



Drumbeat

with *Flintlock & Powderhorn*

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Delaware Society Receives Fed Tax Exemption

Region 2 General Vice President Dick Patterson in September forwarded copies of an IRS letter which grants official tax-exempt status to the Delaware Society, Sons of the Revolution. Dated Sept. 15, 2011, the letter states the State Society is exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. It reports that contributions to the organization are deductible under section 170, and that the Society is furthermore qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers, or gifts under section 2055, 2106, or 2522 of the Code.

“The last step [to having a fully operating Society in Delaware] has just been completed,” Mr. Patterson wrote. “The FIRST State of the Union is now an operational member of our proud General Society.” ■

THE RICH REWARD OF LIBERTY
WAS ALL TOO BITTER WON

REVERE AND GUARD
THAT PRECIOUS TRUST
AND PASS IT TO YOUR SON

The Boston BOM Meeting: Friendship, Good Food, Shared Heritage

Members who attended the mid-October Board of Managers (BOM) Meeting in Boston enjoyed patriotic camaraderie, scrumptious cuisine, historical sites of the American Revolution—and gorgeous autumn foliage.

They also enjoyed the fruits of much hard preparatory work by Region 1 General Vice President Hank McCarl, Massachusetts Society officers, and the staff of the General Society.

General President Terry Davenport said, “We extend our hearty congratulations to Vice President McCarl and all the good folks in Massachusetts for their hard work in making the Boston BOM Meeting a great success. President Sutcliffe, Jack Manning, David Gray, and Mary McCarl are also to be commended.



l-r: Hank McCarl and Terry Davenport show off a North Atlantic lobster.

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A Special Section:
Tribute to
The Battle of King's Mountain
Beginning on page 6

In Memoriam: GSSR Executive Secretary William L. Tresenriter



The General Society, Sons of the Revolution lost a workhorse, suddenly and unexpectedly, in early October. William L. "Bill" Tresenriter, 55, passed away October 11 from congestive heart failure. Immediately

preceding his death, in addition to his regular GSSR duties, Bill had been working on his application to join the General Society as an At-Large member in Missouri and had been researching an article for the *Drumbeat* on the history of the "Daughters of the Revolution," a sister organization, not to be confused with the D.A.R.

Born on November 19, 1955, in Independence, Missouri, to William M. and Margie A. (Todd) Tresenriter, he grew up and worked his entire life in the Greater Kansas City area and was a die-hard fan of the Kansas City Royals. He was a retired crime lab analyst for the Kansas City (Mo.) Police Department, and, in addition to his job at the GSSR Office, was a current reference and research analyst for the Midwest Genealogy Center, also in Independence.

"It was my privilege to work with Bill for the past five years," said Sharon Toms, Assistant to the General Registrar. "He was very devoted to his job and was working diligently on helping organize the Board of Managers meeting in Boston."

Among patrons and employees of the Genealogy Center, Bill was known for being extremely helpful and for going above and beyond. During off-hours he would donate his time and personal resources to assist library patrons doing genealogical research. On many of his evening shifts, he would bring in dinner for the staff—he knew everyone's favorite dish. He was quick to offer advice and a piece of chocolate candy to any colleague facing a personal challenge.

Most of all, people in all three organizations he worked for vividly remember his easy-going character and hallmark chuckle. He was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by three sisters, a brother-in-law, one niece, two nephews, a great-niece and three great-nephews.

Interment was held at Green Lawn Cemetery in Kansas City. ■

Successful Meeting, Continued from page 1

"Keeping the pre-meeting on track was made exponentially harder amidst the devastating illness and passing of our beloved Executive Secretary Bill Tresenriter," President Davenport continued. "Bill had spent many hours helping prepare for a successful event, and his sudden death was a crushing loss to our team. He was a true professional in every sense of the word."

With the quick naming of Steven Schultz to Acting Executive Secretary, General President Davenport assured all involved that the event would nevertheless go on. "Sharon (Toms) and Steve were able to pick up where Bill's work had stopped, and they moved onward to achieve the positive outcome," he said.

On Friday afternoon, October 14, Host Society President Kenneth Sutcliffe welcomed all to Massachusetts and provided introductions and general information. The Call to Order and Invocation followed, given by General President Davenport.



Chaplain's Memorial Ceremony

On Saturday, October 15, one of the highlights of the day was the presentation made by General Chaplain Rev. G. Clayton Ames, III, a special memorial program recognizing those SR members throughout the country who passed away between July 2010 and June 2011.

Noted herein are those individuals whom had held memberships beyond fifty years, starting with J. Hewes Crispin of Santa Barbara, California. A Society member for seventy-five years, Mr. Crispin passed away peacefully at his home in September at the age of ninety-five.

Born in Minnesota in 1915, he moved with his family to California as a young boy and later attended Stanford University, where he received an engineering degree. He also earned an MBA from Harvard University. In between earning those degrees, he had a distinguished military career as a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army. He received the Army Commendation of Service in 1946, had a profound honor and love for his country, and belonged to several lineage societies.

Hewes joined Bechtel Corporation in San Francisco and became Senior Vice President of Finance before retiring from the organization in 1975. While living in San Francisco, he also served as President of the World Trade Club.

According to his obituary, his friends and family will always remember him for his cherished '56 T-Bird that he drove with pride and for meeting each new day with "ferocious enthusiasm." The strength and wisdom he embodied, it said, provided a constant anchor and source of wisdom for all that knew him. "His keen wit and dry sense of humor could not be ignored and the extent of the lives he touched was extraordinary."

Others with more than fifty years of membership included: Grover Craig "Deacon" Shropshire, of Kentucky, a member for 65 years; Frank Buckles, of West Virginia, and Robert Pratt Kelsey, Jr., of Massachusetts, members for 63 years; John Hart Houghton, of New Jersey, 62 years; Rolliston W. Linscott, Jr., of Massachusetts, 59 years; Edward Dean Ellithorp, of Pennsylvania, and Thomas A. DeLong, II, of New York, both with 58 years; Samuel Frank Fowler, Jr., of Tennessee, for 57 years; and John Ward Wilson Loose of the Pennsylvania Society, Dr. John Jones Salley of the Virginia Society, and Dr. Lucian Williams Trent of the Tennessee Society, all for 54 years.

For the memorial ceremony, Sharon Toms, Assistant to the General Registrar, compiled a booklet of obituaries of all deceased members for the year and including the prayers to be recited during the proceedings. One of those prayers was by George Washington for the United States of America, which he used as the closing paragraph of a letter to the Governors of all the States, on the disbanding of the Continental Army in 1783:

Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that thou wilt keep the United States in thy holy protection; that thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large. And finally, that thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to a justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the divine author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of which example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Amen.

Barrett's Farm & The North Bridge

One of the most popular historical sites for visiting members included Concord, the North Bridge, and the farm of Colonel James Barrett. The latter commander served as the senior officer at the North Bridge in the first battle of the American Revolution. The Colonel had built up a major stockpile of munitions on his property, located three miles northwest of the town center. On April 19, 1775, British Regulars had hoped to uncover those supplies.

