revolutionary days. Then on July Fourth, 1776, we see that precious document, the Declaration of Independence completed. On the night of the fourth Rodney sent Ensign Wilson post-haste to Dover with the news. Haslet was a leading Whig and Rodney's right-hand man; the one he depended on to get the people straight on questions of Independence, as well as to raise and enlist soldiers to fight for it. Rodney wrote him from Congress daily. How Haslet rejoiced at the news and the unanimity of the Delaware Delegation of three men in signing

the Declaration his letter to Rodney tells:

"I congratulate you, Sir, on the important day which restores to every American his birthright, a day which every freeman will record with gratitude and the millions of posterity read with rapture. Your messenger reached me last night. A fine turtle feast at Dover anticipated and announced the Declaration of Congress. Even the barrister himself laid aside his airs of reserve. Mighty happy."

Rodney early fastened upon him as a fit man for military command, so Haslet's regiment was already raised by the time the Declaration of War was announced. It was composed of eight companies and numbered eight hundred men. Its officers were appointed by Congress, upon recommendations from Congress and by the Council of Safety from the three lower Counties of Delaware. Ballots were taken ( according to the Journals of Congress) and Haslet elected Colonel, Gunning Bedford, Lieutenant-Colonel; Thomas McDonough, Major; James Tilton, Surgeon; Joseph Montgomery, Chaplain. .

In a few days after the Declaration was received at Dover, the Regiment marched to the headquarters of the army which were then at New York. They must have arrived there about the middle of August. They marched from Dover to New York without tents. How provisions were supplied them does not appear, but it is more than probable that they supplied themselves along the route. They were brigaded with four Pennsylvania regiments and a Maryland regiment. Lord Stirling was the brigadier. On August 27th, not more than five weeks after marching from Dover, they were in the battle of Brooklyn or Long Island. In this battle they behaved with the courage and firmness of veteran soldiers. It was said that the Delawareans and the Marylanders fought as bravely as men could possibly fight. Caesar Rodney says:

"The Delawareans were well-trained and fought in a compact body the whole time; and when obliged to retreat, kept their ranks, and

entered their lines in that order; and were obliged frequently, while retreating to fight their way through bodies of the enemy. The Delaware Battalion obtained great honor at Long Island, showing unparalleled bravery in view of all the Generals and troops within the lines, who alternately praised and pitied them. "

Rodney also says:

"The Delaware and Maryland troops stood firm to the last. They stood for four hours drawn up on a hill in close array, their colors flying, the enemy's artillery playing upon them; nor did they think of quitting their station until an express order from the General commanded them to retreat. The standard was torn with shot in Ensign Stephen's hands. This regiment lost thirty-one men, two officers, Lieuts. Stewart and Harney.

Col. Haslet did not participate in this battle. He and Bedford were members of a court-martial in New York at this time for the trial of Lieut. Zidwitz for corresponding with the enemy. Major McDonough was in charge.

After that battle, this regiment was placed in Mifflin's brigade and sent to King's Bridge. After the army was stationed at King's Bridge (according to the weekly return of Washington's forces at Harlem Height October 5th, 1776) Haslet had a total of 569 men. Shortly after this, his regiment returned to camp and on October 21st made a descent upon Roger's corps of Tories at Mamaroneck, taking 36 prisoners, a pair of colors, and 60 muskets. He wrote as follows to General Rodney of his victory: "On Monday night Lord Stirling ordered me with 750 men to attack the enemy's outposts ten miles from this place at the village of Mamaroneck; which was done and their guards forced. We brought in a pair of colors, 60 stand of arms and a variety of plunder besides. The party we fell in with was Col. Roger's, the late worthless Major. On the first fire he skulked off in the dark. His lieutenant and a number of others were left dead on the spot. Had not our guards deserted us at the first

onset, he and his whole party must have been taken. As this was the first effort of the kind and a plan of his Lordship's, he was so highly pleased with us that he thanked us publicly on parade."

The General Army Return of November 3rd 1776, showed Col. Haslet to have left for duty 275 men. General Washington was compelled to retreat through New Jersey to the banks of the Delaware. When Haslet's regiment was there in camp on December 22nd, there were 15 men off and only 92 fit for duty. Much of this depletion was due to the fact that a large number of its officers as well as some of the rank and file, had returned home to enlist in a new regiment being organized under a law of Continental Congress for service during the war under conditions offering better pay and regularity of promotion. With less than 100 men after the battle of White Plains Haslet faced the engagement at Trenton on Xmas day 1776.

Haslet's last word to Rodney was written shortly after the battle of Trenton:

"Dear and worthy Sir,

"When last I wrote you God knows, I do not. This I can affirm, that I have received no answer.

"After a long retreat from the full conviction of the enemy's superior numbers, but perfect in order and with a firm but determined countenance we at last stopped on the banks of the Delaware. There we were stationed On Xmas at three o'clock on the early morning of December 26th, we recrossed the river; a party of Virginians formed vanguard and did most of the fighting. Lord Stirling's brigade had the honor of fighting 1000 Hessians to surrender. We should have gone on, and panic-struck, they would have fled before us, but the inclemency of the weather rendered it impossible. We repassed the river, rested one day and then were ordered back. I am sorry to inform the General that Capt, Holland Ensign Wilson, Dr. Gilder and myself are all of the Delaware Battalion who have followed the American cause to Trenton, two privates excepted.

On General Washington's being informed of this, he declared his intention of having officers and men bound neck and heels and brought back as an example to the army. I told the General the truth, but not the whole truth. The last I reserved for you and you will blush with me.

