Secondary Sources: Two different versions on the state of the Hessians when George Washington and his troops captured Trenton

Version 1
“By 8 o’clock the morning, the men had marched nine miles through sleet and snow to the objective—Trenton, New Jersey, held by a garrison of Hessians. Lulled into confidence by the storm, most of the Hessians had drunk too much rum the night before and were still sleeping it off.”


Version 2
“While the (American) officers talked, the army found forty hogsheads of rum in Trenton. When Washington found out about it, he ordered the rum destroyed, but the commander-in-chief may have been the last to know. Before his officers could act, more than a few hogsheads had been emptied in another way. The adjutant of the army reported that ‘the soldiers drank too freely to admit of discipline or Defence.’ In a word, some of the American victors celebrated their own success by getting gloriously drunk and even more disorderly than usual.”