Primary Maker: Unidentified maker
Title: Camp bed
Date: ca. 1775-1777
Medium: Wood; canvas, iron
Dimensions: Overall: 34 1/2 in. x 27 3/4 in. x 6 ft. 6 in. (87.6 x 70.5 x 198.1 cm)
Credit Line: Gift of Ernest Livingston McCrackan
Object Number: 1871.8

Object Name: Camp bed
Classification: MILITARY TOOLS & EQUIPMENT: MISCELLANEOUS

Curatorial Remarks:
According to the donor's great-aunt, Mrs. Francis A. Livingston (Catharine Roosevelt Kissam), this camp bed was given by Washington to his recording secretary, Richard Varick (1753-1831), at the close of the Revolutionary War. Varick then entrusted it to his wife's niece, Mrs. John L. Lefferts (Helena Kissam), who subsequently gave it to her great-nephew, the donor.

Physical Description:
Camp bed said to have been used by George Washington at Valley Forge; in three folding sections, each with canvas top supported by X-shaped wooden base; the whole surrounded by wooden frame (missing one of four pieces) with iron mounts.
Markings: Brass plaque affixed to inner face of headboard inscribed: "The Camp Bedstead / used by / General Washington / during the Revolution. / Presented to the / NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, / BY / Ernest Livingston McCrackan"
Related Objects: