

# Kentucky Ancestors

*genealogical quarterly of the Kentucky Historical Society*

**“We are all  
Slaughtered Men”:  
The Battle of  
Blue Licks**

**Major Robert Asa  
Hancock and  
His Family**

**The Shaker  
Experience of  
Mattie (Sanford)  
Bryant Bland**

**William Miller  
of Henry County**



# “We are all Slaughtered Men”: The Battle of Blue Licks

By John M. Trowbridge

*The Battle of Blue Licks, fought on August 19, 1782, in present-day Robertson County, has long been considered the last battle of the Revolutionary War. It was actually fought ten months after Lord Cornwallis' surrender on a hill next to the Licking River, when a force of about 50 British rangers and 300 Indians ambushed and routed 182 Kentucky militiamen. It was the worst defeat for the Kentuckians during the war.*

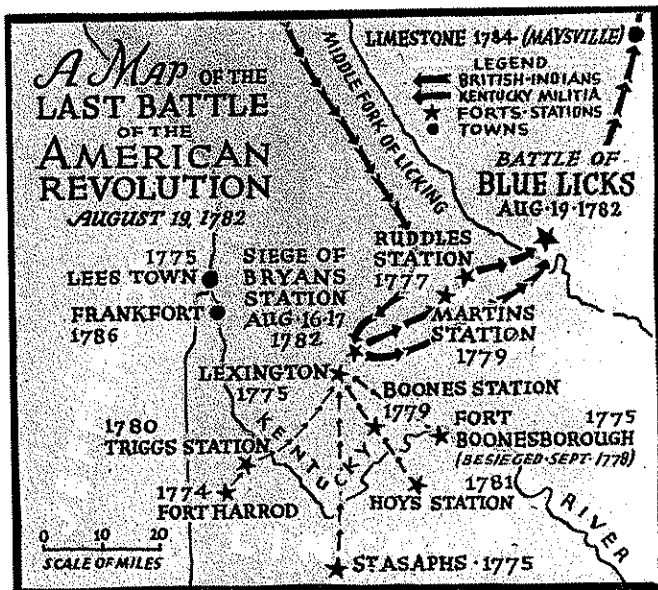
## Caldwell's Expedition

Although a British army under Lord Cornwallis had surrendered at Yorktown in October 1781, the Revolutionary War on the western frontier continued. Aided by the British in Detroit, Indians north of the Ohio River redoubled their efforts to drive American settlers out of western Virginia (what is now Kentucky and West Virginia).

In July 1782, a large meeting was held at the Shawnee villages near the headwaters of the Mad River in the Ohio Country, with Shawnees, Delawares, Mingos, Wyandots, Miamis, Ottawas, Ojibwas, and Potawatomis in attendance. A force of 150 British rangers under Captain William Caldwell

(of Butler's Rangers<sup>2</sup>) and 1,100 Indians supervised by Alexander McKee, Simon Girty<sup>3</sup>, and Matthew Elliott was sent against Wheeling on the Ohio River. This was one of the largest forces sent against the American settlements.

This expedition was called off, however, after scouts reported that General George Rogers Clark, whom the Indians feared more than any other American commander, was preparing to invade the Ohio Country from Kentucky. Caldwell's army returned to the Mad River to intercept the invasion, but Clark's army never materialized. As it turned out, the rumors were false: Clark had a large boat patrolling the Ohio River, but he was not prepared to launch an expedition. Frustrated with this turn of events, most of the Indians dispersed.



KHS Collection

This detail from the George Gray mural illustrates the military movements of the Kentuckians and their British and Indian opponents during the Siege of Bryan Station and the subsequent Battle of Blue Licks.

## Siege and Relief of Bryan's Station<sup>4</sup>

With the remaining force of approximately 50 British rangers and 300 American Indians, Caldwell and McKee crossed into Kentucky. They hoped to surprise the settlement, but the settlers had learned of the approach of the army and “forted up,” though that fact wasn't known to attackers.

The presence of the concealed enemy, however, presented a difficult problem for the Kentuckians because Bryan's Station hadn't been built around a water source. The station's women usually gathered their water each morning at a spring on the south back of Elkhorn Creek, about 60 yards from the fort's north wall.

This dilemma was solved when 12 women and 16 “misses” agreed to retrieve their morning water as usual, deciding that the attackers probably wouldn't

## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

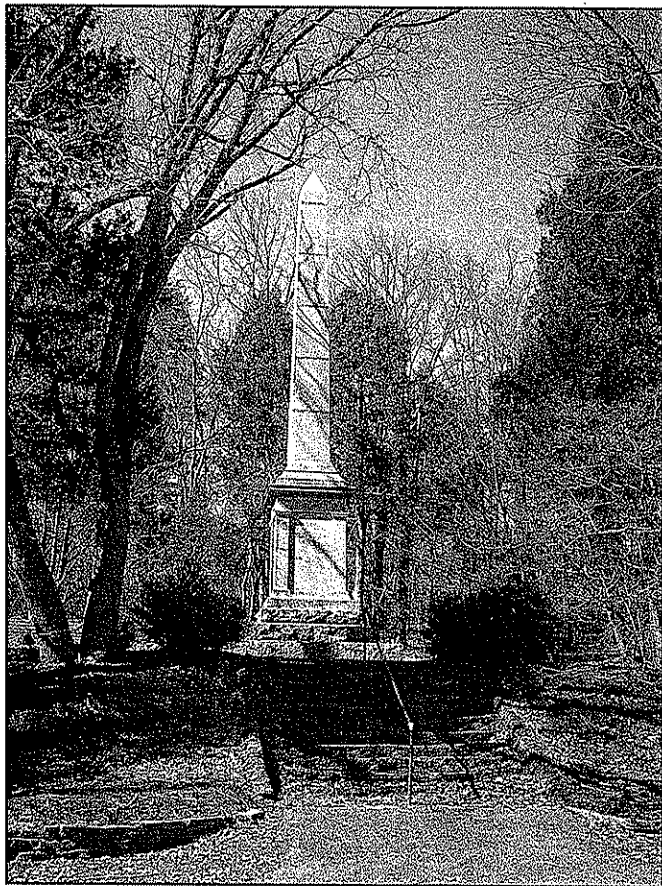
show themselves if the station's male defenders weren't present.

The ruse worked, helping the station withstand what was to come.<sup>5</sup>

Caldwell and McKee's force laid siege to Bryan's Station on August 15, 1782, but withdrew on August 17 when they learned that a force of Kentucky militia was on the way.

The Kentucky militia who came to the relief of Bryan's Station on August 18 consisted of about 47 men from Fayette County and about 135 from Lincoln County. The highest-ranking officer, Colonel John Todd of the Fayette militia, was in overall command; under him were two lieutenant colonels, Stephen Trigg of Lincoln County and Daniel Boone of Fayette County. Benjamin Logan, colonel of the Lincoln militia, was still gathering men and was not present.<sup>6</sup>

The officers discussed whether to pursue the enemy force immediately before it could escape



*KHS Collection*

The monument to those who served at Blue Licks, dedicated in 1928, lists the names of 64 men who died and 100 who escaped.

across the Ohio River or to wait for Colonel Logan to arrive with reinforcements. Major Hugh McGary recommended waiting for Logan, but he was overruled by Colonel Todd, who shamed McGary by suggesting that he was timid. The Kentuckians therefore pursued the retreating British and Indian force, covering nearly 40 miles on horseback over an old buffalo trail before making camp.

## The Battle of Blue Licks

The Kentuckians reached the Licking River on the morning of August 19, near a spring and salt lick known as the Lower Blue Licks. On the other side of the river, a few Indian scouts could be seen. Behind the Indians was a hill around which the river made a loop. Colonel Todd called a council and asked Boone, the most experienced woodsman, for his opinion. The frontiersman, who had been growing increasingly suspicious about the overly obvious trail the Indians had been leaving, advised his fellow officers that the Indians were trying to draw them into an ambush.

Major Hugh McGary, apparently eager to prove that he was not fearful, as Todd's earlier criticism had suggested, urged an immediate attack. He mounted his horse and rode across the ford in the river, shouting, "Them that ain't cowards, follow me." Men began to follow, as did the officers, who hoped to at least make an orderly attack. "We are all slaughtered men," said Boone as he crossed the river.

Misunderstanding the inappropriateness of McGary's pronouncement on the other side of the river, most of the men dismounted and formed into a battle line of three or four divisions. They advanced up the hill, Todd and McGary in the center, Trigg on the right, Boone on the left.

As Boone had suspected, Caldwell's force was waiting on the other side of the hill, concealed in ravines. As the Kentuckians reached the summit, the Indians opened fire with devastating effect. After only five minutes, the center and right of the Kentucky line gave way; only Boone's men on the left managing to push forward. Todd and Trigg, easy targets on horseback, were quickly shot down.

The Kentuckians began to flee wildly back down the hill, fighting hand-to-hand with the Indians who had flanked them. McGary rode up to Boone's com-

## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

pany and told him that everyone was retreating and that Boone was now surrounded.

Boone gathered his men for a withdrawal. He grabbed a riderless horse and ordered his son, Israel Boone, to mount and make an escape. Israel refused to leave his father, however, and was shot through the neck as Daniel searched for another horse. Boone saw that his son's wound was mortal, mounted the horse, and fled. According to legend, Boone hid his son's body before leaving, but in reality there was no time.

Letter from Daniel Boone to the Governor of Virginia

Boone's Station, Fayette Co. August 30th, 1782.

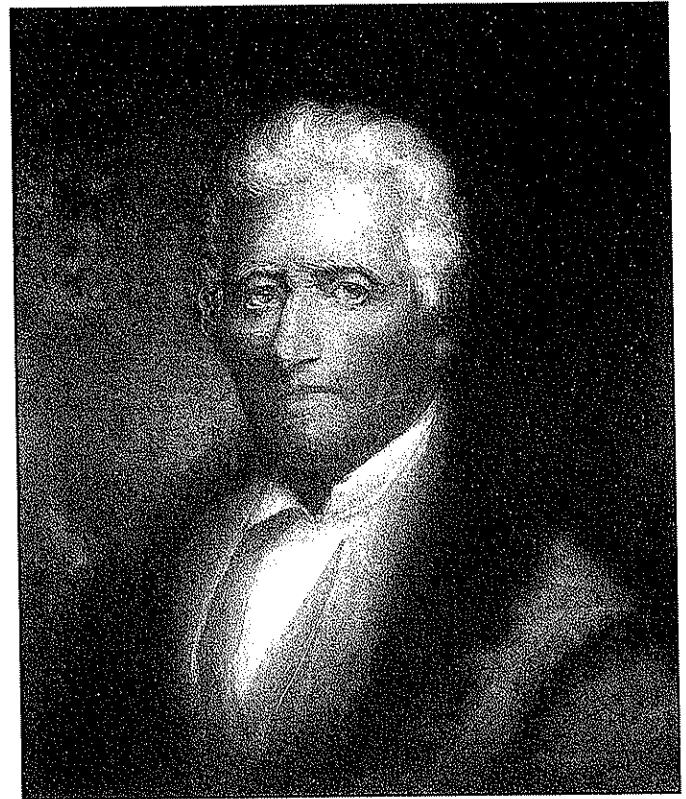
SIR,—Present circumstances of affairs cause me to write to your Excellency as follows. On the 16th instant a large number of Indians with some white men attacked one of our frontier stations known by the name of Bryant's Station. The siege continued from about sunrise till about ten o'clock the next day, when they marched off. Notice being given to the neighboring stations, we immediately raised 181 horsemen commanded by Col. John Todd, including some of the Lincoln county militia, commanded by Col. Trigg, and having pursued about forty miles, on the 19th inst. We discovered the enemy lying in wait for us. On this discovery we formed our columns into one single line, and marched up in their front within about forty yards before there was a gun fired. Col. Trigg commanded on the right, myself on the left, Major McGary in the center, and Major Harlan the advance party in the front. From the manner in which we had formed, it fell to my lot to bring on the attack. This was done with a very heavy fire on both sides, and extending back of the line to Col. Trigg, where the enemy was so strong that they rushed up and broke the right wing at the first fire. Thus the enemy got in our rear, and we were compelled to retreat with the loss of seventy-seven of our men and twelve wounded. Afterwards we were reinforced by Col. Logan, which made our force four hundred and sixty men. We marched again to the battle ground, but finding the enemy had gone

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**“So valiantly did our small party fight, to the memory of those who unfortunately fell in the Battle, enough of Honour cannot be paid.”**

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—Daniel Boone



KHS Collection

Daniel Boone not only was forced to follow his reckless fellow Kentuckians into a deadly ambush, he also suffered the loss of his son Israel, who was mortally wounded in the neck after refusing to leave his father's side.

we proceeded to bury the dead. We found forty-three on the ground, and many lay about which we could not stay to find, hungry and weary as we were, and somewhat dubious that the enemy might not have gone off quite. By the sign we thought the Indians had exceeded four hundred; while the

whole of this militia of the county does not amount to more than one hundred and thirty. From these facts your Excellency may form an idea of our situation. I know that your own circumstances are critical, but are we to

be wholly forgotten? I hope not. I trust about five hundred men may be sent to our assistance immediately. If these shall be stationed as our county lieutenants shall deem necessary, it may be the means of saving our part of the country; but if they are placed under the direction of Gen. Clark, they will be of little or no service to our settlement. The Falls lie one hundred miles west of us and the Indi-

## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

ans northeast; while our men are frequently called to protect them. I have encouraged the people in this country all that I could, but I can no longer justify them or myself to risk our lives here under such extraordinary hazards. The inhabitants of this county are very much alarmed at the thoughts of the Indians bringing another campaign into our country this Fall. If this should be the case, it will break up these settlements. I hope therefore your Excellency will take the matter into your consideration, and send us some relief as quick as possible. These are my sentiments without consulting any person. Col. Logan will I expect, immediately send you an express, by whom I humbly request your Excellency's answer—in the mean while I remain,

Subscribed DANIEL BOONE.

### Aftermath of the battle

In his, *History of Kentucky* Humphrey Marshall stated that “never had Kentucky experienced so fatal a blow, as that at the Blue Licks.”

Marshall also stated that “The whole loss on the side of Kentucky was sixty killed, and seven made prisoners.” He added that the Indians massacred four of the prisoners. It would seem that number was somewhat higher. At the surrender of Fort Ticonderoga in July 1783, 16 of the American prisoners released were survivors taken at Blue Licks, they were:

Elijah Allen	John Beasley
John Bland	Osburn Bland
Thomas Blenfield	Hugh Cunningham
James Ledgerwood	John McMurtry
John Morgan	John Neal
Jesse Peck	John Price
Lewis Rose	Mathias Rose
John Stepleton	Jesse Yocum <sup>7</sup>

Although he had not taken part in the battle, General Clark, as senior militia officer, was widely condemned in Kentucky for the Blue Licks disaster. In response to the criticism, Clark launched a retaliatory raid into the Ohio Country. In November 1782, he led more than 1,000 men, including Benjamin Logan and Daniel Boone, on an expedition that destroyed five Shawnee villages on the Great Miami River, the last major offensive of the war. No battles were fought in that engagement because the Shaw-

nees declined to engage the Kentuckians, instead pulling back to their villages on the Mad River.

Those villages were subsequently destroyed by Benjamin Logan in 1786 at the outset of the Northwest Indian War. On that expedition, Hugh McGary confronted the Shawnee chief Moluntha, asking him if he had been at Blue Licks. Moluntha had not taken part in the Battle of Blue Licks—relatively few Shawnees had—but he evidently misunderstood McGary's question and nodded his head in agreement. McGary then killed the Shawnee leader with a tomahawk. Logan relieved McGary of command and later had him court-martialed.

In 1882, Kentucky Governor Luke P. Blackburn dedicated the Blue Licks Monument, and laid its cornerstone. Blue Licks State Park was established in the 1930s.