Townpeople, however, had received advance warning of the British plan. The soldiers who reached Barrett's Farm that morning found neither the stockpile, which had been dispersed, nor Colonel Barrett, who was leading the colonial forces at the North Bridge. Barrett had directed the stashing of ten tons of musket balls and cartridges, four small brass cannons, fifty reams of cartridge paper, as well as considerable amounts of food supplies among some thirty houses throughout Middlesex County, including his own farm.

When the redcoats crossed the North Bridge over the Concord River on that fateful day, they

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Members and guests pose in front of the former home of Col. James Barnett.

Successful Meeting, Continued from page 3

were turned back by musket fire from six-thousand Minutemen under Colonel Barrett's command. It was the first American victory of the Revolutionary War and is celebrated locally each April on Patriots Day.

Ironically, Colonel Barrett had received a land grant for his farm from the King of England prior to the War for Independence. Today his home and surrounding land is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a site of national significance. It is said to be the most important un-restored

Revolutionary War landmark in Massachusetts and perhaps anywhere else. A private restoration group known as Save Our Heritage is leading the effort to conserve the property, in cooperation with the Town of Concord, Minute Man National Historical Park, and the McGrath family, owners of the property for the past one-hundred years.

The group is working closely with elected Congressional representatives to pass federal legislation to incorporate Barrett's Farm into the adjacent Minute Man National Historical Park.

Friendship



Said NHP encompasses the North Bridge and ten “witness” houses, residences which were standing in the same spot 236 years ago, on April 19, 1775. The North Bridge, of course, is the site of “the shot heard ‘round the world.” The famous Minute Man statue by Daniel Chester French is located on the “correct” side of the bridge and is a perfect place to reflect upon the history of the hallowed ground.

After members had toured the area and the BOM Meeting had concluded, General President

Davenport issued a statement by email to the host Society of Massachusetts: “Please know that it is my high honor to serve with each of you in all of our endeavors as we continue to honor the great results which originated with the events of that historic, world-changing day of April 19, 1775.”

The next official meeting of the General Society will be the 2012 Triennial held in Savannah, Georgia, next fall. ■

—Editor

Heritage



More Heritage



GSSR OFFICERS ATTEND FLORIDA MEETING

On October 29, 2011, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Florida held its Annual Meeting in the private dining room of The Capital Grille in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. In addition to the numerous members who attended the meeting, we were honored with the presence of a number of special guests: General President Terry Davenport, General President Emeritus James Shannon, General Vice President Mitchell Bush, and his lovely wife, Leslie Bush. The food and fellowship were outstanding!

In greeting the SR in Florida, General President Davenport reminded everyone that the Sons of the Revolution operates as a general society, where each state society is autonomous in the conduct of its own affairs. He stated that as General President, he is only president of the General Society, and in that capacity has no authority over any state society and only travels to where he is invited. We, in Florida, are glad he accepted our invitation to attend our meeting, and we appreciated his words of fellowship, reconciliation, and unity of purpose.

Saul Montes-Bradley, II, who represented the SR in Florida at the recent General Society Board of Management meeting in October, reported that he was well received by those in attendance

in Boston. He reminded those in Boston that the SR in Florida never left the General Society and Florida always strived to maintain the principle of the Sons that state societies are sovereign. He emphasized to the Board of Management that Florida welcomed the warm and cordial relations that had developed with the General Society during General President Davenport's term in office.

After this report, guest speaker Colonel John Dye gave a presentation on the Battle of Yorktown.



l-r: Gen'l. President Terry Davenport, Gen'l. President Emeritus James Shannon (recipient of a Certificate of Appreciation), and Gen'l. V. P. Mitchell Bush.

There were a number of power point slides that illustrated the battle, and those in attendance found the discussion most interesting.

During the Annual Meeting, the following officers were elected to two-year terms: David Mitchell, Esq. (President); Joseph Motes (Vice President); Theodore M. Duay, III, CPA (Treasurer); Saul M. Montes-Bradley, II (Secretary & Liaison to the General Society); James McCartney Wearn, Esq. (Solicitor); Douglas Bridges (Chaplain); Nelson Montes-Bradley, II (Sam Adams Chapter Representative); William Stevenson (Registrar); and David Milam (Manager). ■

—Submitted by Theodore M. Duay, III, CPA



(Back row, l-r) James Lohmeyer, James McCartney Wearn, Esq., Saul M. Montes-Bradley, II, Terry Davenport, David Mitchell, Esq., Nelson Montes-Bradley, (Front row, l-r) Theodore M. Duay, III, CPA, Douglas Bridges, and William Stevenson



Members and guests listen to Col. John Dye's presentation on the Battle of Yorktown.

King's Mountain:

The Battle of King's Mountain, which occurred on October 7, 1780, was one of the most pivotal of battles in the eight-year War for Independence. Ironically, George Washington's Continental Army had nothing to do with the victory. Furthermore, the results of the battle led to the collapse of British war strategy in the South and hastened the ultimate surrender of British forces.

The sixty-five-minute confrontation, which swarmed on all sides of the buffalo-back shaped pinnacle just south of the common Carolina border, was essentially a fierce clash between American Patriots ("Overmountain Men") and American Loyalists: Just as no Continentals were present, no British troops were present, either—save for Major Patrick Ferguson.

The engagement involved Patriot militia coming together from widespread territory in southwestern Virginia, eastern Tennessee, the western Carolinas, and northeastern Georgia. For many of these individuals, they were fighting more to protect their families and their freedoms on the frontier rather than for independence from Britain. Their main motivations were personal safety and continued liberty.

The context of King's Mountain is better understood by first considering an earlier and much

less significant skirmish—the Battle of Musgrove Mill, which occurred in August of that year, near modern Clinton, S.C. A force of these Overmountain "irregulars" under the joint command of Colonels James Williams, Elijah Clarke, and Isaac Shelby had struck Loyalist strongholds at Thicketty Fort, Fair Forest Creek, and at Musgrove Mill along the Enoree River.

At Musgrove Mill, the Patriots were outnumbered two to one. After failing to allude a much stronger Loyalist force, they quickly assembled a semicircular breastwork of brush and fallen timber about three hundred yards long. As the Loyalist forces approached the breastwork, the Patriots rushed into the battle shrieking Indian war cries. The tactic helped surprise and disarm the enemy, and when the British officers were killed in the assault, their subordinates quickly disengaged and fled the scene.

Ferguson's second in command, Capt. Abraham DePeyster, a Loyalist from New York, would remember those cries.

Following that small victory, Major Ferguson had had enough. Such confrontations by these "backwater mongrels" were impeding the completion of his real mission, which was to recruit additional Loyalists and locate supplies.

Kinfolk at War

He quickly set out for the Ninety-Six District in South Carolina, where he encouraged all peoples in the vicinity (and greater region) to join the Loyalist cause. Though many came forward to enlist, the Overmountain Men did not respond.

In his mounting frustration, Ferguson dispatched a war prisoner to the Washington County District (formerly the Watauga Association) with the following message: “that if they did not desist from their opposition to the British arms, and take protection under his standard, he would march his army over the mountains, hang their leaders, and lay waste the country with fire and sword.”

Before the Major could make good on his word, however, the Overmountain Men took the fight to him—and struck first.

Two months after the clash at Musgrove Mill, Col. Shelby felt compelled to go over the mountains again and repeat the exercise. This time he recruited Colonels John Sevier, Charles McDowell, and William Campbell and their militias to go with him, which all together represented a force of nine-hundred men from the Washington District.

Major Joseph McDowell, younger brother to Col. McDowell, substituted command of his brother’s militia.

Converging Militia

On September 25th, after Virginians under William Campbell arrived at Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga River, the fully-mustered group set out. The coonskin army reached Roan Mountain at the end of the first day. They continued marching through the mountains for four more days, including through snow at the highest elevations, until arriving at the headwaters of the Catawba River and Quaker Meadows Plantation, owned by the McDowell family. There, other frontiersmen joined them, including those under Benjamin Cleaveland and Joseph Winston.

Still farther south, when they arrived at Cowpens, South Carolina, on October 6, they were met by Col. James D. Williams with nearly four hundred men, as well as sixty North Carolinians under Lt. Col. Frederick Hambrecht and thirty Georgians under Major William Candler.

With their numbers swollen past one-thousand, the leaders decided to push through the night and make the final approach to King’s Mountain with only the strongest nine-hundred of the men. King’s Mountain is a rocky, heavily wooded rise in the Piedmont just inside South Carolina. It can be seen from miles around in the surrounding plateau.

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King's Mountain, Continued from page 9

The Patriots arrived tired and hungry, having marched all night through cold and rain. But in the moment of battle they did what came most natural to them: They used their sharp-shooting skills as riflemen from behind trees and rocks to effectively vanquish a threat.

While several of them had fought in the Continental Army, most were without any military training. These men were pioneer settlers, hillside farmers, long hunters and craftsmen. Just like the New England Minutemen who put down their plows to pick up their muskets, these volunteers stopped what they were doing and took up their rifles to defend themselves and their homes at a crucial moment in our nation's history.

The Quick Ending

The battle began around 3 p.m. The Patriots formed a U-shape around the outskirts of the steep knoll, effectively flanking the Loyalists on all sides. After several minutes of minor skirmishing, Col. Campbell told his men to "shout like hell and fight like devils," and two companies simultaneously opened fire on the Loyalist positions.

Shelby, Sevier, Williams, and Cleveland pushed from the north side of the mountain, while Campbell, Winston, and Joseph McDowell pushed from the south side. Alongside the main leaders were other brave men, including William Candler, William Chronicle, Frederick Hambrecht, William Hill, Edward Lacey, William Lenoir, and James Williams.

From the base of the mount, both Campbell and Shelby twice attempted to advance up the sides, but were driven back by Loyalist bayonet charges. After the Loyalists charged down the steep hill with their bayonets, they would need to turn their backs and return to the summit. The moment they did so is when the rifle-toting "backwater mongrels" did the most damage. Hiding behind tree and rock, the sharpshooters slowly gained the summit and, after they gained the top, they shot the King of the Hill out of his saddle.

Throughout the challenge, the Patriots screamed and yelled the same cries which they had used at Musgrove Mill. DePeyster is said to have told Ferguson: "These [yells] are ominous—these are the damned yelling boys."

Ominous was right: DePeyster surrendered soon after Ferguson was killed. The final results of the battle were staggering: Tory losses amounted to 225 killed, 163 wounded, and 716 captured. The Patriot casualties were twenty-eight killed

and sixty-two wounded. The riflemen from "o' yonder" effectively stopped the British advance into North Carolina. It destroyed the left wing of Lord Cornwallis' army, forced the General to retreat, and effectively ended Loyalist ascendance in the South.

In the end, brothers had joined with brothers to fight other brothers off a small mount on the Carolina border. The events that afternoon changed the course of the entire war between the British Empire and the fledgling United States.

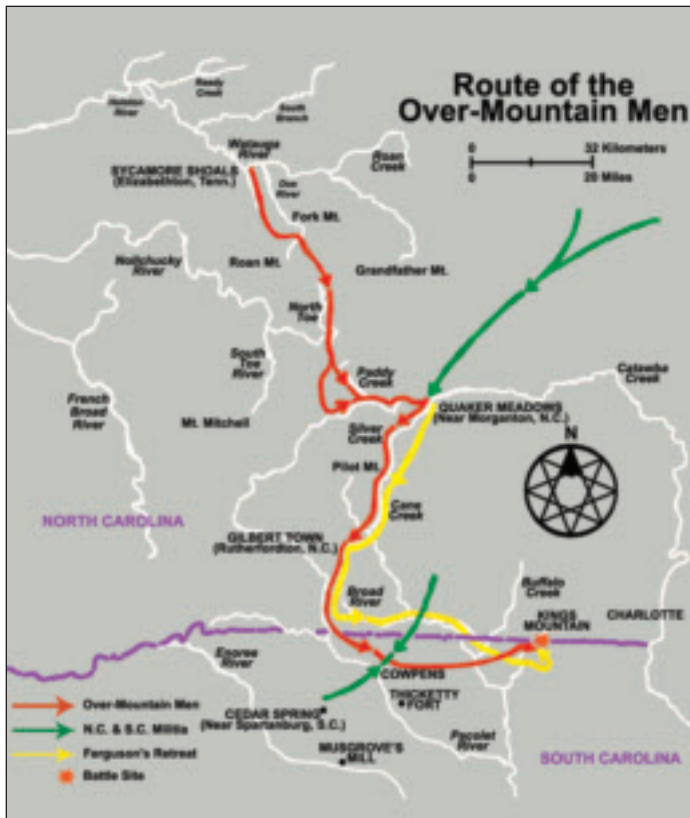
—Editor



View of the battlefield looking north.

Militia Regiments Participating in the Battle of King's Mountain

Militia Regiment	Commanding Officer	Number of Men
Washington County VA	Colonel William Campbell	400
Sullivan County NC	Colonel Isaac Shelby	240
Washington County NC	Lieutenant Colonel John Sevier	240
Burke & Rutherford Counties NC	Colonel Charles McDowell	160
Wilkes & Surrey Counties NC	Colonel Benjamin Cleveland	350
South Carolina	Colonel James Williams	400
	TOTAL	1790



put down their arms or he would cross the mountains, kill their leaders, and “lay waste the country with fire and sword.”

Historians and scholars masterfully recount the events and results of the Battle of King’s Mountain, but they largely fail to consider the significance of the character that was ingrained into the souls of those hearty woodsmen. Ferguson’s letter to the Wataugans could not possibly have been more misdirected. His threat had the opposite effect, galvanizing the frontiersmen like nothing else could have.

Shelby and Sevier recruited the McDowells of Burke County, N.C., and William Campbell of Southwest Virginia. At their rendezvous point of Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga River, Rev. Samuel Doak delivered to these men a parting prayer that hit home squarely: “Thou knowest the dangers that...threaten the humble but well beloved homes which Thy servants have left behind them...Save the unprotected homes while fathers and sons and husbands are far away fighting...”

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King’s Mountain: A Tennessee Perspective

By Dave Whaley

How long does Hell last? For Britain’s Major Patrick Ferguson and his forces during the War for Independence, Hell lasted about one hour and five minutes on October 7th, 1780.

Thomas Jefferson was later to describe the infamous battle that transpired then as “the turn of the tide of success” in the American Revolution.

Let it be said, Hell hath no fury like a few Overmountain Men scorned.

Over a thousand of these men gathered together from southwest Virginia, eastern Tennessee (known as the Washington County District), the western Carolinas, northeastern Georgia, and some include Kentucky as well. They came from throughout lands west of the Smoky Mountains to cross the Blue Ridge and battle a common foe.

From the Washington County District, which had been known earlier as Watauga, nearly five hundred men volunteered—half the force. They lived along the valleys of the Watauga, South Holston, Clinch, Powell, Nolichucky, French Broad, and Pigeon Rivers.

It was to the men of that area, home to Colonels Isaac Shelby and John Sevier, that Ferguson had dispatched a terse message advising them to



Tombstone of British Major Patrick Ferguson.

—*King's Mountain Tennessee, Continued from page 11*

Another mistake Ferguson made, along with arrogantly and unwisely threatening a population he did not know, was to underestimate the physical endurance and the lengths (including geographical lengths) to which these Wataugans would go. He didn't realize a 300-mile-trek to settle a score wasn't unknown to them. They had done it before, several times.

For example, in July 1775, the Lower Cherokee led by one Dragging Canoe began attacking white settlements and forts in the Appalachians and in isolated areas of Virginia, the Carolinas, and Georgia. Advised of one such plan by the Cherokee heroine Nancy Ward, Evan Shelby (Isaac's father) led a militia in a march of several hundred miles from the Holston River to its confluence with the Tennessee River and Chickamauga Creek (present-day Chattanooga) to burn Indian villages, destroy crops and take out the westward-most supply depot of the British army, before returning home.

For the next twenty years (1775–1795), Dragging Canoe and his followers organized a series of bloody scalping raids, campaigns, ambushes, minor skirmishes, and several full-scale frontier battles against the encroaching settlers. The period became known as the Chickamauga Wars.

By 1780, the settlers had already become battle-hardened sharpshooters.

Most likely, the British Major neither considered how frontier life conditioned those men nor surmised how that might impact the ultimate confrontation between forces. When the Patriots gained control of the mountain, on that fateful afternoon, they made a mockery of Major Ferguson's earlier boast: "I am on Kings Mountain, I am king of this mountain, and God Almighty and all the rebels in Hell cannot drive me from it."

They riddled his body with rifle shot until he fell from his horse, foot caught in stirrup. The Major was hit several times, with the fatal shot credited to Robert Young, who was part of Col. Sevier's regiment. Young affectionately called his rifle, "Sweet Lips." Only one year and twelve days after the backcountry boys of western Appalachia fought at King's Mountain, General Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown.

At Roane Mountain, a plaque reads: "First night encampment of King's Mountain Men, Sept. 26, 1780. 'They trusted in God and kept their powder dry.'"

Dave Whaley is serving his 3rd term as President of the Tennessee Society.



The Chronicle Markers indicate the burial spot of Maj. William Chronicle, Capt. John Mattocks, and privates William Rabb and John Boyd. The left marker was dedicated in 1815, making it the second-oldest Revolutionary War Monument in the nation. The right marker preserves the inscription of the original.



The 'Monument to Commemorate the Battle of Kings Mountain' was completed June 12, 1909. It is located at the northeastern end of Battleground Ridge where Loyalists, led by Maj. Patrick Ferguson, surrendered the victorious Patriots.

Kings's Mountain: A South Carolina Perspective

By Scott Swoope

Sometimes to have success, it is necessary to know defeat first. Such is the case when considering South Carolina's response at the Battle of King's Mountain.

Beginning with the capture of Savannah at the end of 1778, the British spent a year securing Georgia and preparing for the attack on Charleston, South Carolina. The Siege of Charleston began on March 11, 1780, and wore on for two long months, until General Benjamin Lincoln surrendered.

It was the largest surrender of American troops during the eight-year war. After Charleston fell, the colony's government fled into exile.

Seventeen days later, on May 29, Lt. Colonel Banastre Tarleton would conduct the massacre known as the Battle of Waxhaws, a.k.a. "Buford's Massacre." Initially, Colonel Abraham Buford rejected an invitation to surrender, but as the battle developed Buford reportedly sent out a white flag and attempted to surrender. At some point, Tarleton's horse was shot out from under him. In the heat of battle, apparently the British thought the Patriots shot at Tarleton either during or after they asked for mercy. Therefore they ignored the white flag

and slaughtered 113 of Buford's four-hundred men and took fifty-three prisoners.

After such a flagrant violation of the rules of war, a rebuff sallied forth from the hearts of all Southern men: "Tarleton's Quarter!"—show no mercy!

Before fate would comply, another disastrous defeat was to occur on South Carolina soil, another deep wrinkle furrowed into the brows of all Carolinians. Patriot sons suffered a humiliation in the Battle of Camden, S.C., on August 16, when much of the combined militia forces fled in fear and the eight-hundred or so Continental soldiers mustered were vastly outnumbered by British and Loyalist forces.

In that battle, thousands of patriots were either killed or captured, and numerous transport vehicles and weaponry were confiscated: It was greater than a rout; it was an 18th century blood-geoning. The British lost fewer than 350 men. Major General Gates proved himself a coward when he escaped the battlefield and fled to Charlotte in one day, no doubt whipping his horse into a non-stop gallop.

These instances were just three of the more than two-hundred land engagements (battles and skirmishes) that took place in South Carolina during the War for Independence.

Over the eight-year period, nowhere in the Thirteen Colonies was a heavier price paid for British occupation than in South Carolina.

—Continued on page 14



Commemorative post card marking the battle's bicentennial.



Lloyd Branson's *Gathering of Overmountain Men at Sycamore Shoals*, which depicts the gathering of the Overmountain Men en route to their victory.



These regimental standards from South Carolina were captured by a British officer in 1779–80. In 2006, a descendant of Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's sold them at Sotheby's for nearly \$18 million.

—*King's Mountain S. Carolina, Continued from page 13*

In addition to the losses from the aforementioned three battles, British soldiers sometimes ran rampant through the colony, burning and looting. The patriotic-minded people of the Palmetto State were prematurely aging from the experience and weight of this war, including Tarleton's continued presence after the Battle of Waxhaws.

Such circumstances were leading up to an explosion of pent-up frustration. People were tired; they yearned for change. By the autumn of 1780, South Carolina's militia was growing, expanding rapidly. On October 6, when the Overmountain Men from Tennessee and Virginia reached Cowpens, they were joined by a force of four-hundred South Carolinians under Colonel James Williams, Colonel Edward Lacey, Jr., as well as North Carolina militiamen under Lt. Colonel Frederick Hambrecht and Georgia militiamen under Major William Candler. They all pushed onward through rain and cold and black of night to take on Ferguson. This time, at King's Mountain, the British-led American Loyalists were the ones routed. The Loyalists had the strategic advantage, fighting from atop the pinnacle, but the Patriots had many other reasons to win. From the base of the mount, they attempted to dislodge their foe several times. They retreated twice, and, upon the third try, blasted their way to the top using the natural landscape for cover. It was a decisive victory.