---" We just now hear that the bridge on this side of Princeton is cut down and the enemy retiring. A sufficient number of troops are ready to drive them out of Jersey. We hope to greet you well. On our victorious return from Trenton, I fell into the Delaware at three o'clock in the morning up to my middle, and have had swelled legs ever since, but no matter, if we drive them to New York. If I return, it will be to salute you; if not, we shall meet in heaven. Your goodness will give Mrs. Haslet such news as you think proper. I have Gen'l Washington's leave to return and superintend the recruiting service at home, but cannot go for a few days longer. Hope soon to lay myself at your feet and am with great esteem

Sincerely yours,

John Haslet

"P. S. The four Allens we hear are with Gen'l Howe. Galloway fled, his brother the Gen'l in pursuit. Mr. Tilghman informed the Gen'l in my hearing that the Dover Light Horse are coming up. Is it so? I shall believe like Thomas, when I see it. Gen'l Washington is Dictator (by Resolution of Congress passed December 27th). I mentioned to Lord Stirling the other day that I thought myself dismissed from the service on Col. Smallwood's being favoured before me. What made the case in point was the dispute in rank between us determined by the Gen'l himself in my favour. The preference was, as in Gen'l Wooster's case a modest hint to retire."

This letter was written the first day of January 1777. On the third day of January the Battle of Princeton was in its second day. Haslet's meager handful of men were then in Mercer's brigade which formed the left wing of Washington's army in the proposed movement upon New

Stony Brook and were marching along the Quaker Road when they were suddenly surprised by Mawhood's British regiment. In the ensuing fight Haslet was shot through the head by a rifle bullet. Major Mc Donough carried the regiment through the remainder of the engagement after which it was disbanded. Col. Haslet died immediately and was buried on the battlefield at Princeton. Three days later his body was taken to the Churchyard of the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia in Washington Square. July 3rd, 1841, with great pomp and military ceremony, his remains were moved to the old Presbyterian Churchyard in Dover, Delaware, his home, where the following epitaph now stands, carved on a slab of marble taken from the Brandywine. The original Philadelphia was preserved by being made one side of the present tombstone:

IN MEMORY OF JOHN HASLET, ESQUIRE  
WHO FELL GLORIOUSLY IN THE BATTLE OF PRINCETON  
IN THE CAUSE OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE  
JANUARY 3RD, 1777  
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF DELAWARE STATE REMEMBERING  
HIS VIRTUES AS A MAN, HIS MERITS AS A CITIZEN  
HIS SERVICES AS A SOLDIER  
HAVE CAUSED THIS MONUMENTAL STONE  
IN TESTIMONY OF THEIR RESPECT  
TO BE PLACED OVER HIS GRAVE A.D. MDCCLXXXIII

Records describe his interment managed by the Hibernian Society of Philadelphia. A military escort conveyed his remains to the Steamboat Kent and thence to Dover. The flag of the United States was displayed from the Dover State House at sunrise on the Green from which Haslet led his regiment so many years before. Hon. John A. Clayton delivered the funeral address. We see the gloomy but stately military procession

7  
marching through the streets of Dover, with drums and flags swathed in black crepe, a hearse drawn by four black horses and led by a groom in mourning. All records of this burial are complete in the archives of Dover State House, made out by Charles I. Dupont. Several letters and the will of Haslet preserved here make him seem near to us again.

The study of his life evokes intense admiration for this brave Irishman, who so unhesitatingly gave his life to America. There is no greater death than to have died gallantly fighting under the banners of General Washington for the liberties of this country. We view Haslet once again, tall, athletic, handsome; a man of intelligence and understanding, proficient in theology, medicine, and military tactics; generous, impulsive, humorous. If he had lived, his name must have been even more renowned. He was no mean statesman, and, judging from his letters, he was a writer of ability. He had already the recognition of the future President Washington. Imagine his future.

His untimely death killed his wife, Jemima Manlove Molleston Brinckle, for she lived only a few days after Haslet's death. Four little ones were orphaned, Joseph and John, Mary and Ann. These were put under the guardianship of friends. Joseph was reared under the guardianship of Hon. Wm. Killen, Chief-Justice and one-time Chancellor of Delaware. When Joseph came of age, he moved from Kent Co. and established himself as a farmer in Cedar Creek Hundred in Sussex Co. He is the only man to have had the honor of serving twice as the Governor of Delaware in 1811 and 1843. He wed twice, Mary Draper and Rachel Hickman. One of Haslet's daughters, Jemima, married Dr. James Munro, a skillful and learned physician of Wilmington. Of Jemima Munro's children the only survivor was Mrs. Mary Boyd of Wilmington. The other daughter of Col. Haslet, Ann, married Major Fatten but died childless. John Haslet, the other son, died unmarried and without issue.

Haslet did not leave many men in his regiment. Col. David Hall

8  
gets the credit for commanding the celebrated "Delaware Regiment" and justly so. But many of Hall's men and nine of his officers were men whom Haslet had commanded, and who had deserted Haslet, disgusted and chagrined for the new regiment of Hall's, being organized by Congress with better pay and better prospects.

In order to see Haslet's regiment in true perspective, it is well to look briefly at Delaware's Militia during the Revolution. In less than a month after the Declaration, Delaware had eight hundred men in the field (under Haslet) who fought at Brooklyn, White Plains, Trenton, and ~~Princeton~~; and by April had another regiment of like number who fought at Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, twice at Camden, Cowpens, Guilford, Ninety-six and Eutaw. The latter one never laid down its arms, although reduced to a corporal's guard until Cornwallis laid down his arms at Yorktown, and Leslie evacuated Charleston. There is not an important battle of the Revolution, except the battles of Bunker Hill and Yorktown in which the Delaware Regiments did not participate; although seven hundred Delaware and Maryland recruits joined in the siege and battle of Yorktown, the decisive battle of the war.

At the outbreak of the war, the population of Delaware numbered only 37,500 yet by the 2nd year of the war, Delaware furnished and sent to the front three regiments, viz; Col. Haslet's, Patterson's, and Hall's; also a partisan company of Capt. Allen McLane's. Haslet's career ended at Princeton but some of his men went through to the end, and his brave spirit lives on to the end of time in the valorous personality of the man revealed to us in the thought and contemplation of his life and his noble deeds.

# 23 Jan 11 Pf.

Copied April 1932, from a clipping  
in Dr. D.L. Mustard's scrap book  
given by Mrs. Caleb Layton

## HASLET, OF DELAWARE.

A manuscript left among the papers of the late William McKim, of Baltimore, Md., states the Haslet family was represented in Delaware and Maryland prior to the Revolution by three (3) brothers, John, Joseph and William Haslett (as the name was then spelled), natives of the north of Ireland and of Scotch-Irish Presbyterian stock.

Another brother, James Haslett, remained at Coleraine in Ireland, and left two (2) sons, who about the year 1800 entered into business in Baltimore, Md., as merchants, but finally settled at Charleston, South Carolina.

The eldest of the four brothers, John Haslett (or Haslet, as he eventually wrote his name), was educated for the ministry of the Presbyterian Church, but after his immigration and settlement in Mispillion hundred, Kent county, Delaware, he took up the practice of medicine. During the colonial wars with France he commanded a company in Colonel James Burd's 2nd Pennsylvania Battalion in the expedition against Fort Duquesne in 1758 and '9. (See Penna. State Archives, 2nd series, vol. II).

At the outbreak of the Revolution, he accepted the command of the Delaware regiment furnished by the state upon the call of the Continental Congress, being commissioned on January 19, 1776, and remained in service till killed at the battle of Princeton, January 3, 1777. He was buried in Philadelphia, but in 1841, his remains were removed by the State of Delaware and buried with great ceremony on July 3 in the Presbyterian churchyard at Dover, where a monument marks their resting place.

He married a Mrs. John Brinckle (a widow, born Jemima Mollenston), of Dover, who only survived him a few months, leaving five (5) minor children to the guardianship of his former friend, William Millen, Esq., afterwards the distinguished Chancellor of Delaware.

These children in the order of birth were as follows:

1. Mary, who m. a Mr. McGarmant, and died prior to 1803, leaving no issue.
2. Ann, who m. (1788), Major John Patten, of the Delaware Line, and who d. prior to 1791, leaving no issue. Major Patten, by his 2nd marriage, (to Mrs. Vincent Lockerman, born Mary Miller), was the ancestor of the late Hon. Leonard E. Sales, Judge of the U. S. District Court, and of the present Dr. John P. Sales, of this city.
3. Joseph elected Governor of the State in 1810, and again in 1822, removed from Kent county at age of 21, and settled as a farmer in Cedar Creek hundred. He m. (1st) Mary Draper, and (2nd) Rachel Hickman, and died June 23, 1823. He is buried in Cedar Creek village, Sussex county. He left issue as follows: (a) Ann, (b) John, (c) Joseph, (d) Jemima, all of whom deceased without issue surviving.
4. John, a physician, who d. unmarried.
5. Jemima. (b. Nov. 7, 1775 and d. July 16, 1821), who m. (1793) Dr. George Monro (b. Feby. 22, 1760, and d. Oct. 11, 1819), of Wilmington, Del. Dr. Monro had also served as a surgeon in the American army during the revolution. They left issue 3 sons and 5 daughters, as follows:
  - (a) Lydia Hall (b. July 26, 1794), m. in 1819, Rev. Eliphalet W. Gilbert, D. D., and had issue:

- (a2) Margaretta, who m. Rev. George McNeill, Jr., and had:
- (a3) James Dobbin (b. 1850), m. (in 1876) Elizabeth Strange  
(b. 1853), and has issue:
- (a4) Margaretta Gilbert (b. 1876)
- (b4) Elizabeth Strange (b. 1878)
- (b4) James Strange (b. 1880)
- (d4) George, (b. 1882)
- (e4) Mary Human (b. 1884)
- (f4) Robert Strange (b. 1886)
- (g4) Minerva Ruffin (b. 1888)
- (B3) Margaretta (b. 1852), d. unmarried.
- (c3) George R., who m. Julia Marlin and had issue:
- (h4) Marlin, (i4) George, (k4) Winnie and (l4) Margaretta  
Gilbert (d.)
- (b2) Ellen (Mary) who m. William Graham and the both d.  
(No issue surviving.)
- (c2) Susan (Monro) who m. Rev. John Agnew Crawford (b. 1822)  
and has issue:
- Three (3) daughters and one (1) son.
- Haslet Wylie (b. Aug. 22, 1865)
- (d2) Sarah, who m. E. Anderson.
- (e2) George Gilbert (d. 1861)
- (b) Haslet (b. April 5, 1796, d. Nov. 17, 1798)
- (c) Mary Ann (b. Nov. 27, 1798) m. Thom. J. Boyd, of  
Wilmington, Del., and had issue:
- (a) Mary Stanley (b1) Harriet Monro.
- (c1) George Monro (d1) William Stanley and (e1) Thomas  
J., all of whom d. unmarried.

- (d) George (b. May 14, 1801. d. 1803)
- (e) Jane Hall, (b. Aug. 20, 1803, d. Oct. 29, 1814)
- (f) George 2d, (b. Oct. 4, 1805, d. unmarried.)
- (g) Margaretta (b. Dec. 2, 1807), m. Dr. Am. Darrach, and  
had issue:
  - (f1) Dr. George Monro Darrach (b. Feb. 20, 1826.)
  - (g1) Dr. James Darrach (b. Dec. 28, 1828.) He m.----- Morris,  
and has issued, one dau. and one son.
- (h) Susan E. (b. April 21, 1810), unm'd.

