

Photo by Gary Stewart

ALL SMILES—Andy Crisp, age 6, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Crisp of Rt. 1 Bethany Community, Kings Mountain is pictured giving his new Little Rascals Car a trial run. Andy's

name was drawn from over 500 entries Mon. at the Herald Publishing House. The car was donated by Herald Publishing.

Activities To Begin

On the afternoon of Sept. 23, 1780, some 400 pioneer farmers, hunters and woodsmen gathered at Dunn's Meadow near what today is Abingdon, Va.

The Virginians were responding to calls for assistance from neighbors in nearby North Carolina and in the Watauga River Valley of what today is East Tennessee.

These neighbors had been harassing a wing of General Charles Lord Cornwallis' British army, and had been told by the detachment leader, Major Patrick Ferguson, that if they did not desist, he would "hang their leaders and lay their country waste with fire and sword."

Instead of waiting for Ferguson to come to them, the mountaineers decided to reverse the roles and sent out a call for volunteers.

The Virginians marched southward to Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga to join some 500 Tennesseans. Crossing the rugged Blue Ridge Mountains, the contingent pressed southward, its number growing with the arrival of more

volunteers from North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

They overtook Ferguson and his men at Kings Mountain in South Carolina on the afternoon of Oct. 7, 1780. In the fierce fight that followed, the entire British force was killed or wounded or captured.

Among the dead was Ferguson, who had been hit seven times with balls from the deadly long rifles used by the "Overmountain Men."

The victory by the Patriots not only submerged Loyalist support for the British in the Carolinas, it severely weakened Cornwallis' army. Subsequent battles at Cowpens in South Carolina and Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina further reduced British numbers and sympathy and led to Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown in October, 1781.

Most historians are convinced that what happened at Kings Mountain two centuries ago marked the turning point of the American Revolution, and played a major role in making a reality of the independence that

had been declared in 1776.

The 200th Anniversary of the march to Kings Mountain and the battle there will be celebrated over a two-week period beginning Wednesday (Sept. 23).

Buckskin-clad frontiersmen once again will gather at Dunn's Meadow to begin the march toward Kings Mountain. The route they will take has been

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Cobb-Ling Vows Spoken

Marie Elizabeth Cobb of Kings Mountain and Kefer Raymond Ling Jr. were married at a 1:10 p.m. ceremony Sun., Sept. 7 in York, S.C.

Mrs. Ling is the daughter of Mrs. E. Dewitt Cobb of Kings Mountain, and the late Mr. Cobb.

The groom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Kefer Ling Sr. of Findlay, Ohio.

The bride's sister-in-law, Mrs. Jack Cobb, entertained at a reception in her home in Kings Mountain following the ceremony.

The newlyweds are residing at Sherwood Forest Apartments in Gastonia.

Reunion Scheduled Sunday

The annual Beatty, Beattie, Baity reunion will be held at the Rock Springs Campground in Denver, N.C., Sun., Sept. 21 at 1 p.m.

Lunch will be spread, followed by a business meeting and entertainment by "The Long Island Sounds Quartet."

Sarah Beatty, secretary, invites all relatives and friends to attend.

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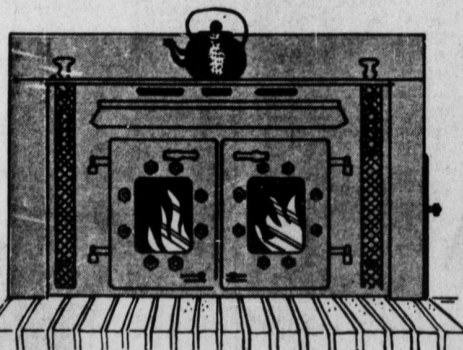
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