Colonel Edward Lacey, Jr., and his gallant South Carolinians, rushed forward to share in the contest. At the very first fire of the enemy, Col. Lacey's horse was shot from under him. Lacey's men, mostly from York and Chester Counties, and some of those under Shelby, Sevier, Cleveland, Williams, Winston, and McDowell, were of the same character as many of the Virginians—Scotch-Irish Presbyterians.

But no matter their heritage or background, all of them were ever ready, as Daper says, "to hug a bear, scalp an Indian, or beard the fiercest Tories."

The untrained Patriots of the Appalachians had soundly defeated their Loyalist next-of-kin. After King's Mountain, Cornwallis canceled his invasion of North Carolina and retreated to the army's winter encampment at Winnsboro, S.C.

"Tarleton's Quarter!"

—*Scott Swoope is the son of S.C. Society President Charles W. Swoope and one of the youngest members in the State Society.*

King's Mountain: A Virginia Perspective

By W. Garrett Jackson

On September 24, 1780, some four hundred militiamen from southwestern Virginia organized under the command of Colonel William Campbell and left from Abingdon, in Washington County, and by the next day arrived at Sycamore Shoals (present day Elizabethton, Tenn.) prepared to move out with several hundred other men against British Major Patrick Ferguson.

However, the Virginia contingency almost failed to organize.

When Colonel Isaac Shelby first implored Campbell to join the Overmountain Men, the latter's first thought was to keep his militia at home to guard the strategic Lead Mines area along the north-flowing New River. This was the single most important source of lead for the Patriots during the American Revolution, and it was always a prime target of the British.



Top photo: The beauty of Southwest Virginia is visible from the Abingdon Muster Grounds.

Bottom photo: Re-enactors gather annually at the Musket Grounds on or near September 24 to honor the Overmountain militia from Washington County.

He also wanted the local men available to protect families from the frequent marauding parties of Shawnee Indians, and to defend their to defend their crops from the abundant scavenging wildlife.

As the Lower-Cherokee found relatively easy access into the valleys of the Watauga, South Fork, Holston, Nolichucky, and Clinch Rivers, where many white settlers lived, so the Shawnee found even easier access into Southwestern Virginia, including along the Powell, Clinch, and North Fork and South Fork Holston Rivers, where Virginian settlers favored.

Shelby and Sevier most likely well understood Campbell's concerns. Nevertheless, they pressed him. They sent letters to Virginia Governor Thomas Jefferson imploring the assistance of Virginia militia to fight against Ferguson.

Jefferson, wishing to have Lord Cornwallis' invasion of North Carolina and Virginia blocked, nodded to the request. Campbell was called to join Shelby and Sevier with a force of four-hundred men.

Quickly, the colonel solidly committed himself to the endeavor. First and foremost William Campbell was a zealous patriot, wishing to serve his country in the best way possible.

For his services at King's Mountain, Colonel William Campbell received praise from General George Washington, the Virginia Legislature, and the Continental Congress. The State of Virginia presented him with a horse, saddle, and sword at public expense.

The author is Director of Planning for the Town of Abingdon, Va.



"King's Mountain—October 7, 1780" by Don Troiani / Historical Art Prints.

Abingdon is the northern trailhead of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail. The W. Blair Keller, Jr., Interpretive Center at the Muster Grounds serves to educate the public about the historical events of 1780.



Hail! the American Revolution

A disabled veteran couple brings the past alive in Grover, N.C.

by David Swafford



Martin C. J. Mongiello

Martin C. J. Mongiello and his wife, Stormy, are among the top promoters of the American Revolution in the country. The couple owns the *Inn of the Patriots* Bed & Breakfast in Cleveland County, North Carolina.

On the premises, they operate the Presidential Culinary Museum as well as a mini-theme park devoted to the Revolutionary War.

Located just north of the South Carolina line, in the small town of Grover, the Inn is housed in the 1879 mansion of Confederate surgeon Alfred Frederick Hambright (Hambrecht). Dr. Hambright, who built the home, was no less than the great, great-grandson of Revolutionary War Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Hambright, who fought courageously at King's Mountain.

The Cleveland namesake, which appears on the main avenue in Grover and on all county records, comes from Colonel Benjamin Cleveland (Cleaveland), who also fought at King's Mountain and was a dear friend of Lieutenant Colonel Hambright's.

A Historic Locale

It is hard to ignore history in Grover. The front door of the B&B is but five or six miles to the northwest of Kings Mountain National Military Park, and the town is replete with historical markers. General Lord Charles Cornwallis used Grover, which was called Whitaker back then, as his point of entry for invading North Carolina.

On the backside of the Inn, the Mongiellos cultivate a period organic garden that features, among other things, Thomas Jefferson's 'Purple Calabash' tomatoes from Monticello. Inside the Inn, one sees various pieces of Presidential china from different eras, like the Madison china or Martha Washington's second set of famed dishes. There are also

favorite White House recipes on display, some of which guests enjoy during the "Breakfast of First Families."

"We opened in May of 2008, and at the time we heard from lawyers and investment bankers and accountants who were all saying, 'This country's not interested in the Revolutionary War.' But the fact is, today we're flourishing. There's no more room at the Inn!" said Mr. Mongiello, who goes by Marti. "We're booked for months. What does that tell you? It says this country is indeed interested in the Revolutionary War."

A one-time dedicated re-enactor of the Civil War period, Marti is a trained and experienced gourmet chef who is just as passionate about American history as he is about pasta *al dente*. His choice historical period evolved backwards some eighty years to the Revolutionary era after he met Stormy and moved to Grover.

About That Signage

If guests rub elbows with Lord Charles Cornwallis, the Marquis de La Fayette, or with General Thomas "Gamecock" Sumter, chances are it's really English-born actor and early America impersonator Howard Burnham, who has performed on several occasions at the *Inn of the Patriots*.

Born in Bourne-mouth, England, Howard claims American blood from his paternal grandfather, a much-traveled Californian mining



Marti and Stormy Mongiello



engineer, who married a British girl in South Africa during the Boer War and who is buried in Cannes, France, beside Admiral de Grasse, “the man who made Yorktown possible,” he quips.

Howard confided in an interview with the *Drumbeat*: “A couple of years ago, I noticed that [Marti] used British General John Burgoyne on his signage, which amused me, so I sent him a pompous email about it...and that was the start of a good friendship.”

For Marti, the officer’s image captured the quintessence of the Revolutionary War. Even as Burgoyne returned to England a disgraced figure after having laid down arms at Saratoga, he did not retire nor seek to relocate away from his native land, but lived with reality and continued to serve his country. Today a growing number of historians argue that the blame for Britain’s failure at Saratoga rests not on Burgoyne but on Lord George Germain, who was the Crown’s Secretary of State for the Colonies.

With so much history in the region and on display at the Inn, it should come as no surprise that the *Inn of the Patriots* was named “Most Patriotic B&B in the USA” by the Military Officers Association of America and in 2009 and 2010 was named “Best in the World to Visit for History” by *BedandBreakfast.com* out of 11,000 contenders.

Combining their Interests

This B&B is the perfect venue for Marti and Stormy to fulfill their combined interests of culinary arts and love-of-country.