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Also in Howl  
Bf

COLONEL JOHN HASLET

John Haslet, son of Joseph and Ann (Dykes) Haslet, was born in Ulster, Ireland, probably at Coleraine between 1727 and 1735. He was ordained a Presbyterian minister at Bally Kelly, County Derry, Ireland, in 1753. Shortly afterward he emigrated to America, for in 1758 he held a Captain's commission in James Burd's 2nd Pennsylvania Battalion, which saw service at Fort Duquesne. The first evidence of his presence in Delaware is a letter datelined New Castle, May 15, 1759. By 1764, he was practicing medicine in Kent County. About 1765 he was married there to Jemima, the daughter of Henry Molleston and widow of John Brinckle. He appears to have been active in public affairs, for he was Colonel of one of Kent County's two militia companies, and is said to have been elected several times to the Assembly in the period just prior to the Revolution, years for which no legislative Journals have survived.

On January 19, 1776, John Haslet, Esquire, upon the nomination of the Three Lower Counties on Delaware, was chosen by the Continental Congress to be Colonel of the battalion to be raised in those Counties. When the troops had been recruited <sup>principally at Dover,</sup> and outfitted, and had seen some home defense duty, especially in Sussex County, the battalion proceeded to Wilmington in mid-July, 1776, then to Philadelphia on August 3. On August 8 they were detailed for the attempted defense of New York, which they reached via Amboy, New Jersey. Although the Delaware men served gallantly at Long Island, Haslet himself was on detached duty on the day of the battle. He took a prominent part in a skirmish near Mamaroneck, and the ensuing battle at White Plains in October, in the retreat across New Jersey, and in

the attack on Trenton on Christmas night, 1776.

By the close of the year, the Delaware contingent had been decimated by terminations of enlistment, recruiting cadres, desertions and casualties until it numbered only Colonel Haslet himself, three officers and two privates. On January 3, 1777, in an early phase of the action at Princeton, he was killed while trying to rally the troops of an officer who had fallen. At that time he had just been appointed Colonel of the new regiment of Delaware Continentals then being recruited, a command later assigned to Colonel David Hall.

John Haslet's body was taken to Philadelphia for burial in the churchyard of First Presbyterian Church, where his tomb was suitably marked in 1783 by action of Delaware's General Assembly. In 1841 it was brought to Dover with elaborate ceremonies and reinterred in the churchyard of the Presbyterian Church, now adjacent to the State Museum.

Colonel Haslet was briefly survived by his widow. He left five children, Joseph, John, Jemima, Mary and Ann, to the guardianship of William Killen. One of his sons, Joseph, was Governor of Delaware for the full term 1811-1814, and was beginning a then-unprecedented second elective term at the time of his death in June, 1823.

also in  
Am'l Rf.

Captain John Haslet.

He gave his life in the battle at Princeton, Jany. 3, 1777, and his memory is endeared to the hearts of all lovers of our country and who have its glory & prosperity at heart. For this reason, we propose to take a brief glance at his career in the Colonial and Revolutionary history of our country. His name first occurs in the service of the Province of Pennsylvania in what is usually designated "The French and Indian War." There were three Battalions, of Sixteen Captains in each. He was the 14th Captain in the 2d Battalion- Commanded by Col. James Burd.

In the year 1758 the expedition against Fort Duquesne, now Pittsburgh, was undertaken, and the 2d Battalion joined the British army at Carlisle." This Battalion was encamped at Shippens<sup>S</sup>burg; at Chamber's, about eleven miles from Shippensburg; marched to Fort Loudon. The army was attacked at Ligionier by a body of French and Indians. On Nov. 25 this year, "The Army took possession of Fort Duquesne, under the command of Gen. Forbes; a poor emaciated old man, who, for the most part of our march was obliged to be carried in a horse litter." [Miles manuscript.]

Capt. John Haslett, April 28, 1758.

Lieut. William Clinton, April 28, 1758.

Ensign. Robert Bines, April 28, 1758.

[Pa. Arch., 5th Series, Vol. 1, pp. 128, 183]

An acct. of Capt. John Hasslet's Company the last part May 21st, 1758.

[Name, date of enlistment, where born, age, trade and remarks.]

Name of 53 privates.

[Pa. Arch., 5th Series, Vol. 1, pp. 148]

Stationed at Chestnut Level, Lancaster County, 15 miles from Philadelphia, Pa.

Philadelphia, May, 1758, Joseph Shippen, Jr.,

Brigade Major.

[Pa. Arch. 5th Series, Vol. 1, p. 174]

"A list of Officers who served in the Pennsylvania Reg't. of 3 Battl'ns, A. D. 1758 & '59, with their ranks they were promoted to after that time."

[Officers' names and number of lots to each]

Capt. John Haslet, 3.

[Pa. Arch. 5th Series, Vol. 1, p. 264.]

"A List of Officers of the New Levies & the dates of their Commissions--  
1759."

Capt.- John Haslet, April 24, 1759.

Lieut.- David McCay, April 30, 1759.

Ensign- Alex. McDowell, April 23, 1759.

(John Haslet was No. 4 in list of Captains.)

[Pa. Arch. 5th Series, Vol. 1, p. 295.]

"A List of Recruits enlisted by Capt-John Haslet, May 20, 1759."

[Name, age, where born, date of enlistment and occupation.]

