

KING'S MOUNTAIN SESQUI-CENTENNIAL RECALLS FAME OF FIVE LEADERS

John Sevier, Benjamin Cleveland, Joseph Winston, Joseph McDowell and Frederick Hambricht Among Those Who Performed Deeds of Glory in Historic Fight.

(Editorial Note: This is the second of a series of two articles giving biographical sketches of commanders at the Battle of King's Mountain, a decisive conflict that turned the tide of the Revolution in favor of the Colonists. In view of the fact that the sesqui-centennial of that battle is to be celebrated on Next October 7 at exercises which President Hoover has tentatively accepted an invitation to attend, these articles are regarded as particularly timely.)

(By John A. Lang)

In all probability Colonel John Sevier had had more frontier experience and had become more thoroughly saturated with its democratic ideals than any other American commander at King's Mountain. This man had lived on the frontier for years before this battle, and he had become so thoroughly imbued with its ideals that he courageously urged on and led his fellow-pioneers in a great onslaught against British oppression wherever he got a chance to strike a blow.

John Sevier was born September 23, 1745, six miles from the present town of New Market, in what is now Rockingham county, Virginia. His father, Valentine Sevier, the son of a Huguenot refugee and an English mother, had come to Virginia from London between 1730 and 1740, settling first in Culpeper county and removing then to the Valley; his mother, Joanna Goode, was the granddaughter of John Goode, who immigrated by way of Barbadoes in 1650 from England to Virginia.

After securing at Staunton the best education obtainable on the border, Sevier married in his seventeenth year Miss Sarah



JOSEPH McDOWELL

Hawkins. Sevier took some part in the French and Indian War and was appointed a militia captain by Lord Dunmore, the last Royal Governor of Virginia. After making two trips to the infant settlement on the Holston river in what is now Tennessee, Sevier moved his family there in 1773; from the day of his arrival in this section, he was a marked man. His primacy on the border for the next forty years is an indisputable fact, and his long service rendered to Tennessee, during its frontier days, is unexcelled by that of anyone else. In 1777 Sevier was made lieutenant-colonel of the Washington county militia, and full colonel, to succeed Colonel John Carter, on February 3, 1781. Between 1777 and 1793 Sevier was in thirty-five battles or skirmishes with the British and the Indians and was never once defeated. The mere list of Sevier's civil and military services would fill a page.

Never Knew Defeat

The thing that most particu-

larly interests us here in Sevier's career is his part in the Battle of King's Mountain. It was due to Sevier's courage and driving-power that his frontier followers were found in the thickest and hottest parts of this battle. Sevier did not know what the words surrender and defeat meant, so he boldly drove his men right into the vitals of the British force and made their lines quiver and break. A fellow soldier said of Sevier's appearance during the battle: "His eyes were flames of fire, and his words were electric bolts crashing down the ranks of the enemy."

After the Battle of King's Mountain, John Sevier received a vote of thanks and a present of a sword and pistol from the legislature of North Carolina.

After the Revolution, Sevier dedicated his services to helping Tennessee become a separate state in the Union and the success of the movement was largely due to his efforts.

When the state of Tennessee was established, he was elected the first governor in 1796, and served three terms. In spite of his old age, Sevier was appointed by President Monroe in 1815 to act as United States commissioner to settle the boundary line between Georgia and the Creek territory in Alabama. He died while engaged in this work, September 24, 1815. Today, we can truthfully say of John Sevier that his long public career was one of immense sacrifice and intrepid service to his country.

Benjamin Cleveland

Colonel Benjamin Cleveland with his Wilkes county frontiersmen made it hot for the Tories at King's Mountain. Benjamin Cleveland came from a sturdy English family that migrated to Virginia from England in the early part of the eighteenth century and settled on the since famous Bull Run, in Prince William county. Benjamin Cleveland was born May 26, 1738, and while yet a young boy, moved with his father, Alexander Cleveland, to a Virginian border settlement on the Blue Run near the Orange county line of North Carolina.

At a rather early age, Cleveland married Miss Mary Graves of Orange county, North Carolina. Tradition tells us that Cleveland took an active part in the French and Indian War, but the particulars of this are lost to history. He, no doubt, in that frontier conflict became fully initiated into military life, which proved a preparatory school for his services at King's Mountain and all through the Revolution. About 1769, Cleveland removed with his father-in-law and family to North Carolina and settled near the foot of the Blue Ridge in what is now Wilkes county, North Carolina. In the summer of 1772 Cleveland made a rather adventurous trip into Kentucky. He and his party were plundered by the Cherokees and relieved of their necessities. However, Cleveland and his friends managed to get back safely to North Carolina.

Active from Start of War

Benjamin Cleveland took an active part in the Revolution from the very beginning of the struggle. In the summer of 1776 he served as a captain in a scouting regiment on the western frontier of North Carolina. Cleveland rendered great service to the cause of American independence by his campaigns against the hostile Indians and

Tories in western North Carolina. In March, 1778, when the new County of Wilkes was organized, Cleveland was placed at the head of the Commission of Justices and was also made Colonel of the militia. Later on in 1778, he represented his county in the House of Commons and was regarded as one of the popular leaders of the mountain region of the state.

Cleveland next served as a colonel in General Rutherford's campaign against the British in Georgia. The American forces having suffered defeat in Georgia, Cleveland returned to North Carolina to represent his county in the state Senate. In the summer of 1780, he was constantly employed in suppressing the Tory uprisings in the western part of this state.

Then followed Cleveland's King's Mountain campaign—the great service of his life—in which he commanded his regiment heroically. This commander was heard to say many times in this battle the following phrases: "Now, by God's grace, we have these Tories! the snare is subtle set; the game is bagged; we hold them safe as pheasants in a net." Besides having assigned to him, by general consent, one of Ferguson's war horses, which lived to an uncommonly old age, Cleveland carried home with him a snare-drum, to which he pointed with pride as a King's Mountain trophy, as long as he lived.

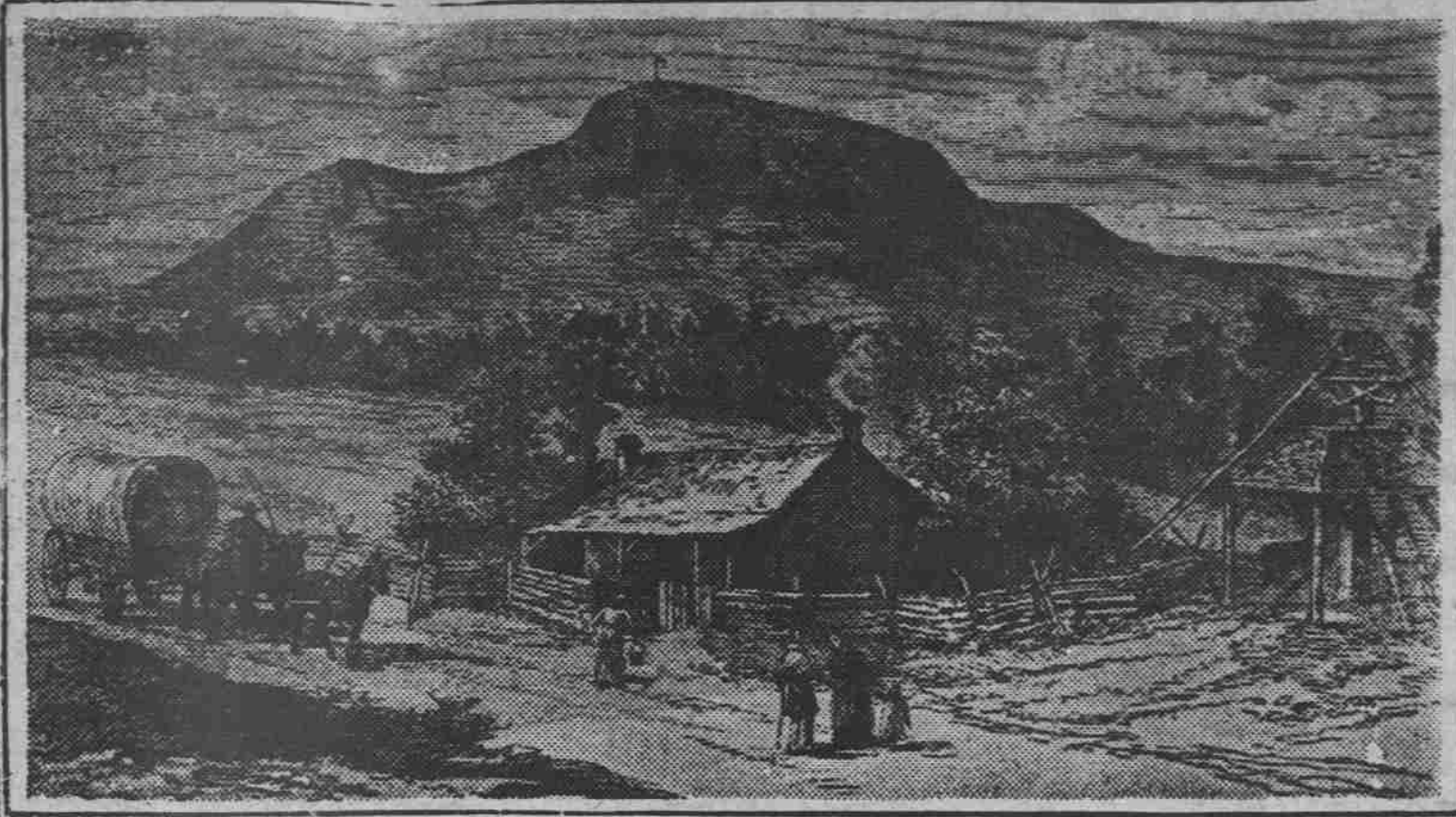
During the remaining months of the Revolution, Cleveland continued his work of driving out the Tories from the western counties of North Carolina. After the Revolution he moved to South Carolina and served as judge for a number of years in Pendleton County in this state. In his 69th year Cleveland died in October, 1806. The muse of history will not willingly let die the name and memory of Benjamin Cleveland—to all Tories the terror of terrors, and to all others, the jolly "Old Round-About" of the Yadkin.