Marti is a Certified Executive Chef, a former Resort Manager to the President of the United States at Camp David, and former Sous Chef to the White House for Official State Dinners. He is a decorated Navy veteran, having retired after twenty-one years of service, which took him to three different continents and included his being a Seabee, a law enforcement specialist, and on two occasions a NATO surface warfare and submarine warfare specialist.

Of German-French-Italian stock, he knew good cooking from his seasoned Irish step-mother, and in the Navy he worked to perfect his own gastronomy as a volunteer member of the nation’s nuclear submarine fleet. A former Pacific “FORCE” specialist, his responsibilities grew to managing some forty restaurants and Bachelors Quarters at ports-of-call throughout the Pacific and Indian oceans. He oversaw multi-million dollar budgets and was a key figure in the annual coordination of \$2.7 billion in purchasing activities for U.S. military forces.

As a result of his service, Marti is forty percent disabled.

Like her husband, Stormy is an experienced chef and a Navy veteran who is partially disabled. Her patriotism is just as “on-fire” as his. A local gal who graduated from Bessemer City (N.C.) High School, she served in the Navy for four years during the Gulf War era as a jet engine repairperson.

After they married, they opened the Inn. Stormy helped direct the interior design, scouring the world for hard-to-find items such as a 1,000-pound period mirror that they actually found in the town of Kings Mountain, just down the road!

For all its charm and lore, the old Hambright place is limited to just five bedrooms. Witnessing the success of their business, the Mongiellos now want to implement the same concept in a larger resort with a much larger theme park.

The AWRLHC

Marti, Stormy, and their associates are laying the foundation for the future American Revolutionary War Living History Center (AWRLHC), a large-scale Revolutionary War theme park to be located very near the Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Set on several hundred acres, it will host a massive log-hewn lodge, resort, and spa. An equestrian center, wedding chapel, and period museum will also be part of the project. Additionally,

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—*Inn of the Patriots*, Continued from page 17

there will be a time-period community established around the resort, akin to Colonial Williamsburg. But unlike Colonial Williamsburg or any other historical theme park, guests at the ARWLHC will be able to take part in history.

“They’ll be able to live inside the period,” Marti said. “They will be able to engage in tomahawk, knife and spear throwing, fire a flintlock rifle and cannon, and even try their hands at a bow and arrow or blowgun. They’ll be able to mingle with Patriot militia, the [Loyalist], Cherokee and Catawba camps.

“But,” he continued, “one of the most exciting things will be the chance for our guests to be a private or even a general and to engineer a battle. They will be outfitted by our expansive costume department and strategically involved in the war games, just as we have done for years.”

Only the war games he plans to implement at the ARWLHC will be on a much grander scale than at the *Inn of the Patriots*. Phase One of the project—the resort, community farm, and battle grounds—is scheduled to be completed by the 235th anniversary celebration of the Battle of Kings Mountain and Cowpens (2015).

Opportunities Galore

As part of the project, Marti is offering disabled vets and others the opportunity to invest in his vision and own a piece of property either next to or within this eighteenth-century Revolutionary world being planned. Investors are welcomed in three approaches: by purchasing a home within

the park to rent, by opening a small business in the park and residing there, or by nearby private development.



ARWLHC Logo



Will King



Howard Barnham as General Thomas Sumter



Howard Barnham as Lord Cornwallis

The ARWLHC will feature rows of shops offering time-period products and services. Dozens of individuals have committed to the Mongiello's dream. All are entrepreneurs with a love of history and the desire to remember those sacrifices made during the American Revolution.

“Nothing [related to the Revolutionary War] has been done like this before on this scale,” said Will King, Executive Director of the ARWLHC. “We believe in the project and love the idea of keeping our nation’s history alive.”

Will and his wife, Mindy, operate “Kings Forge and Muzzleloading” out of Sautee Nacoochee, Georgia. He has been re-enacting and re-creating period weaponry for over twenty years. “The tradition was passed down to me from my grandfather when I was a young man, and my passions for our history and for this tradition have only grown since then.”

As Executive Director, Will advises on the projects and plans regarding the greater cause, and has donated some hand-forged work to the cause. He also offers discounts to all ARWLHC investors.

Howard Burnham says about the project: “I think it’s admirable. Marti is pragmatic and will endeavor to combine his dream with practical possibilities. I believe his feet are more on the ground than his head in the clouds.” ■

Flintlock & Powderhorn

ARTICLES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Mary Patton

1751–1836

One of that heroic band who established a civilization in the wilderness.
She made the powder used by John Sevier's troops in the battle of King's Mountain.

“Trust the Lord, but keep your powder dry!”

A Tale of Black Powder Makers in the Revolutionary Era

By Ramona Invidiato,
a.k.a. Molly Spyder

The author is a high school teacher and historian of the Washington County Regiment of North Carolina Militia, the host living-history organization of the Sycamore Shoals State Historic Area in Elizabethton, Tennessee. She also keeps the Regiment's blog and has developed an avid following among history buffs. The following article, edited for this publication, is an adaptation of a feature story that Ramona originally published on the Militia's website, <http://washingtoncountyregiment.wordpress.com/>

When Mary McKeehan migrated with her parents to Pennsylvania in the late 1760s, the little girl fresh off the ship from England had no idea that she would grow up to play a crucial role in the Patriot cause. As it was, Ms. McKeehan learned the art and skill of making gunpowder, most likely by apprenticing under her father, David McKeehan.

Prior to the start of the war, there was very little black powder being made in the Colonies, since Britain had a monopoly on its trade. To make it even scarcer, in October 1777 Parliament banned its importation to the Colonies. The already-high prices rocketed even higher. From the Tory point of view, to have been caught manufacturing and selling black powder would have been treasonous.

By the time Mary was twenty-one years old, she married an Irish immigrant, John Patton, who would serve as a private in the Cumberland County Militia during the coming American Revolution. After their wedding in 1772, the Pattons settled in Carlisle and soon opened a powder mill, where Mary taught her husband the trade. Her keen eye for detail won her great fame in powder-making.

Mary's exactitude began to pay off in the Cumberland Valley: John's militiamen friends respected her, and it isn't hard to imagine the Militia buying her powder at a comparatively more favorable cost.

Meanwhile, the situation in the frontier counties of Pennsylvania was heating up. As early as June of 1775, companies were raised in the Cumberland Valley townships under Captains James Chambers, Michael Doudle, and William Hendricks. Two years later, those companies were organized under the First Battalion of the Bedford County Militia, which included men from Cumberland County.

The Tories were encouraging the Seneca to attack known Patriot settlements, and the war seemed to be edging out farther west, including the Tory Expedition to Kittanning in early 1777.

By the early summer of the following year, residents of Cumberland County sent a petition. By the early summer of the following year, residents of Cumberland County sent a petition to the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania requesting aid either to help man the forts in the region or assist in gathering the crops—due to the threat of Indian incursions. During this time, many frontier families were abandoning their homes in Pennsylvania and moving to western Virginia and the Carolinas. Included among them were some good friends of the Pattons: Alexander and Nathaniel Taylor, as well as John Gourley.