2 Sergeants, 2 Corporals, 1 Drummer, and 45 privates.

[Pa. Arch. 5th Series, Vol. 1, page 285]

A tract or parcel of land situated in Mispillion Hundred, Kent County aforesaid. Beginning at a Comer Post standing on the South Side of the Road Leading from Mispillion forrest to the New wharf or Landing on Mispillion Creek, <sup>[Milford]</sup> -adjoining tract "Fairfield"- containing 128 acres, being part of a larger tract called "Longfield"-

Consideration £172 - 2 - 0. [Deed Book R-1-107]

March 24, 1767. John Haslet of Mispillion Hundred in the County of Kent on Delaware, Practitioner in Physic, purchased from the London Company, 250 acres strict measure, in Mispillion Hundred, adjoining tracts Improvement, Fairfield, Bridge Town, and Swan Creek.

Consideration £242 - 14 - 2. [Deed Book R-1-171.]

John Haslet, Practitioner in Physic, and Jemima his wife, (nee Molleston), on Aug. 6, 1776, reconveyed to John Revell three parcels of land, aggregating 774 acres, more or less, situated on the North side of Mispillion Creek, in Mispillion Neck and Hundred.

Consideration £1074 - 8 - 0. [Deed Book W-1-60.]

Aug. 6, 1776, Col. John Haslet of Mispillion Hundred, made his Last Will and Testament, naming his wife Jemima, and five children, viz: Joseph, John, Mary, Ann, and Jemima. He was killed at the Battle of Princeton, Jany. 3, 1777. His will was probated March 6, 1777. His widow Jemima survived him only a short time. Letters of Administration on her estate being granted to Hon. Wm. Killen, March 14, 1777.

Report of a Tomb-Stone having  
been erected over the grave of  
Col. Harlet.

Oct. 1786.

In Council

The Delegates from this State to Congress  
in 1783, who were impowered to cause a  
Marble Tomb Stone to be erected over  
the grave of Colo. John Hart, at the  
expense of this State, beg leave to Report

That owing to the death of  
the Person first employed, and sundry  
other disappointments which it is  
unnecessary to mention, the work  
was not completed till the last  
Summer. That a handsome Marble  
Tomb Stone is now erected in the  
Burying Ground of the Presbyterian  
Church in Market Street, Philadelphia,  
upon which the following inscription  
is cut, viz.

In memory of  
*JOHN HASLET Esquire*  
Colonel of the *DELAWARE REGIMENT*;  
Who fell *GLORIOUSLY* at the *Battle of*  
*PRINCETON,*  
In the Cause of  
*AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE,*  
January 3<sup>d</sup> 1777.

The General Assembly of the  
*DELAWARE STATE,*  
Remembering  
His *Virtues* as a Man,  
His *Merits* as a Citizen,  
And  
His *Services* as a Soldier,  
Have caused this Monumental Stone,  
In testimony of their *Respect,*  
To be placed over his *Grave,*  
Anno *MDCCLXXIII.*

That the whole expence of the stone, and setting it up in the best manner with Stock Brick, amounts to Twenty five pounds, fourteen shillings and six pence, of which £20 has been received by the President's order on the State-Treasurer, and a balance of £5:14:6 remains unpaid. This balance, they have promised the workmen shall be paid in a very short time.

Eleazer W. Comb,  
for himself and  
his late colleagues.

Dover 25<sup>th</sup> October 1784.

In the House of Assembly, Oct. 25. 1786.

On Motion, Resolved,

That an order be drawn by the Speakers of both Houses upon the State-Treasurer for the payment of Five Pounds, fourteen shillings and six pence to Eleazer W. Comb Esq<sup>r</sup>. to enable him to discharge the balance due on account of erecting the afo<sup>re</sup> Monumental Stone.

W<sup>m</sup> B<sup>o</sup>tt<sup>o</sup> Clerk of Assembly

Sent for concurrence.

Enrolled Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 1786 Concurred in  
James Lykes Clerk of Council

LOCATED LEGISLATIVE PAPERS 1786 OCT ACCOUNTS

August 9<sup>th</sup> 1786

The State of Delaware

Bot. of David Chambers

a marble Tomb Stone for the Grave of

Colonel Haslet amounting to . . . . . 16.0.0

to Engraving 328 letters @ 3<sup>d</sup> . . . . . 4.2.0

Postage . . . . . 0.2.0

£ 20. 4. 0

~~was no m...~~ ment of their Subscrip  
 the Three Runs Meetinghouse are viz:  
 Crapper - - - - - £2:0:0  
 Polk - - - - - 1:0:0  
 Reed - - - - - 1:0:0  
 than Manlove - - - - - 1:5:0

Delinquents in their Payments to  
 the Revd. Mr. Austin for yr. Year 1765  
 William Parks - - - - - £0:5:0  
 Azariah Richardson - - - - - 5:0  
 John Crapper - - - - - 1:0:0  
 Ephraim Polk - - - - - 10:0

To Mr. John Black

Sir you are desired by the Committee  
 appointed to settle the affairs of the Con-  
 gregation at the Three Runs, to insert the  
 above Arrearages in yr. List, & call for them  
 from the Delinquents above mentioned

Decr 28<sup>th</sup> 1768

David Peterkin  
 James White  
 John Farish

To the Honorable the Committee  
of the House of Representatives, on Claims  
According to a Joint Resolution passed at  
the Session of the Legislature in 1807  
a Committee were appointed two on the  
part of the Senate and three on the part  
of the House of Representatives to ascertain  
the condition of the Tomb of Col. John Haxell  
and contract for repairing the same  
The undersigned on the part of the Senate  
and A. Hamilton Esqr on the part of the  
House of Representatives did proceed to  
Philadelphia and found the Tomb of the  
said Col. John Haxell in the Grave Yard  
of the first Presbyterian Church in said City  
in a very dilapidated state but could make  
no contract for repairing the same because  
of the said Joint Resolution having been  
unfortunately lost and was not published  
with the Resolutions annexed to the  
Compendium of the Laws of 1807 —