Joseph Winston

Joseph Winston was born in Louisa County, Virginia, on June 17, 1746. He received a fair education for that day, and at the age of 17, joined a company of rangers under Captain Phillips. This company was drawn into an ambush fight with the Indians on September 13, 1763, and was forced to give way, scattering as best it could. Young Winston received two wounds which rendered him helpless, but he managed to conceal himself until the Indians had retired. A comrade later came to his aid and carried him to a friendly frontier cabin where he recovered.

In 1769 Winston migrated to North Carolina, locating in what is now Stokes County. In 1775 he was a member of the Third Provincial Congress, which met at Hillsboro, and in February, 1776, he went on the expedition

Early View of King's Mountain



An artist has conceived King's Mountain in his mind as appearing above. The bald-faced character of the peak as well as the mountain in general is apparent from this view.

against the Scotch Tories at Moore's Creek Bridge. In this same year he was appointed Ranger of his county, Surry, and Major in the militia, serving on Rutherford's expedition against the Cherokees. In 1777 Winston was a member of the House of Commons and a Commissioner to treat with the Cherokee Indians. In 1780 he served in Colonel Davidson's expedition in pursuit of Bryans' Tories, and he was later with Cleveland against the Loyalists on New River.

Joseph Winston ably commanded a portion of the right wing at King's Mountain. His men very often testified to his courage and ability in directing his part of this campaign. For his effective services rendered in this battle, Winston was voted an elegant sword by the Legislature of North Carolina. In 1781 Winston led a party against a band of Tories. Shortly afterwards, he joined General Greene with a hundred riflemen and shared in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. In 1792-3 and again from 1803-7 Winston represented his district in Congress. He was a Presidential elector in 1800, voting for Jefferson, and again in 1812, voting for Madison. He was chosen three times as a member of the state Senate from Surry and when Stokes County was organized, he was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel and was five times elected to the state Senate. Colonel Winston died on April 21, 1815, in his 69th year. Joseph Winston was a man of stately form and commanding presence, and his part in helping this country win its independence was quite a considerable one.

Joseph McDowell

Joseph McDowell, of Scotch-Irish descent, was born at Winchester, Virginia, in 1756. Joseph McDowell's father, Joseph McDowell, Sr., moved his family into the Catawba Valley region of North Carolina about 1760. In February, 1776, Joseph, Jr., young as he was, went into the regiment of his brother, Charles McDowell. This regiment was actively engaged in helping to suppress the Scotch Tories in the Cape Fear section.