### Heroines of Bryan's Station

On August 18, 1896, a monument was established at Bryan's Station by the Lexington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution to honor the memory of the brave women who carried water to the soon-to-be-besieged fort under the rifles of several hundred Indians.



KHS Collection

This monument honors the 12 women and 16 “misses” that left Bryan Station, knowing that Indians were waiting in ambush. Calculating that the Indians ready to lay siege to the station wouldn't show themselves, the women pretended they were unaware of their attackers' presence. Filling pails and gourds at the spring, they obtained the precious water that would sustain the station during the siege.

## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

The structure is in the form of a stone wall, which surrounds the spring from which the water was taken.

The reputed leader of the women was Mrs. Jemima Suggett Johnson, who left her infant son Richard in the hands of her daughter Sally and her sons James and William inside the station, taking her 10-year-old daughter Betsy with her. The infant, Richard Mentor Johnson would become vice president of the United States (1837-41) and, at the 1813 Battle of the Thames, the reputed slayer of Tecumseh.

Historian Reuben T. Durrett published a partial list of the women and their daughters in 1897. They are:

Mrs. Jemima Suggett Johnson and her daughter Betsy  
Mrs. Sara Page Craig and her daughters Betsy, Sally,  
Nancy, and Polly  
Mrs. Lucy Hawkins Craig and her daughters Polly and  
Franky  
Mrs. Polly Hawkins Craig and her daughter Sally  
Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson and her daughters Polly and  
Nancy  
Mrs. Jane Craig Saunders and her daughters Betsy and  
Lydia  
Mrs. Elizabeth Craig Cave and her daughters Hannah  
and Polly  
Mrs. Fanny Sanders Lea  
Mrs. Sara Clement Hammond  
Mrs. Harriet Morgan Nelson  
Mrs. Mary Herndon Ficklin and her daughter Phila-  
delphia  
Mrs. Mildred Davis Suggett

Names Inscribed on the Battle of Blue Licks  
Monument, Robertson County, Kentucky. Includ-  
ing a list of participants.

### Front of Memorial Monument

"This monument, the gift of a grateful common-  
wealth, commemorates the heroic pioneers who,  
in defence of Kentucky, here fought and fell in the  
Battle of Blue Licks, August 19, 1782."

Colonel-Commandant  
John Todd, killed<sup>8</sup>

Lieutenant-Colonels  
Daniel Boone<sup>9</sup>  
Stephen Trigg, killed<sup>10</sup>



Aaron Reynolds gives up his horse to Captain Robert Patterson in this depiction of the retreat of the ambushed Kentuckians that appeared in John A. McClung's book *Sketches of Western Adventure* in 1879.

### Majors

Edward Bulger<sup>11</sup>  
Silas Harlan<sup>12</sup>

### Captains

John Allison  
John Beasley<sup>13</sup>  
John Bulger, killed  
John Gordon, killed<sup>14</sup>  
Samuel Johnson  
Joseph Kincaid, killed<sup>15</sup>  
Gabriel Madison, killed  
William McBride, killed<sup>16</sup>  
Clough Overton, killed  
Robert Patterson<sup>17</sup>

### Lieutenants

William Gilvins, killed<sup>18</sup>  
Thomas Hinson, killed  
John Kennedy, killed  
James McGuire, killed  
Barnett Rogers, killed

### Ensign

John Murtry<sup>19</sup>  
Joseph Lindsey, killed

"So valiantly did our small party fight, to the  
memory of those who unfortunately fell in the  
Battle, enough of Honour cannot be paid."

Daniel Boone

# The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

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Monument dedicated August 19, 1928

## Right side of Monument

"The men who fought in the Battle of the Blue Licks were as well qualified from experience to face the Indians as any body of men that were ever collected."

Robert Patterson

Privates who were killed:

Charles Black<sup>20</sup>  
Samuel Brannon  
Israel Boone<sup>21</sup>  
James Brown  
Esau Corn  
Hugh Cunningham<sup>22</sup>  
John Douglass<sup>23</sup>  
William Eades<sup>24</sup>  
Thomas Farrier  
Charles Ferguson  
Ezekiel Field<sup>25</sup>  
John Folley  
Daniel Foster  
John Fry  
Little James Graham  
Jervis Green  
Daniel Greggs<sup>26</sup>  
Francis Harper  
Matthew Harper  
William Harris  
John Jolly  
James Ledgewood<sup>27</sup>  
Francis McBride  
Isaac McCracken  
Andrew McConnell  
Henry Miller  
Gilbert Marshall  
John Nelson  
John Nutt  
John O'Neal<sup>28</sup>  
Joseph Oldfield  
Drury Polley<sup>29</sup>  
John Price<sup>30</sup>  
William Robertson  
Matthias Rose<sup>31</sup>  
James Smith  
William Smith  
John Stapleton<sup>32</sup>

William Stephens  
Val Stern  
John Stevenson  
William Stewart  
Richard Tomlinson  
Israel Wilson  
John Wilson [1]  
John Wilson [2]  
Matthew Wylie  
William Shannon<sup>33</sup>  
Archibald Woods

Ottawas and Chippawas

## Back Side of Monument

Shawnees and Delawares

"To the unknown heroes who took part in the Battle of Blue Licks."

## Bottom of Monument

"This 'Last Battle of the Revolution' was fought between 182 Kentuckians, commanded by Colonel John Todd, on the American side, and about 240 Indians and Canadians, commanded by Captain William Caldwell, on the British side."

## Left Side of Monument

Wyandots and Mingo

"They advanced in the divisions in good order and gave us a volley and stood to it very well for some time."

