

**THE BATTLE OF POINT PLEASANT:
A BATTLE OF THE REVOLUTION,
OCTOBER 10TH 1774:
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE
MEN WHO PARTICIPATED**

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The battle of Point Pleasant: A battle of the revolution, October 10th 1774: Biographical sketches of the men who participated by Livia Nye Simpson-Poffenbarger

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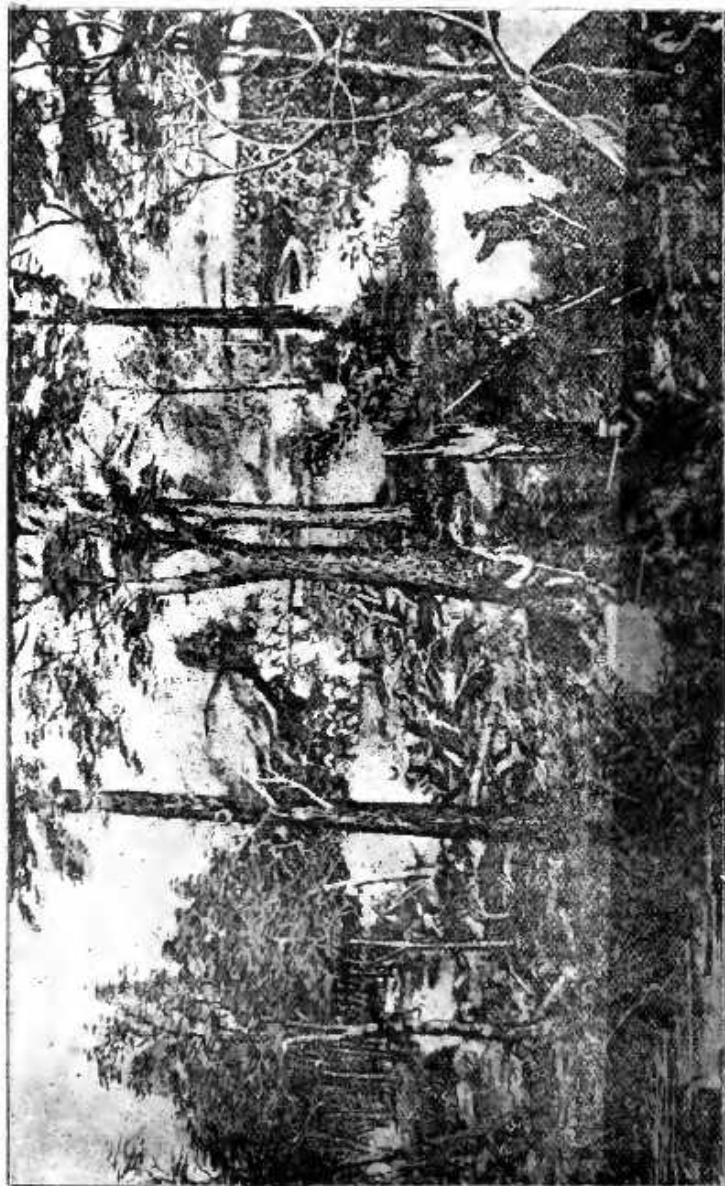
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LIVIA NYE SIMPSON-POFFENBARGER

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BATTLE OF POINT PLEASANT, OCTOBER 10th, 1774

The Battle of Point Pleasant A Battle of the Revolution

October 10th, 1774

**Biographical Sketches of the
Men Who Participated**

By

Mrs. Livia Nye Simpson-Poffenbarger

**The State Gazette, Publisher
Point Pleasant, West Virginia**

1909

Dedication

This little volume is dedicated to the memory of the brave colonists who, successful at the battle of Point Pleasant, had fought the opening battle of the Revolution, in preserving the right arm of Virginia for the struggle with the Mother Country; thus making possible the blessings of liberty we now enjoy as a Nation.

MRS. LIVIA NYE SIMPSON-POFFENBARGER.

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By

Mrs. Livia Nye Simpson-Pollenbarger.

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Battle of Point Pleasant.

Andrew Lewis, who commanded the colonial troops in the Battle of Point Pleasant, October 10, 1774, was the son of John Lewis and Margaret Lynn Lewis, his wife.

John Lewis was of Scotch Irish descent, having been born in France, 1673, where his ancestors had taken refuge from the persecution following the assassination of Henry IV. He married Margaret Lynn, the daughter of the "Laird of Loch Lynn," of Scotland, and emigrated to Ireland, thence to America in 1729, and became the founder of Staunton, Virginia. Here, he planted a colony and reared a family that have given luster to American History.

Governor Gooch, of Williamsburg, then the seat of Government of Virginia, was the personal friend of Mrs. Lewis' fath-

er and hence granted her sons, together with one Benjamin Burden a land warrant for 500,000 acres of land in the James and Shenandoah Valleys, with the proviso that they were to locate one hundred families within ten years. They induced their friends from Scotland and the north of Ireland, and the Scotch Irish of Pennsylvania, to emigrate to Augusta County, Virginia. In her diary, Mrs. Lewis says: "It sounded like the gathering of the clans to hear the names of these settlers viz: McKees, McCues, McCampbells, McClungs, McKouns, Caruthers, Stuarts, Wallaces, Lyles, Paxtons, Prestons and Grisbys."

We quote the following from the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Quarterly, July, 1903, pp. 288, 289, 290:

"When John Randolph said

that Pennsylvania had produced but two great men—Benjamin Franklin, of Massachusetts, and Albert Gallatin, of Switzerland—he possibly did not know that the best blood of his own State was that of the Scotch-Irish people who went down from Pennsylvania and settled in the Valley. He likely did not know that the great and good Dr. Archibald Alexander, the founder of Liberty Hall, now Washington and Lee University (so much loved by Washington,) the very seat of culture and power of the Shenandoah and James, the greatest factor of the State's prowess, was a Pennsylvanian. He possibly did not know that Dr. Graham, the first president of this institution, was from Old Paxtang; that many of the families whose names are in the pantheon of old Dominion achievement, the families that give Virginia her prominence in the sisterhood of States, had their American origin in Pennsylvania—in the Scotch-Irish reservoir of the Cumberland Valley—the McDowells, the Pattersons, the McCormacks, Ewings, McCordes, Prestons, McCunes, Craigs, McCulloughs, Simpsons, Stewarts, Moffats, Irwins, Hunters, Blairs, Elders, Grahams, Finleys, Trimbles, Rankins, and hundreds of others, whose achievements mark the pathway of the world's progress. John

Randolph possibly did not know that the first Declaration of Independence by the American patriots was issued by the members of Hanover Church out there in Dauphin county, when on June 4th, 1774, they declared "that in the event Great Britain attempting to force unjust laws upon us by the strength of Arms, our cause we leave to heaven and our rifles." This declaration was certainly carried to Mecklenburg to give the sturdy people of that region inspiration for the strong document issued by them a year later, and which gave Jefferson a basis for the Declaration of 1776. There was much moving from Pennsylvania into Virginia and North Carolina before the Revolution, and Hanover Presbytery in the Valley was largely made up of people from Pennsylvania, whose petition of ten thousand names for a free church in a free land, made in 1785, was the force back of Jefferson's bill for religious tolerance, a triumph for freedom that has always been considered a Presbyterian victory by the Scotch-Irish of America.

We know that Dr. Sankey of Hanover Church was a minister in Hanover Presbytery, and that he was followed into Virginia by large numbers of the Hanover congregation, who kept up a constant stream into the Valley. By the way, two settlements were