

Inscription on the tablet

***To the memory of eighty-four Hessian Soldiers of the Regiments:
Prince Carl Lossberg and Gendarmes also of the Fusilier Battalion Prueschenck, who died
of disease in the Isle of Wight during the campaign in the year 1794 and were buried in
the churchyard. This tablet is placed by Landraf Alexander Frederick of Hesse
April 1906***

The History

The French Revolutionary War began in 1792, when France declared war on Austria who, with Prussia, had made it clear that they intended to restore the French King Louis XVI to his rightful position.

In 1792 France invaded the Austrian Netherlands and the Rhineland. The intolerance and cruelty of the French Revolution led to the concern of other European powers.

In January 1793, after the execution of Louis XVI, Great Britain, Holland, Spain and other European states joined Austria and Prussia to form the first coalition against France. France declared war on Britain and Holland on February 1st 1793, and later on Spain. The coalition was successful during the first half of 1793 in France. However during the second half of that year, both the Austrians and the British were defeated by the French armies. The British with their Hanoverian and Hessian auxiliary forces were defeated at Hondschooten near Dunkirk.

The Hessian troops belonged to the auxiliary corps of 12,000 which Hessen-Cassel had to provide for England in order to take part in the campaign against France.

On December 31st 1793, the Hessian Auxiliary Corps embarked on British ships at Ostend, knowing nothing of their destination or future military objectives. They arrived in the harbour at Spithead on January 4th 1794.

The ships were crammed with men, horses, cannons, and carriages. It was hoped that they would soon take part in a landing on a French harbour.

The intended expedition did not happen and the troops were expected to spend the winter on the Isle of Wight. However, the law at that time stated that no foreign troops could be landed on British territory except by

a special Act of Parliament. Thus the soldiers had to remain on the crowded ships where conditions had become intolerable. First the horses perished in large numbers because they had insufficient food, water or room to move. (on January 13th one regiment reported the loss of 83 horses)

The Commanding Officer of the British Forces, General Moira, complained about the vast amounts of arms and horses that had been brought over. He was told this had been at the express order of the Commander of the British Forces in Belgium, the Duke of York.

By mid January, infections and fevers broke out among the soldiers on the ships. They were given permission to land near Cowes on January 21st and take a two hour walk. This did little to help them.

On the 22nd & 23rd January, however, all the remaining horses were disembarked and housed in barracks or stables on the Isle of Wight. Sick officers though, still had to remain on the ships. Only one soldier was allowed to land to tend every three horses. Only on January 29th were field beds provided in farmers barns for these grooms. They had to provide their own food, which had to be fetched from their ships (taking perhaps two hours for the journey) This food had to be cooked out of doors. On February 21st , General Von Borock, Commander of the Hessian troops reported that 641 of his men were ill. At last, on the 29th February, most of the soldiers were allowed accommodation in barracks on the Island. The barracks, however, were little better than the ships – mostly cold, makeshift huts made from store barns. The horses stables were transformed into hospitals for the increasing number of sick. All requests from the Hessian Generals, including those from Von Kutzleben the Hessian envoy in London, to provide stone buildings which could be heated for the soldiers, were in vain. In March half of the Corps suffered in those miserable hospitals.

During this time 84 Hessian Soldiers died in the military hospitals in East Cowes. This is documented in the Church record. The men were buried in Whippingham churchyard. The Hessian Corps were transported back to Ostende on April 2nd 1794 to continue the campaign against the French Republic.

NOTE: THE HESSIAN-BRITISH CONNECTION

**Landgraf Frederick II, the great grandfather of Alexander Frederick
married Mary, the daughter of George II**

**This marriage was the reason why many Hessian soldiers fought with the
British in the American War of Independence.**

**This Hessian-British friendship & co-operation in the military are
continued until the end of the 18th century, when England was in military
partnership with Germany against Napoleon.**