Captain William Caldwell

Privates who escaped:

Thomas Akers  
William Aldridge  
Elijah Allen<sup>34</sup>  
James Allen  
William Barbee  
Samuel Boone  
Squire Boone, Jr.<sup>35</sup>  
Abraham Bowman  
Thomas Brooker  
Jacob Coffean  
James Colburn<sup>36</sup>  
Joseph Collins

## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

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Edward Corn  
George Corn  
Jerry Craig  
Whitfield Craig  
William Custer  
Richard Davis  
Theodorus Davis  
Peter Dierly  
Thomas Ficklin  
William Field  
Henry French  
Thomas Gist  
Edward Graham  
James Graham  
Squire Grant  
Henry Grider  
Jeremiah Gullian  
John Hambleton  
Peter Harget  
John Hart  
Benjamin Hayden  
James Hays  
James Harrod  
Henry Higgins  
John Hinch  
Charles Hunter  
Jacob Hunter  
Ephraim January  
James M. January  
James Kincaid  
William Lam  
Wainright Lea  
John Little  
James McBride  
James McConnell  
William May  
James McCullough  
Andrew Morgan  
James Morgan<sup>37</sup>  
John Morgan<sup>38</sup>  
Mordecai Morgan  
Benjamin Netherland  
Henry Nixon  
James Norton  
Matthew Patterson  
John Peake  
Alexander Penlin  
John Pitman

Robert Poague  
Elisha Pruett  
James Ray  
Aaron Reynolds  
James Rose  
Lewis Rose<sup>39</sup>  
Andrew Rule  
Abraham Scholl  
Joseph Scholl  
Peter Scholl  
Robert Scott  
Samuel Scott  
Bartlett Searcy  
John Searcy  
Samuel Shortridge  
William Shott<sup>40</sup>  
Edmond Singleton  
George Smith  
John Smith  
Anthony Sowdusky  
Andrew Steele  
Jacob Stevens  
Thomas Stevenson  
Jacob Stucker  
James Swart  
John Sumner<sup>41</sup>  
James Twyman<sup>42</sup>  
Jesse Yokum<sup>43</sup>  
Henry Wilson  
Josiah Wilson  
James Elijah Woods, captured  
Samuel Woods

### **Small Monument to the Left of Large One**

This memorial was erected to honor those individuals whose names were omitted from the original monument. New research has provided these additional names and corrected previous information regarding those individuals who so gloriously served Kentucky at the Battle of Blue Licks.

Thomas Boone, killed  
John Childress, captured but escaped  
James Ward, escaped

This monument erected in April 1999 by the Childress family association and the Kentucky Department of Parks.



## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

These following individuals as likely participants in the Battle of Blue Licks, were omitted from the monument due to insufficient proof:

Majors  
Levi Todd  
Hugh McGary  
George Michael Bedinger  
Samuel Shannon  
John Bradford  
Benjamin A. Cooper  
James Ellis  
William Ellis

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### Endnotes

<sup>1</sup>William Caldwell (b. about 1750, d. 20 February 1822) was an Irish immigrant who fought in several conflicts as a British soldier. In 1774, he served in Dunmore's War. With the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Caldwell served with Lord Dunmore's forces in the attack on Norfolk, Va., and was injured. Afterwards, he was appointed a captain in Butler's Rangers. Based in Detroit, he led a force of about 50 rangers in many battles and expeditions in Kentucky and the Ohio Country. In 1782, he led his rangers and American Indians in victories over the Crawford expedition, and at the battle of Blue Licks. After the war, he settled in the Detroit region. He became a merchant; his partner was Matthew Elliott. With the outbreak of the War of 1812, he was given command of a group called Caldwell's Rangers (or the Western Rangers). He fought at the battle of the Thames and the battle of

Longwoods, among many other actions.

<sup>2</sup>Butler's Rangers (1777–1784) was a Loyalist (or "Tory") irregular militia regiment in the British Army during the American Revolutionary War. Originally a ranger company of General Sir John Johnson's King's Royal Regiment of New York under the command of Major John Butler, they were reorganized and expanded to regimental size on the orders of Sir Guy Carleton to serve with and lead the Iroquois forces of Joseph Brant against the Americans. Their uniforms consisted of a green coat and waistcoat faced with red, buff breeches, white leggings and a hat of the Foot Regiment pattern. Most members of the regiment were Loyalists from upstate New York, and they fought principally in western New York and Pennsylvania, but ranged as far west as Ohio and Michigan and as far south as Virginia (where, in August, 1782, Rangers burned the settlement of Wheeling). They were accused of participating in — or at least failing to prevent — the Wyoming Valley massacre of July 1778 and the Cherry Valley massacre of November 1778 of white settlers (including some Loyalists) by Brant's Iroquois. These actions earned the Rangers a reputation for exceptional savagery.

<sup>3</sup>Simon Girty (b. 1741, d. 18 February 1818). Born in Pennsylvania, Girty and his brothers were taken prisoners when still children by the Senecas and adopted by them. It would be seven years before Girty returned to his family, during which time he had come to prefer the Indian way of life. During the American Revolution, he first sided with the Colonial Revolutionaries, but later served with the Loyalists and thus was viewed by American frontiersmen as a renegade and a turncoat. Girty is also credited with saving the lives of many American prisoners of the natives, often by buying their freedom at his own expense. After the end of the war, Girty settled in Canada. He retired to his farm near Fort Malden (present-day Amherstburg, Ontario) prior to the outbreak of the War of 1812. Girty's son was killed in that conflict, reportedly while trying to rescue a wounded British officer from the battlefield. Despite popular myths to the contrary, Simon Girty had no part in that war, except as a refugee when the British retreated from Fort Malden. Nor was he killed with Tecumseh at the Battle of the Thames, as was widely reported. More than 60 years old, he was increasingly infirm with arthritis and had failing eyesight. Girty returned to his farm after the war and died completely blind in 1818.