With due Respect Yours &c

Committee on Claims Wm. M. Cavanaugh

To the Honorable the Commissioners  
of the House of Representatives of Claims  
According to a Joint Resolution passed at  
the Session of the Legislature in 1837  
a Committee were appointed two on the  
part of the Senate and three on the part  
of the House of Representatives to ascertain  
the condition of the Tomb of Col. John Hadfield  
and contract for repairing the same  
The undersigned on the part of the Senate  
and A. Hamilton Esqr on the part of the  
House of Representatives did proceed to  
Philadelphia and found the Tomb of the  
said Col. John Hadfield in the Graveyard  
of the first Presbyterian Church in said City  
in a very dilapidated state but could make  
no contract for repairing the same because  
of the said Joint Resolution having been  
unfortunately lost and was not published  
with the Resolutions annexed to the  
Pamphlets of the Laws of 1837 —

With due Respect yours &c

Committee on Claims Wm. M. Calderwood

# Ancestry of Col. John Haslet

Unknown ancestor in County Derry, near Londonderry, Ireland.

William of Lower Drummagy  
Co. Derry, born 1696

John, born 1726

William, born 1756

William, born 1796

Col. Peckitt Haslett, R.E.  
born 1849 - died 1915.

Victoria, living in 1929  
at Carronaffe, Moirlee,  
Co. Donegal, with her  
widowed mother.

Joseph Haslett + Ann Dykes  
of Straw  
Co. Derry, Ireland.  
born 1705

daughter of  
Rev. Dykes of  
Maghera about 1726  
Rev. Dykes said to  
have come from Scotland.

Change of spelling  
name unknown.

John Haslett (or Haglitt) born 1710 -  
Either a brother or cousin of William  
of Lower Drummagy and Joseph of  
Straw. From Coleraine, Derry and  
went to Shrone Hill, Tipperary about  
1735 - merchant -

Joseph Haslett, M.D.  
U.S. America.

Wm Haslett a farmer  
in U.S. America -

Rev. Wm. Haglitt

James of Pethard  
Tipperary

Wm Haglitt  
the eminent  
English Essayist.

Col. John Haslett + (1) Miss Shesley (or Sterling)

originally ordained a  
minister to BallyKelly, Co.  
Derry, Ireland in 1753. Then  
came to U.S. America and became  
a doctor of medicine. Settled  
in Kent Co. Delaware. Became  
active in the Revolution. Colonel  
of the Delaware Regiment - killed  
(shot in the head) Jan. 3, 1777,  
leading the Centre line under Genl.  
Mercer at the Battle of Princeton -  
was buried where he fell and three  
days later his body was removed  
to the Church yard of the First  
Presbyterian Church, Washington Square,  
Phila. Pa. - July 3, 1841, his remains  
were removed and buried in the Presbyterian  
Churchyard at Dover, Del. where a monument  
marks his grave. Hon John M. Clayton  
delivered an address on the occasion.

(2) Jennima Manlove Molliston - Brinckle  
by whom he had Joseph (afterward Governor)  
Mary who married Major John Patten,  
Ann who married Dr. Geo. Monroe, and  
John who died unmarried -

JOHN M. CLAYTON  
 DELIVERED AN ADDRESS  
 ON THE OCCASION  
 OF THE RE-MOVAL OF  
 HIS REMAINS  
 FROM WASHINGTON  
 SQUARE  
 PHILADELPHIA  
 TO DOVER  
 DELAWARE  
 JULY 3, 1841

"MOUNT PLEASANT"  
MILFORD, DELAWARE

January 28, 1930.

Hon. Henry C. Conrad,  
State Archivist  
Dover, Del.

Dear Judge:

Rev. Geo. H. Haslett, a  
Chaplain in the British Army, whose  
home is at Torquay, Western England, and  
who is now in service in Egypt, has sent  
me a voluminous sketch of the Haslett  
or Haslett family.

Thinking that you might like to hear  
the Col. John Haslett line I have copied  
that part of it and am inclosing same  
to you with my compliments and best  
wishes.

Sincerely yours,

John W. Herring.

N<sup>o</sup> 14

Preamble & Resolutions  
on the subject of the removal  
of the remains of Col. John  
Hazlett.

In Senate.

1841. Feb. 3. Introduced & Read.

and adopted

G. P. Foster

Clk

Screen.

N. Reps.

1841 Feb. 4 Taken up for  
consideration, amended  
& concurred in as amended.

J. O. Combs

In Senate

Clk

1841 Feb 9. Passed for concu-  
rence with the amendment to  
the amendment proposed

and in 22<sup>d</sup>  
& passed

G. P. Foster

Clk

Whereas the General Assembly of this State entertain in common with the citizens of this State a great regard for the memory of those ~~brave~~ of her brave and patriotic sons who died gallantly fighting under the banners of Washington in defence of the liberties of their country, and <sup>is being their</sup> desire to cherish and preserve their memory by procuring the removal of their remains whenever they can be obtained and depositing them within the limits of their own State - And Whereas the remains of Col. John Hazlet Commander of the Delaware Regiment in the Revolutionary War, who fell in January 1777 at the Battle of Brimstone are now deposited in the City of Philadelphia - Therefore

Ag. 30  
Vol. 235

+ Be it resolved by the Senate and Houses of Representatives of the State of Delaware in General Assembly met - That a Committee be appointed to consist of two on the part of the House and one on the part of the Senate whose duty it shall be to proceed to Philadelphia on or about the fourth of July next and bring his remains from their present depository and place them in the Burial Ground of the Presbyterian Church in the town of Dover, and to have a suitable monument with appropriate inscriptions and devices, prepared by a skilful artist and erected under their superintendence and direction over his remains when so deposited.