Hessian Soldier's Buried in Whippingham Churchyard, on the Isle of Wight in 1794

Feb 4 th	HENRICH HERMON of the Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
Feb 6 th	FREDERICH BARTLENG of Lossberg.
Feb 8 th	SERJEANT WILL M WIMMELL of 2 nd Bat. of Hessian Regt. of Prince Charles.
Feb 8 th	HENRICH WEITMAN of Hessian Regiment.
Feb 13 th	PETER COPP of Hessian Regiment – a surgeon's mate.
Feb 14 th	PAUL HOFFMAN of Hessian Regiment of Prince of Wales.
Feb 15 th	JOHN MILLER of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
Feb 15 th	PHILLIP WOLMAR of Hessian Regiment of (heavy horses) Gensddarm.
Feb 22 nd	ERNEST KERSNER of Hessian Regiment of Gensddarms.
Feb 22 nd	ANNA ELIZA ECKHARTIN a Hessian soldier's wife.
Feb 25 th	HENRICH SCHMID of Hessian Regiment of Gensddarmes.
Feb 26 th	FREDERICH WINERECH of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
Feb 28 th	JOHN MASSELL of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
March 1 st	VALENTINE DIESS of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
March 1 st	JOHN AWBEL of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
March 2 nd	GASLER VOGELER of 2 Bat. of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
March 2 nd	GEORGE CRAW of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
March 2 nd	ADAM ELLENBERGER of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
March 2 nd	JUSTUS DRISCHMANN of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
March 4 th	ADAM TIVEL of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
March 4 th	HENRICH SCHMID of 2 Bat. of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.

March 8th **HENRICH FINSTEN** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 8th **FREDERICH MOGGE** (Serjeant) of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 8th **HENRICH BOSSE** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 10th **GEORGE JACOB** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 10th **JACOB HAIBEL** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 10th **ERNEST FOSSELL** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 10th **CHRISTOPHER ZIEGLER** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 11th **NICHOLAS PARKER** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 12th **CATHARINA ELIZABETH** daug of a Hessian soldier CHRISTIAN HANEMANN.
 March 14th **HENRICH DEGENDART** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 15th **GEORGE GAERTNER** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 16th **CHRISTOPHER GIVELER** of Hessian Fusileers.
 March 16th **GEORGE RAIPER** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 17th **JOHN VALBAWM** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 18th **GOTTFRIED SHIRNER**, Surgeon of Hessian Fusileers.
 March 20th **CANROD KIMMELL** of Hessian Regiment of Gensddarmes.
 March 20th **NICHOLAS NAYEL** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 20th **CERJACUS KEITTELL** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 21st **CASPER FAHL** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 21st **MAURICE JOIGER** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 22nd **ENSIGN HOLLMER** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 24th **NICHOLAS APFELL** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 24th **CHRISTOPHER BRINK** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 24th **FREDERICH KLEMME** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 25th **CHRISTIAN SCHRODER** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 27th **CORPORAL DHON** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 28th **CONRAN PLUMENSTEIN** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 March 29th **HENRICH ENTSMANN** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 29th **LUDWIG MISSEL** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 29th **GEORGE GLOCK** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 30th **CORPORAL LUDWIG ULRICH** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 March 31st **ANTONY IFFLAND** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 2nd **CHARLES LUDWIG WISSEL** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 3rd **JOHN FRISCHKORN** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 4th **CONRAD LUBOKE** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 4th **WERNER GOBELL** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 5th **CONRAD ERTOMOMN** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 5th - **LOFFORT** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 7th **CARL FIEFAMANN** of Hessian Regiment of Losserg.
 April 9th **HENRICH WAGENER** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 10th **HENRICH DOHRING** of Hessian Regiment of Gensddarmes.
 April 12th - **HOMBERG** a Hessian soldier's wife.

April 13th **JAC HART** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 13th - **HEMMING** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 15th - **KOINARD** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 15th **CONRAD FEI** -- of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 17th **CHRISTIAN FUHRER** a Hessian soldier.
 April 18th **ANDREAS THEIL** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 21st **GEORGE LOTZ** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 21st **JOHN JOST SCHRODER** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 22nd - **(H) UAHOLD** of the Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 22nd **HENRICH BERGMANN** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 22nd **WILHELM HERKERLING** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 23rd **ADAM LOFLOR** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 23rd ? Hessian soldier's child.
 April 23rd **H. HONNING** of Hessian Regiment of Prince Charles.
 April 28th **SL. GROBE** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 28th **CHRISTIAN VOLT** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 April 29th **ULRICH GUTERMUTH** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 May 1st **ANTON SCHMIDSKUNT** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 May 2nd **ANTON WEYKE** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.
 May 2nd - **GROSS** of Hessian Regiment of Lossberg.