

We spent the night on shore and the next day the women and children proceeded with some of the party to St. Ann's in Indian canoes; the rest came on foot. We reached our destination the 8th day of October, tired with our long journey, and pitched our tents at the place now called Salamanca, near the shore. The next day we explored for a place to encamp, for the winter was at hand and we had no time to lose. The season was wet and cold, and we were much discouraged at the gloomy prospect before us. Those who had arrived a little earlier in the fall had made better preparations for the winter; some had built small log huts. This we were unable to do owing to the lateness of our arrival. Snow fell on the 2nd day of November to the depth of six inches. We pitched our tents amidst the shelter of the woods and tried to cover them with spruce boughs. Stones were used for fire places. Our tent had no floor but the ground. The winter was very cold, with deep snows which we tried to keep from drifting in by putting a large rug at the door. The snow that lay six feet deep around us helped greatly in sheltering us from the cold. How we lived through that awful winter, I hardly know. There were mothers that had been reared in a pleasant country enjoying all the comforts of life, with helpless children in their arms. They clasped their infants to their bosoms and tried by the warmth of their own bodies to protect them from the biting frost. Sometimes a part of the family had to remain up during the night to keep the fires going, so as to prevent the rest from freezing. Some destitute people made use of boards which the older ones kept heating before the fire and applied by turns to the smaller children to keep them warm. Many women and children, and some of the men, died from cold and exposure. Graves were dug with axes and shovels near the spot where our party had landed; and there in the stormy wintry weather our loved ones were laid to rest. We had no minister, and had to bury them without any religious service. The first burial ground continued to be used for some years until it was nearly filled. We called it the "Loyalist Provincials' burial ground."

Among those who came with us to St. Ann's, or who were there when we arrived were Messrs. Swim, Burkstaff, McComesky, three named Ridner, Wooley, Bass, Ryerse, Paine, Acker, Lownsberry, Ingraham, Buchanan, Ackerman, Vanderbeck, Donley, Smith and Essington, with some few others.¹

¹In the muster rolls of the New Jersey Volunteers, nearly all these names are to be found. I find in Capt. Waldron Bland's company:—John Swim, Vincent Swim, Mose-McComesky, David Burkstaff and Frederick Burkstaff; in Col. VanBuskirk's company:—Abraham Vanderbeck, Conrad Ridner, Abraham Ackerman, Morris Ackerman and Marmaduke Ackerman; in Capt. Edward Earle's company:—Lodewick Fisher, Peter Ridnor and Peter Smith; in Capt. Samuel Ryerson's company:—Samuel Buchanan; in Capt. Jacob Buskirk's company:—James Ackerman. There is also a Sergeant Elihu Wooley in another company. Benjamin Ingraham was a sergeant in the King's American Regiment. He served in the southern campaign and was severely wounded at Camden and nearly died of yellow fever. He arrived at St. Ann's in a row-boat in October, 1783, built a small log house in the woods into which he moved on the 6th of November, at which time there was six inches of snow on the ground. W. O. R.