Resolved - That the Committee appointed by the foregoing resolution or a majority of them are hereby authorized to draw their orders on the State Treasurer for any sum or sums not exceeding in the whole the sum of ~~One~~ <sup>Five hundred</sup> Dollars for the purpose of carrying into effect the object of the resolutions aforesaid, and the State Treasurer be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to pay the orders of the said Committee so drawn on him out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, and it shall be the duty of the said Committee or a majority of them to make report of their

proceedings in the premises to the next biennial sessions of the Legislature, setting forth the expenditures consequent upon the execution of their duties under the provisions of this resolution. —

For Commr

Extract from the Journal

G. P. Fish

Ch. H. S.

No 75.

In State

1841. Feb 4. Paid to non

encouraged in

G. P. Hain

Chas. W.

No 75.

H. Rep. 1841 Feb. 4.

Amend the Resolution by striking out the first resolution and inserting in lieu thereof the following -

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Delaware in General Assembly met, That William Hixington Gardner H Wright & Charles S du Pont be and they are hereby appointed a Committee, whose duty it shall be to proceed to the City of Philadelphia, before the fourth day of July next and bring his remains from their present depository, and place them in the Burial Ground of the Presbyterian Church in the town of Joren and have a suitable monument with appropriate inscriptions and devices, prepared by a skilful artist and erected under their superintendance ~~and dedicated~~ over his remains when so deponed

Extract from the Journal

J. O. Compp  
Ch

For Col.

In Senate Feb 22 1841.

The Committee of Conference

on the subject of disagreement between  
the two Houses, report to the Senate  
in relation to the resolution concerning the removal of the remains of Genl John

That the Senate recede from their  
disagreement to the amendment of  
the House to the first resolution  
and that the Senate do agree  
to said amendment

Extract from the Journal

For an amendment

Geo. J. Fisher  
Clerk

42 24

Haylett Muckus

1843



J. S. Northwick 7/10.03

Suppl. of Pennewick

Messrs J S Harper P Soffland  
 W Osborne H Ridgely W  
 A B Smithers

Part of Supply of Pennewell.

1841 July 3	32 1/4 yds	Black Muslin	@ 12 1/2	4.03
	12 "	Black Crape	@ 50	6.00
				<u>10.03</u>

Exp from 2 Jan 1842 to

Dover Jan 7 12 to 1842

We certify that the above bill was contracted with Sipple & Pennewell, and that the articles were used for decorating the Court House & for the funeral ceremonies of Col John Hartlet.

James I. du Pont  
 S. A. Wright  
 William Buffington

Committee

David Clayton  
\$18.25

Mason Work

S. H. A.	33.85
D. Clayton	18.25
Porter	6.00
Sam. Kimball	2.00
Williston	2.50

*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes and scribbles, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

Dr William Haffington, Gardner H Wright  
and Charles J. DuPont  
Legislative Committee on the  
Hastler Resolutions

1841. In acct. with David Clayton  
July 1. To 5 days work walling  
" up grave for Col. Hastler's remains  
" & assisting Stone Cutter @ 2<sup>ff</sup>. 10:00  
" Paid to labourers for  
assisting in the work  
7<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> days @ \$1: - - 7:75  
-----  
17:75  
filling up in front of  
the monument - - 50  
-----  
\$ 18.25

No 2.

Received payment  
David Clayton

Given July 6 1841

Mr. Charles Dupont

To William Wilkenson Dr

To Honor expenses of accomodating man & horses  
at the Burial of col John Haskins Remains \$2.50

Rec<sup>d</sup> Payment in full

Ans

William Wilkenson

P. Edward K. Smith

William Huffington, G. H. Wright & Charles Dupont

1841

To Dr. P. Rosmerica

July 3<sup>rd</sup> To Black Caps furnished for  
Burial of Col. Haskins \$6.00

Rec<sup>d</sup> Payment in full

Wm R. V. A

Mr. C. H. Dupont &

TO JOSEPH R. CHANDLER, DR.

1841 FOR ADVERTISING IN THE UNITED STATES GAZETTE,

Sum of notice of the funeral of  
the Gal. 1 Col. Haskins

11 Mo \$5.00

Deduction

2.00

Rec<sup>d</sup> May 10 1842

the amount in  
full To J. R. Chandler  
of Wm. J. M. King

\$3.00

\$ 12  
" "  
J. R. Chandler  
Advertising in the  
United States Gazette  
#3

(1st 3rd)

John H. Bostwick & Co

# One  
Trappe  
" "

to Du Pont  
at their  
Wilmington

Contractment for  
Iron & Brass

\$ 2.50  
Messrs. Johnson  
J. S. Co

James Phillips

1800

17

Granite Slabs

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

Wilmington July 1<sup>st</sup> 1841.

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Huffington, Wright & DuBois, D<sup>r</sup>

To James Phillips.

for two Granite Slabs for Haylet Monument  
& Carriage to Dover. ————— \$60. —

Received July 9<sup>th</sup> 1841. the above amount in full  
\$60.

James Phillips

no 4.

No 9  
John Stutts Woz  
for Marble Monument  
Lecturing &c &c

\$309.69  
Pd. on 9/11 " 200.00  
due Sep - \$109.69

Philadelphia Nov. 22. 1841

Charles J. Du Pont Esq. To John Struthers Esq.  
1841 July 2.