—Continued on page 20

—*Black Powder Makers, Continued from page 19*

Leaving Pennsylvania

Sometime after the birth of their two children, the Pattons also decided to flee the area. Leaving much behind, they moved to the Overmountain region of North Carolina, also known as the Washington County District. Probably in 1778 or early 1779, they settled in the same vicinity where the Taylors and Gourleys had relocated.

With the help of the two Taylor men, the Pattons established a home and powder mill along the Powder Branch waterway (modern Carter County, Tenn.). While the mill was being built, Mary worked for some time under another powder maker named Michael Hyder (Heider), Sr. In fact, the Pattons' friend John Gourley was in business with Hyder.

Living in Cherokee territory meant the Pattons and their friends were in direct violation of the Crown's edict of 1763, which declared that all English colonists must remain living east of the Appalachians. But these things were difficult if not impossible to enforce; in fact, the dangers posed by the Cherokee represented bona fide enforcement in the views of the less adventuresome. The people living on the frontier were risk-takers in many ways.

Nathaniel Taylor, who had married Mary Patton's cousin in Pennsylvania, fronted the money for the Pattons mill. It was the third powder mill to be raised in the Powder Branch vicinity. Michael Hyder, who had been among the very first settlers of the Washington County District, earlier called the Watauga Association, had built the area's first powder mill back in 1760. The second belonged to Josiah Clark, who established his mill on Gap Creek.

Being a powder-maker was a dirty job, but it was an occupation in high demand. Having a stable supply was absolutely vital for everyone, especially on the frontier. It had made, and would continue to make, the difference between life and death over and over again. It's no wonder several families in the backcountry learned the trade and got into the business.

The manufacture required certain resources, one of which was bat droppings, or *guano*. The guano was processed into saltpeter. By weight measure, black powder is made of seventy-five percent saltpeter finely ground, fifteen percent charcoal, and ten percent sulfur.

"Gourmet" Powder

Word-of-mouth was always the best advertising. It was often said the black powder from Powder Branch was of exceptional quality. Michael Hyder's powder was said to "burn in a minute." And the Pattons' powder was considered "gourmet."

"Gunpowder Mary," as she became known, believed wholeheartedly in the Patriot cause. When she and John heard that hundreds of men were

organizing to go over the mountains and do battle with British Major Patrick Ferguson, they personally prepared five-hundred pounds of her gourmet powder and accepted no money for it.

After the American Revolution, the Pattons continued to make gunpowder and deliver it to local customers. They also made powder for General Nathaniel Taylor's troops during the War of 1812. Not long after that latter war, John Patton died. Mary found herself in the role of a single mother, having to support herself and her six children.

Out of necessity, Mary cut out the peddlers and sold her gunpowder directly to the people, making her way up and down the Carolinas. Her trips earned her the respect of every man she met, and she became known far and wide as a gifted raconteur and conversationalist. On her off days, she dug and sold ginseng.

During much of her lifetime black powder sold for a dollar a pound. In contrast, an acre of land at that time sold from fifty cents. Potentially she could purchase two acres of land for every pound she sold. By the time Mary died, she owned 1,700 acres of land from having invested her money in real estate.

On December 15, 1836, she died and was buried in Patton-Simmons Cemetery near Sycamore Shoals, Tennessee. The Patton family tradition of gunpowder-manufacturing continued until after the Civil War, when the powder mill was sold. ■



Mary was laid to rest at Patton-Simmons Cemetery near Sycamore Shoals, Tennessee

Diary of (Loyalist) Alexander CHESNEY

7 OCT 1780

*The following account is excerpted from "King's Mountain Battle, as Seen by a British Officer," by Samuel G. Williams, TENNESSEE HISTORICAL MAGAZINE, Apr 1921. * Chesney was Captain and Assistant Adjutant General to the different battalions under British Major Patrick Ferguson and survived the battle. For the record, Chesney was not a British Officer, but an American Loyalist from New York.*

"Before any of Lord Cornwallis' support arrived, [we were suddenly attacked by] 1,500 picked men from Gilbert town, under command of Cols. CLEVELAND, SHELBY, and CAMPBELL, all of whom were armed with rifles, well mounted, and of course could move with the utmost celerity. So rapid was the attack that I was in the act of dismounting to report that all was quiet and the pickets were on the alert, when we heard [the enemy] firing about a half-mile off. I immediately paraded the men and posted officers.

During this short interval I received a wound, which, however, did not prevent me from doing my duty; and going towards my horse I found he had been killed by the first discharge.

King's Mountain from its height would have enabled us to oppose a superior force with advantage, had it not been covered with wood, which sheltered the Americans and enabled them to fight in their favorite manner. In fact, after driving in our pickets, they were able to advance in three divisions under separate leaders to the crest of the hill in perfect safety, until they took post and opened an irregular but destructive fire from behind trees and other cover.

Col. [CAMPBELL] was first perceived and repulsed by a charge led by Col. FERGUSON. Col. SHELBY was next and met a similar fate, being driven down the hill. [The last charge was made by CLEVELAND], and by the desire of Col. FERGUSON, I presented a different front which opposed it with success. By this time the Americans who had been repulsed had regained their position, and sheltered by the trees, poured in a destructive fire.

In this manner the engagement was maintained an hour, the mountaineers flying when in danger from a bayonet charge, and returning as soon as the British faced about...Col. FERGUSON was at last recognized by his gallantry, and although wearing a hunting shirt and pierced by seven balls, at the moment [he fell] he killed the American Col. WILLIAMS with his left hand.

I had just rallied the troops a second time by FERGUSON's orders when Captain DEPEYSTER succeeded to command . . . and sent out a flag of truce,

but as the Americans resumed firing, [we] afterwards renewed ours under the supposition that they would not give quarter. And a dreadful havoc took place, until the flag was sent out a second time . . .

The Americans surrounded us with double line, and we grounded arms, with the loss of one third of our numbers. I scarce noticed that I had been wounded until the action was over.

We passed the night upon where we surrendered, amidst the dead and the groans of the dying, who had not surgical aid or water to quench their thirst.

Early next morning we marched at rapid pace towards Gilbert town, between double lines of Americans, with the officers in the rear and obliged to carry two rifles each. [Such was] my fate although I was wounded and stripped of my shoes and buckles. [We were marched through] inclement weather without cover or provision until Monday night, when each was served with an ear of corn.

At Gilbert town a mock trial was held and 24 were sentenced to death, which 10 did suffer before the approach of Tarleton's force obliged [the Americans] to move towards the Yadkin, cutting and striking us by the road in a savage manner. Col. CLEVELAND then (Oct 11th) offered to enlarge me on condition that I would teach his regiment one month the exercise practiced by Col. FERGUSON, which I refused, although he swore I would suffer death at the Moravian town."

Luckily his threat was not put to the test, as I had the good fortune to make my escape one evening when close to that place."