<sup>4</sup>Bryan Station (also Bryan's Station, and often misspelled Bryant's Station) was an early fortified settlement about five miles from Lexington on the "south bank of the head branch of the Elkhorn" on "the road leading to Paris." [See Reuben T. Durrett, *Bryant's Station and the Memorial Proceedings...* (Louisville, 1897: Filson Club Publications, No. 12), p. 18.] It was located on present day Bryan Station Road, about three miles north of New Circle Road, on the southern bank of Elkhorn Creek near Briar Hill Road. The settlement was established circa 1775-76 by brothers Morgan, James, William and Joseph Bryan from North Carolina. The occupants of this parallelogram of some forty log cabins withstood several Indian attacks, the most important of which occurred in August 1782

## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

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when they were besieged by about 300 Indians and Canadians under Captain William Caldwell and Simon Girty. The siege was lifted after Indian scouts reported that Kentucky militia was on the way. The Lexington chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a monument in August 1896 to commemorate the importance of a nearby spring in helping stave off the attack by Indians and Canadians. Bryan Station High School, located a couple of miles south of the fort's site, was named in honor, and the athletic teams compete under the name "Defenders."

<sup>5</sup> Reuben T. Durrett, *Bryant's Station and the Memorial Proceedings...* (Louisville, 1897: Filson Club Publications, No. 12), pages 38-40.

<sup>6</sup> Benjamin Logan (c.1742 – December 11, 1802) American pioneer, soldier, and politician from Shelby County, Kentucky. As colonel of the Kentucky County militia of Virginia during the American Revolutionary War, he was second-in-command of militia in Kentucky. Logan was a leader in Kentucky's efforts to become a state. Benjamin was born in Augusta County, Virginia, the eldest son of David (1706-1757) and Jane (McKinley) Logan. At fifteen, Logan's father died, and Benjamin inherited his father's 860 acre farm. He would marry Ann Montgomery in 1772, and they raised eight children. In 1764, Logan saw service in Henry Bouquet's campaign against the Shawnee Indians. In 1774, he was a lieutenant in Lord Dunmore's War. The next year he moved to Kentucky, then still part of Virginia, starting the settlement of St. Asaph's, near Stanford, building Logan's Fort there. In 1776, he was appointed sheriff and justice of the peace. During the Revolution, he was the second ranking officer in the Virginia militia for Kentucky County, as colonel; and later became a general. He fought Indians north of the Ohio River, under the command of George Rogers Clark, as well as in Kentucky. Logan and Clark were in frequent disagreement over strategy. After the Revolution, Logan was active in Kentucky politics, especially the campaign to establish it as a separate state. He served as the local representative in the Virginia House of Delegates, from 1781 until 1787, where he first agitated for statehood for Kentucky. In the fall of 1786, Logan led a force of Federal soldiers and mounted Kentucky militia against several Shawnee towns in the Ohio Country along the Mad River, protected primarily by noncombatants while the warriors were raiding forts in Kentucky. Logan burned the Indian towns and food supplies, and killed or captured a considerable number of Indians, including their chief, who was soon murdered by one of Logan's men. Logan's Raid and the death of the chief angered the Shawnees, who retaliated by further escalating their attacks on the whites, escalating the Northwest Indian War. Logan was one of those who called for the Danville Convention, and was a delegate when they wrote the first Kentucky constitution in 1791 and 1792. After statehood, he served in the Kentucky state House of Representatives from 1792 to 1795. Logan later ran unsuccessfully for governor, in 1796 and 1800. In 1802, he died of a stroke at home, about six miles southwest of Shelbyville, and was buried in a family plot there. Logan County, Kentucky and Logan County, Ohio are named for

him, as is the Benjamin Logan Local School District in Ohio.

<sup>7</sup> *The Army and Navy Chronicle and Scientific Repository*, Feb 15, 1844, p. 3. The names of John and Osburn Bland, Thomas Blenfield, and Jesse Peck do not appear on the monument at Blue Licks.

<sup>8</sup> John Todd (March 27, 1750–August 18, 1782) was a frontier military officer during the American Revolutionary War and the first administrator of the Illinois County of the state of Virginia before that state ceded the territory to the federal government. Born in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, the son of David Todd and the brother of Levi Todd, the grandfather of Mary Todd Lincoln. He was educated in Virginia at a school run by his uncle, the Rev. John Todd. After obtaining a license to practice law, Todd settled in Fincastle, Virginia. In 1774, Todd served in the Battle of Point Pleasant, which was fought near present-day Point Pleasant, West Virginia and is celebrated in West Virginia as the first battle in the American Revolutionary War. He was then drawn west into the recently opened frontier of Kentucky where he purchased land near Lexington. Todd served in the Virginia Legislature in 1776 and then participated in the expedition led by George Rogers Clark against Kaskaskia and Vincennes that captured the Illinois Country from the British in 1778. With Clark as commandant of the entire territory north and west of the Ohio river, Todd was appointed as County Lieutenant and Civil Commandant of "Illinois County," which had been organized by the Virginia Legislature in 1778 with the government based in Kaskaskia. In 1780, Todd returned to Richmond, Virginia, as a delegate from the Kentucky County to the Virginia Legislature, where he married Jane Hawkins. His wife settled on their property in Lexington, while he left to administer affairs in Illinois County. Because of his duties on the frontier, he was seldom home. In 1780, the Virginia Legislature had divided the original Kentucky County into three counties: Lincoln, Jefferson, and Fayette. Colonel Todd was placed in charge of Fayette County militia with Daniel Boone as Lieutenant Colonel. Todd died in 1782 in the Battle of Blue Licks. Todd County is named in his honor. Todd's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery.