To a Blue marble Monument for Grave of	
Col. Hallett	200 -
" Engraving & setting letters	34 - 69
" 4 white marble Cannon	39 -
" Stone Cutter & Labourer 4 days each. expended going & returning from Dover	28 -
" Portage & use of Hoisting Machinery	8 -
Contra Cr.	\$ 309.69
1841 Nov. 17 - By Cash on acct.	200
Balance	\$ 109.69

Dear Sir, Please excuse our neglect in acknow-  
ledging the receipt of your favour of the 16 inst,  
enclosing draft for Two Thousand Dollars. (\$2000)  
for which please accept our thanks and assure  
that it came at a most acceptable time.

Most respectfully yours  
John Struthers Esq



Paid of C. J. du Pont Esq., three dollars, in full  
for Advertising Notice of the removal of the re-  
mains of Col. Audette, agreeable to a resolution  
passed by the last Legislature.  
March 10<sup>th</sup> 1842. J. H. Cannon

Wm. Huffington  
Charles J. du Pont and  
Gardner H. Wright, Esq. <sup>Wm. Cannon</sup> Com. on the War let Resolutions  
To Saml. Hinman Esq.  
1841  
Jan 28. For printing Notice of Installation of  
No. 6. R. J. Payne must Saml. Hinman

Apple & Lemmings

433.55

Lime, Bricks, Hauling &c

Dr W. H. ...  
Apple & Lemmings  
\$31.85

David Brown  
for M. B. ...  
J. G. ...

No.

Philadelphia, Aug 11th 1847.

**BANK OF NORTH AMERICA,**

PAY to *G. Emerson Esq.* or Bearer,

*Eight* Dollars 100

\$ *8*

*Charles Du Pont*

J. Rakestraw, printer.

*W. Sturffington, G. M. Wright & C. J. du Pont Esqs.  
Comrs. on Bartlett remains &c*

*To Sipp & Pennewell*

<i>1841 July 3.</i>	<i>15 Bar. Lime c 30</i>	<i>\$ 4.50</i>
	<i>2585 Bat Reg Bricks c 10</i>	<i>25.85</i>
	<i>Hauling sand &amp; Bricks</i>	<i>1.50</i>
	<i>freight &amp; Hauling tools of Stone masons</i>	<i>\$ 31.85</i>
	<i>Due payment</i>	<i>2.00</i>
		<i>33.85</i>

*Sipp & Pennewell*



*not.*

*deduct 84 cts for Bricks returned*

No. 102

J. B. Dick

House, Healey and Company

vs

\$49.00

---

Mr Cha<sup>s</sup> J. duPont

Dear Sir

I received your letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> Nov  
and would have answered previous to this but for  
being sick. As you want my account for the  
duties &c at Dover I will affix it to this.

Yours Respectfully  
Residence 19<sup>th</sup> Locust St above 12<sup>th</sup> F B Dick

The Delaware Committee

To F B Dick D<sup>r</sup>

Hearse & Horses to Smyrna 4 Days	\$24.00
Disintering the remains - - -	6.00
Removing the remains to the Church	4.00
The fair in the Boat up and down -	10.00
Board of Self & Man - - - -	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$49.00

By Cash received - - - - -	10.00
Balance due - - - - -	<hr/>
	\$39.00

December 10<sup>th</sup> 1841

1842

March 20<sup>th</sup> check on over forwarded to Mr Dick \$39.00

1877

S E Spruance and

Isaac Shook

\$14.50

for hauling Monuments  
from Boat landing  
to shore

Isaac Shook  
bill



now  
to C. F. O. American  
ind. 11<sup>th</sup>, in, 13  
hours of wages to  
States of Delaware

To Isaac Short

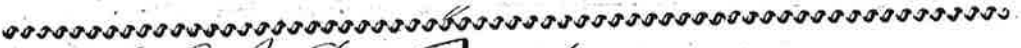
1846

July 3	To Keeping 2 horses 2 days	2.00
"	2 days board for the	}
	horses driven	
		50
		<u>\$ 2.50</u>

Es

No 7.

Recd of Charles du Pont Esq  
payment in full Isaac Short



Mr. C. J. Du Pont

To MIFFLIN & PARRY, Dr.

184 /

For Advertising in the *Pennsylvanian*,

Time & Removal of the Remains of Col <sup>\$</sup>  
Hasslett *ditto* - 500

Received Payment for M. & P. S. H. Deibelbower  
Coll<sup>rs</sup>

Publication Office No. 99 South Second Street, Philadelphia.



Dover, Feby 3. 1843

Wm Fisher Osborne & Smithson, Comy<sup>rs</sup>. Hasslet funeral  
to Mrs. Maudlove & Co.  
1841 June 26 33<sup>rd</sup> Black Cambria 12 1/4 12 1/4

No. 8. — \$5.00

Mefflin & Parry

for Printing in the

Pennsylvanian

Com. ordered  
Ordered to  
Dec. 3. 1847  
H. Rep

John C. Moulton

Mr R Postich  
Bill  
\$9.28

for goods furnished  
for the interment of the  
Remains of Col. Hastie

H. R.  
1843. June 26. Referred  
to com. on claims.

*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes and signatures, possibly including names like 'C. ...' and '...']*

# Hasselt Committee of Dover

1841  
June 29<sup>th</sup>

Acct of Mrs R Boshick

9 yds Crapes	@ 50	—	4.50
1 Piece Ribbon	84	—	0.84
27 yds Black Muslin	12 1/2	—	3.37 1/2
Wine & Tacks	3 1/4	Shred per 25	0.50 1/4
3 yds Blk Crapes	50	—	1.50
3 1/2 Crapes	50	—	1.75
2 lb sperm Candles	50	—	1.50
2 1/2 yds Crapes	50	—	1.25
			<hr/> 15.28

July 3<sup>rd</sup>  
15<sup>th</sup>

By Cash from Wm Stoughton			6.00
			<hr/> \$ 9.28