

## Adam Be Nimble

Earlier in 1776, George Washington had created the "Flying Camps" to help keep the British north of New York City. Now it was the end of August, and the Pennsylvania unit had been ferried across the Hudson to relieve the front pickets of the Continental defense lines on Long Island.

After having marched from Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and across New Jersey without seeing any action, the militiamen were antsy, bored by the monotony of their trek in the steamy night, with nothing but crickets to keep them company.

"I'd rather be sleepin'," Jeb grumbled, wiping sweat from his neck. "Air so thick you could cut it with a knife. I didn't expect this."

Adam gave him a sideways glance. "You're for independence, aren't you?"

"Course. Thought signin' that 'Declaration' would make it so."

"Well, I guess that's not how the British see it." Adam halted suddenly at the rustling of leaves and a low voice that interrupted the crickets' song. Adrenaline rushing through him, Adam realized it didn't sound like someone from the colonies. He glimpsed the glint of metal in the field and rushed to catch up with the other members of the unit, signaling Jeb to follow quietly.

"Over there," he whispered, pointing to a watermelon patch he remembered passing earlier in the day. "Watch yourselves."

Their leader, Major Edward Burd, slid over toward Adam. "Where?"

Adam pointed, and the Major motioned for the men to raise their weapons. They were uneasy, straining their ears for any sounds in the blackness.

Hearing none, the Major relaxed. "Surrender," he called, expecting one lone man to come out of hiding with his arms raised.

But instead of just one, there were two, and three, and more...hundreds more British soldiers! The battle began before the Flying Camp could rally. Adam and Jeb, with their small unit at the rear, melted into the dark woods, taking cover on the far side of the road. The Flying Camp of Pennsylvanians were vastly outnumbered, and the British moved to surround the front group of men. The men in the woods needed a plan.



As the cracking boom of rifle fire shook the night, they couldn't know that this was the beginning of the Battle of Brooklyn Heights, of Long Island -- the largest battle of the Revolutionary War. But they did know that if they were all captured, the British would be able to march down the road and overrun the main Continental encampment with no warning.

Adam had to do something. An unconventional plan bloomed in his mind.

"Run!" he hissed into Jeb's ear.

Flailing, they brushed past brambles that tore at their uniforms and their faces, aiming for both speed and secrecy. The rest of the troop followed, the sounds of the battle covering their retreat. Through the woods and up Gowanus Road they tore, searching for the rest of the Continental Army. Fleet of foot, Adam and Jeb were the first from their unit to sight the encampment of their army. They identified themselves, scrambling past sentries and through the maze of tents to headquarters, where they warned Major General Putnam of the fierce battle raging just a few miles away.

## die-tech Be Quick

Timing isn't just one thing; it's everything. Knowing that a great opportunity is just around the corner -- and acting on it immediately -- means success for our customers. The professionals at die-tech are there when you need us. When you have the brilliant out-of-the-box idea and require metalworking expertise. We know you need us now, not later.

Norton needed to automate its assembly process for a new ceramic igniter that would allow them to corner the gas stove-top market in Europe. They needed a solution right away before contracts could be signed with a competitor for a solution their consultant was sure would fail.

Right away? We've got this!

Within an hour one of our sales engineers was face to face with the Norton Team to assess the situation and to determine who needed to be on the die-tech team that would work with Norton's engineers. The next working day, die-tech's founder and lead engineer arrived to give the project his personal attention. Another meeting, more collaboration, and inspired problem solving followed.

die-tech designed a boxed lead that would hold the brittle ceramic igniters during the assembly process, as well as providing electric I/O. We recommended that their braze process be replaced with a weld, and laid out a concept for automation equipment that would enable Norton to meet their projected production numbers. Within a matter of days, die-tech had provided a better solution.

The finished product allowed Norton to capture 97% of the stove-top igniter market in Europe, as well as saving them hundreds of thousands of dollars per year in production costs. And you know what else? We are still partners, working on the next collaboration.

Offering unconventionally brilliant ideas, die-tech helps you capitalize on opportunities quickly because we:

- respond quickly
- understand how a metal component can bring more value to your project
- manage risk, and your supply chain.

die-tech clients have saved **\$123,180,093.00** in the last 36 months by engaging our metal working engineers in their concept of product process. These savings were realized by die-tech metal component engineering, client process engineering, construction of prototypes, fabrication of means of production, and mass production of micro-metal components.

Discover a better way to use custom metal components in your next product. Contact Chris at **717.439.2517** now, or fill out the form below to have us call you.

