

Kosciuszko served the remainder of the war as a chief field engineer under General Greene in the South. He stayed in America seven years, longer than any other foreign soldier who served in Washington's army.

Kosciuszko returned to Poland in 1784 and spent several relatively uneventful years managing the family estate. During this time he reduced the compulsory work of his serfs, eventually liberating them entirely. Kosciuszko's commitment to freedom was such that he pledged to emancipate serfs in Poland and led a peasant army in a failed insurrection against Russian control.

In 1797 Kosciuszko returned to America and received \$15,000 plus 500 acres of land in back pay for his wartime service. During this visit, he started a friendship with Jefferson that resulted in a twenty-year relationship of mutual trust and respect. The most famous document in their correspondence is the instruction that Kosciuszko left to Jefferson regarding the disposition of his investments upon his death in 1817. Always viewing forced servitude with disdain, Kosciuszko instructed Jefferson to direct the money from the sale of his estate to the emancipation of slaves.

Thaddeus Kosciuszko, international freedom fighter, was renowned for his military expertise, humanitarian character and dedication to the concepts of freedom and unalienable rights. A brilliant engineer, talented artist and inspirational leader, Kosciuszko was admired by his friends and foes alike. The courageous devotion to liberty that he exhibited in both North America and Europe made Thaddeus Kosciuszko a hero to lovers of freedom worldwide.

Editors note - for space reasons the Bibliography was omitted from the Muster Call.



VASSAR RESOLUTION

This Resolution was presented to the general membership meeting of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution on Saturday, February 14, 2009, pursuant to its constitution, by-laws and all requisite notice.

WHEREAS, Dominic Lay and his brother Francis Lay, have for many years stood and marched in full colonial military attire as part of the VASSAR, Color Guard up and down and across the Commonwealth of Virginia, and

WHEREAS, they did so when ever they could; be it Winter or Summer, in blustery winds or scorching heat, in dusty lots or green meadows, at small events or Annual State-wide Meetings; and,