<sup>9</sup> Daniel Boone (b. 22 October 1734, d. 26 September 1820) American pioneer and hunter whose frontier exploits made him one of the first folk heroes of the United States. Boone is most famous for his exploration and settlement of what is now the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Despite resistance from American Indians, for whom Kentucky was a traditional hunting ground, in 1775 Boone blazed the Wilderness Road through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. There he founded Boonesborough, one of the first settlements beyond the Appalachian Mountains. Before the end of the 18th century, more than 200,000 people entered Kentucky by following the route marked by Boone. Boone was a militia officer during the American Revolutionary War (1775-1783). Boone was captured by Shawnees in 1778 and adopted into the tribe, but he escaped and continued to help defend the Kentucky settlements. He was elected to the first of his three terms in the

## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

Virginia General Assembly during the war, and fought in the Battle of Blue Licks in 1782, the last battle of the American Revolution. Boone worked as a surveyor and merchant after the war, but he went deep into debt as a Kentucky land speculator. Frustrated with legal problems resulting from his land claims, in 1799 Boone resettled in Missouri, where he spent his final years. His remains were reburied in the Frankfort Cemetery in 1845. Boone County, Kentucky is named in his honor.

<sup>10</sup> Stephen Trigg (b. 1744, d. 19 August 1782) American pioneer and soldier from Virginia. Born the son of William and Mary (Johns) Trigg, Trigg mainly worked as a public servant and militia officer during the early years of the frontier counties in southwest Virginia and those portions that would later form Kentucky. He was one of the wealthiest men on the frontier at the time. He was a delegate to the first Virginia Revolutionary conventions and was a member of the Fincastle Committee of Safety that drafted the Fincastle Resolutions, which was the precursor for the Declaration of Independence made by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. He was also elected to the Virginia House of Delegates.

Trigg was appointed to the Virginia Land Court Commission in 1779, charged with settling titles to land on the Kentucky frontier. After completing his duties on the court, he settled in Kentucky and continued his public service. In 1782, when Indian tribes, in conjunction with British forces, attacked Bryan Station in Kentucky, several Kentucky militia companies converged to go after the attackers. Trigg commanded one wing, Daniel Boone another. However, it was part of a planned ambush, and Trigg, along with many other men, including Boone's son, were killed. After the battle, Trigg's body was found quartered. In recognition of his role in the formation of Kentucky, Trigg County, Kentucky was named in his honor. Trigg's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery.

<sup>11</sup> Bugler's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery. His rank is listed as Captain, not Major.

<sup>12</sup> Silas Harlan, a pioneer, was born on March 17, 1753 in Berkeley County, West Virginia, the son of George and Ann (Hurst) Harlan. Journeying to Kentucky with James Harrod in 1774, Harlan served as scout, hunter, and military leader of the rank of major. Harlan assisted Harrod's party in Harrodsburg to pick up gunpowder to be delivered to the Kentucky settlers to assist them against the British in the Revolutionary War. Harlan built a log stockade with the help of his uncle Jacob and his brother James near Danville known as "Harlan's Station." Harlan served under George Rogers Clark in the Illinois campaign of 1778-79 against the British. He also commanded a company in John Bowman's raid on Old Chillicothe in 1779, and assisted Clark in establishing Fort Jefferson at the mouth of the Ohio River in 1780.

Silas Harlan died leading the advance party at the Battle of Blue Licks on August 19, 1782. At the time of his death Harlan was engaged to Sarah Caldwell, who later married his brother James and became the grandmother of U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan. Harlan County was

named after Silas Harlan. Harlan's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery.

<sup>13</sup> Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

<sup>14</sup> Gordon's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery.

<sup>15</sup> Also listed as Kinkead.

<sup>16</sup> McBride's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery. His rank is listed as major, not captain.

<sup>17</sup> Robert Patterson (1753-1827) was an American Revolutionary War veteran who helped found the cities of Lexington, Kentucky, and Cincinnati. Patterson was a soldier in the American Revolutionary War and served in the Indian campaigns with George Rogers Clark. Patterson moved from Kentucky in 1788 and was one of the three founders of Cincinnati. Patterson moved to Dayton, Ohio in 1802 and continued his military service as a Quartermaster during the War of 1812. Patterson's farm, Rubicon, was located two miles south of Dayton where he and his wife Elizabeth (Lindsay) raised eight children. The land is currently part of the University of Dayton and stretched from there west to the Old soldiers' home (presently the Dayton VA Medical Center). His home is now a historic house museum, known as the Patterson Homestead.

<sup>18</sup> Also listed as Givins.

<sup>19</sup> Also listed as McMurry. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

<sup>20</sup> Clarence Black.