**Copied by Mr. Williams from the manuscript, which is lodged with the British Museum. Reprinted in part in 1924 (Dayton, Virginia) in The King's Mountain Men by Katherine Keogh White, who states that the remainder of the diary deals with Capt. Chesney's hardships until finally reaching Charleston, "where his British officers saw that he had a home of comfort for his wife and child, while he continued in service under Lord Rawdon in and about South Carolina." She adds that after the surrender of Cornwallis, Chesney sailed for England. ■*

Mourners in Zion: Philadelphia Remembers George Washington

(Part I of II)

by David Johnston

Submitted to the *Drumbeat* by General Secretary Curt Cheyney

On the morning of the Second Day of Christmas, 1799, a great crowd of people gathered at the open area surrounding Philadelphia's State House and the adjacent Congress Hall. At 11 am the throng formed itself into a procession. Moving slowly and deliberately, it made its way east on Chestnut street to Fifth street, then south to Walnut, and finally over to Fourth Street. The destination of the procession was the German Lutheran Zion Church located three blocks north of the State House at Fourth and Cherry. The purpose of the procession was to mourn the death of George Washington.

The revered general and former President had died at Mount Vernon on December 14, 1790. Word of his death reached Philadelphia on December 17. The city received the news with genuine sadness, for it had known Washington well. Over the years he had passed through the city many times and had received numerous accolades and tributes from its residents. It appears that he had made a special visit to the city as early as 1773. He came to Philadelphia again in September 1774 as a delegate to the First Continental Congress. He returned on May of 1775 for the Second Congress but did not remain in the city for long. In June 1775, he received the unanimous vote of Congress to take command of the newly formed Continental Army.

During the War for Independence various military engagements brought him close to the city. On Christmas night 1776 he made his famous



Zion Church, Philadelphia

crossing of the Delaware River just above Philadelphia as prelude to the capture of Trenton. In September and October 1777 his troops fought the battles of Brandywine and Germantown, the latter battle taking place within the current city limits. The winter of 1777-1778 was, of course, spent at Valley Forge, which lay only twenty miles from the present day Center City.

The remainder of the war took Washington away from the Philadelphia area, but the local populace was always ready to welcome him with open arms. Following the successful conclusion of the war, as he returned to Mount Vernon from New York, he received the first of no less than five civic ovations. Citizens accorded him a similar hero's welcome when he first arrived in 1787 to attend the Constitutional Convention. In 1789, cheering crowds hailed the President-elect as he travelled to New York for his inauguration. In 1790, Philadelphia welcomed the newest resident of their city with pealing bells and artillery salutes. Washington would reside in Philadelphia from 1790 to 1797 while the city served as provisional capital of the young republic. A final visit in 1798 produced yet another demonstration of popular patriotic feeling.

The Logical Choice

Congress was still in session in mid-December 1799. On December 18, it received the official notice of the death of George Washington from President John Adams. Both houses promptly ceased their regular legislative business and appointed



The restored organ in Zion Church.

a joint committee to make plans for appropriate ceremonies to commemorate the great man. With a membership including James Madison, Henry Lee, and John Marshall, the committee proposed Thursday, December 26, 1799, as a day of mourning and recommended Zion Church as the site of the public service of remembrance. Congress passed a joint resolution approving the plan. Zion Church was the logical choice of the committee. It provided the largest place of assembly in the city. Indeed, with an ability to hold almost 3,000 people, it was the largest such edifice in the entire nation.

Zion was also considered by many to be the city's most beautiful church. It was the newer of the two houses of worship belonging to Philadelphia's German Lutheran congregation. Designed by the city's leading colonial era architect, Robert Smith, its dedication took place in 1769 during the pastorate of the noted Henry Melchior Muhlenberg. The handsome Georgian style building was 108 feet long and 70 feet wide. Tall rounded windows with clear glass, including graceful Palladian style windows in the gable ends of the build-



Enoch Gridley's Pater Patriae Memorial for George Washington with Lady Liberty at the base holding a spear and a sword as she weeps at the death of the former President.

ing, made the interior bright. Balconies lined all four sides of the room. Focal point of the church was its tall, freestanding pulpit with an overhead sounding board. It was located at the midpoint of

the long, eastern side of the church, thus allowing the pastor a central place from which to preach (and thus allowing worshippers a better chance of hearing his unamplified voice).

During his residency in Philadelphia as President, Washington normally attended service at the Episcopal Christ Church. On at least three occasions, though, he had visited Zion Church. On March 3, 1791, the President, Senate, and House of Representatives, as well as state and city dignitaries joined members of the American Philosophical Society in paying tribute to Benjamin Franklin. Franklin had died on April 17, 1790, and the Society gathered at Zion for a special rite to honor the memory of the man who had founded the organization in 1727. The Rev. William Smith, longtime provost of the University of Pennsylvania's predecessor, the College of Philadelphia, delivered a eulogy praising Franklin for the many accomplishments of his long life.

Shortly after arriving in Philadelphia from New York in September 1790, Washington had come to Zion in order to hear the church's imposing new pipe organ. In that year the noted Moravian organ builder, David Tannenberg, completed work on a three manual, 34 stop instrument for the church. It was the largest pipe organ in the United States at the time of its installation and one of the wonders of its age. In January 1791 Washington returned with members of Congress for a special concert featuring not only the organ but the church's choirs as well.

Unfortunately, fire severely damaged the church on December 26, 1794. Members of the congregation managed to rescue some of the organ pipes, but flames gutted much of the interior, including the organ's case and mechanical apparatus. The church, if not the organ, was rebuilt and returned to use in 1796. Legend has it that funds collected for repair of the church included a generous contribution from Washington. Now five years to the day of the destructive blaze, Zion would serve a venue for Philadelphia's tribute to the late President.

Although the actual burial of Washington took place at Mount Vernon on December 18, 1799, the committee planned the Philadelphia observance as a virtual second funeral. A 16 gun salvo was fired at dawn with a single gun salute every half hour until 11 o'clock. The procession to the church functioned as a public guard of honor escorting a hearse and coffin representing the deceased man. A riderless horse accompanied the cortege. ■

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Editorial Policy

The General Society Sons of the Revolution issues the following publications in print and electronic formats.

The Editor of the *Drumbeat* and the *Flintlock & Powderhorn* actively seeks manuscripts and articles for publication. Suitable topics for the *Drumbeat* are articles about the state and local Sons of the Revolution Societies, their activities and members. Articles should be approximately 100 to 500 words, and photos should be included when possible. *Drumbeat* submissions will be printed in a timely manner.

Articles sought for the *Flintlock & Powderhorn* include narrative history, biography, historiography, historic preservation, and related fields of study that deal with the time period and place of the American Revolution. The Editor reserves the right to submit all manuscripts for review by a committee prior to publication. No guarantee is given as to when an article will be published in the *Flintlock & Powderhorn*.

The Society assumes no responsibility for statements or opinions of contributors.

All submissions are requested by email or on disk/CD, but print versions can also be mailed or faxed. When mailed or faxed, submission must be typed on 8 1/2" x 11" paper, double-spaced. If pictures are to be returned, please send self-addressed, stamped envelope. The Society is not responsible for items sent through the mail. Please do not send original or irreplaceable materials or photographs.

The Editor reserves the right to make any editorial conformity of style. Authors grant the General Society Sons of the Revolution one-time publication rights, both print and electronic editions. Articles in this publication are indexed by the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) produced by the Allen County Public Library Foundation.

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April 1	June 1
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