<sup>21</sup> Son of Daniel Boone. Boone's name appears on the Kentucky State War Memorial located in the Frankfort Cemetery. He is listed as Captain Isaac Boone.

<sup>22</sup> Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

<sup>23</sup> Also listed as Douglas.

<sup>24</sup> Also listed as Eads.

<sup>25</sup> Also listed as Fields.

<sup>26</sup> Also listed as Gregg.

<sup>27</sup> Also listed as Ledgerwood. Listed as captured and killed, however he was released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

<sup>28</sup> Also listed as Neal. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

<sup>29</sup> Also listed as Polly.

<sup>30</sup> Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

<sup>31</sup> Matthew Rose. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

<sup>32</sup> Also listed as Stepleton. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

<sup>33</sup> Shannon served as an Ensign.

<sup>34</sup> Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, July 1783.

<sup>35</sup> Wounded.

<sup>36</sup> Wounded.

<sup>37</sup> Listed as captured, but escaped. According to a printed story some years after, Morgan had been wounded in the battle,

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## Major Robert Asa Hancock and His Family, *continued*

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(January-March 1996).

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Bartlett Hancock's headstone in the Hancock Cemetery in Henry County gives his age at his 1879 death as 79 years, 10 months, 9 days. The Hancock Cemetery is located on the north side of Kentucky highway 157, north of the Interstate 71 overpass. It is near the road at the top of the hill going down to Sulphur and lies hidden within some trees between address 6918 and 6976.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census of Henry County, Ky., 18 July 1860, p. 13/235, Cambellsburgh post office, subdivision number 2, by Thomas Pearce Jr.

<sup>6</sup> W.H. Perrin, J.H. Battle, and G.C. Kniffin, *Kentucky: A History of the State* (Louisville, Ky., and Chicago: F.A. Battey and Company, 1887; Reprint Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1979), pages 796. See also Henry County Deed Book 38, p. 355. Shortly before his death, Thomas Bartlett Hancock's children acquired interest in two tracts of land, one containing 140 acres and the other 75 acres. The deed was dated 1 July 1879. T.B. Hancock and R.L. Ricketts "late Sheriff of Henry County" conveyed the land to Martha King, wife of Robert King; Joel H. Hancock; Sophronia Martin; William Hancock; Jesse C. Hancock; Richard G. Hancock, Robert A. Hancock; Thomas H. Hancock; and Nancy Walker, wife of William Walker.

<sup>7</sup> Thomas Bartlett Hancock's children were also named in the 12 April 1880 partitioning of his property: Wm. Hancock, J.C. Hancock, Sophia Martin, RE(G) Hancock, T.H. Hancock, Martha C. King (wife of R.C. King), Joel H. Hancock, Nancy Walker, and R.A. Hancock.

<sup>8</sup> U.S. Census of Henry County, Ky., 19 July 1870, p. 20, Cambellsburgh post office, District of Campbellburgh, by R.M. Buckley(?).

<sup>9</sup> Martha and Robert were buried in the King Cemetery, in the Locust community of Carroll County.

<sup>10</sup> U.S. Census of Henry County, Ky., 18 July 1860, p. 13/235, Cambellsburgh post office, subdivision number 2, by Thomas Pearce Jr.

<sup>11</sup> Kentucky Death Certificate No. (1917) 16,911. Hancock died of "cardiac asthma." The informant was "F.D. Hancock, M.D." of Sulphur. Hancock was buried in Sulphur on 10 June 1917. The Hancock Bible record had William's birth year as 1837, which was later changed to 1838. Robert Asa Hancock's affidavit gave the year as 1837.

<sup>12</sup> Will of William Hancock, Henry County Will Book 17, p. 140.

<sup>13</sup> W.H. Perrin, J.H. Battle, and G.C. Kniffin, *Kentucky: A History of the State* (Louisville, Ky., and Chicago: F.A. Battey and Company, 1887; Reprint Easley, S.C.: Southern Historical Press, 1979), pages 796-97.

<sup>14</sup> Kentucky Death Certificate No. (1914) 5,316. Hancock died of "Apoplexy," aggravated by hemiplegia in Pewee Valley. The informant was "Mr. Hancock" of Pleasureville. Hancock was buried in Campbellsburg on 3 January 1914.

<sup>15</sup> Robert M. Rennick, *Kentucky Place Names* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984), p. 287.

<sup>16</sup> See *Henry County Local*, 15 January 1904. The obituary is posted at <http://www.usgw.org/ky/henry/obits1.htm>.

<sup>17</sup> Kentucky Death Certificate No. (1937) 18,520. The informant was "Mrs. Sleadd" of Simpsonville. See also Kentucky Death Certificate No. (1920) 18,445. The informant was E.H. (Elmer Hendricks) Hancock, who lived at No. 32, Weissinger-Gaulbert Apartments.

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## The Battle of Blue Licks, *continued*

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after killing an Indian in hand-to-hand combat, he crawled under a small oak tree, stayed there until nightfall when his wife who had come looking for him found him on the battlefield. Colonel Logan and his command found Morgan and his wife and returned them to their home. *The Western Monthly Magazine, and Literary Journal*, May 1833, p. 1.

<sup>38</sup> Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

<sup>39</sup> Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.

<sup>40</sup> Also listed as Short.

<sup>41</sup> Also listed as Sumner.

<sup>42</sup> Stephen Twyman.

<sup>43</sup> Also listed as Yocum. Captured, released at Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., July 1783.