In July of this same year the Cherokees burst upon the Catawba settlements, killing 37 persons on the 10th and 11th of that month, and they also beleaguered a fort in which were Charles and Joseph McDowell. After a long fight the McDowell brothers with their nine followers beat the Indians back. Joseph by this time had become a major and served during the ensuing fall of 1776 in his brother's regiment on Rutherford's campaign against the Cherokees. In 1779 he served on the Stone expedition, and early in 1780 he was campaigning against the Tories at Ramseur's Mill.

Fought At Cowpens

After serving in the American

forces at Earle's Ford on Pacolet and Musgrove's Mill, Joseph McDowell had command of the regiment of his brother at King's Mountain. As acting-commander, Joseph McDowell displayed great military ability. After this battle, he served in the American forces at Cowpens. In the spring of 1781, he fought against Cornwallis. In August, 1781, and again in March, 1782, Major Joseph McDowell led expeditions to chastise the Cherokee, and in the fall of 1782 he served in a similar campaign against the Cherokee. McDowell served in the North Carolina House of Commons five different times after the Revolution. He was a member of the United States House of Representatives from 1793 to 1795 and again between 1797 and 1791. McDowell took an active part in the debates of that body against the Alien and Sedition Laws. Joseph McDowell died from apoplexy on August 11, 1801, in the 45th year of his age. He is reputed to have been the recognized leader of the Democratic-Republican party in his section of North Carolina.

NEW YORK CRITIC ADDRESSES STATE DRAMA MEETING

(Continued from page one)

Scotty," and then demonstrated the construction of the actual scenery.

The officers for the coming year, elected at the business meeting of the association held Saturday morning, included practically all the former officials. Paul Green was elected honorary president, R. C. Robinson of the Wayne Community Players of Goldsboro, president, and Sue Ethel Rea of the central high school of Charlotte, vice-president. Members of the executive committee are: Frederick Koch; Hubert Heffner, assistant director of the Carolina Playmakers; Elmer Hall, technical director of the Playmakers; R. M. Grumman, director of the extension division; W. R. Wunsch, Asheville; P. G. Gallop, Whiteville; Kate Hall, Greensboro; Mrs. Herbert Harris, Seaboard; Pearl Setzer, dramatic director of Lenoir-Rhyne College; and Elba Henninger, dramatic director of Greensboro College.

Throughout the three days various high school, college and civic dramatic organizations presented plays, both original and by nationally known playwrights. From time to time various group discussions and conferences were held. A costume review conducted by Elba Henninger, dramatic director of the Greensboro College Players, closed the program for Saturday afternoon. Pearl Setzer, director of the Lenoir-Rhyne College Players, acted as toast-mistress at the directors' supper held at the Carolina Inn Saturday evening.

Tar Heel Meeting

Both the reportorial and editorial staffs of the Daily Tar Heel are requested to meet in the Tar Heel office in the basement of the Alumni building tonight at seven o'clock. Important announcements will be made, in addition to changes that will be inaugurated.

CANADIAN THINKS U. S. WILL ENTER LEAGUE FINALLY

(Continued from page one)

fully settled and since then the Facisti party in Italy has cooperated with the league at all times. Sir Herbert thinks that the league council's ability to come to a unanimous agreement on the countless number of problems which arise within the jurisdiction of the league speaks more favorably of the success of the league than any other point.

In discussing the finance of the league, Sir Herbert stated that it was a difficult matter to handle the various kinds of money which come to Geneva. All money is converted into its equivalent in American dollars through New York drafts, and then handled by the league on the basis of the French gold franc.

Canadian Prohibition

Sir Herbert thinks that the government distribution of liquor in Canada is working with comparative success. With the government of the dominion controlling production and exportation of whiskey and the governments in the various provinces controlling the consumption, Sir Herbert believes that they have an efficient method for enforcement. He further pointed out that managers of the dispensaries are paid on a strict salary basis so that there will be no reason for them to boost sales, and cited an instance where a manager of a dispensary had been fired for selling a greater quantity of whiskey than should have been sold in that section.

The Canadian visitor thinks that smuggling along the Canadian border will decrease now that the Canadian Parliament has passed an act forbidding the exportation of whiskey to any country where the importation of beverages is illegal.

Many other problems concerning the relations of the league with Central and South American and Scandinavian states were discussed in the round table meeting at the Carolina Inn yesterday morning.

DR. LEAVITT TO SPEAK

Dr. Leavitt, head of the Spanish department, will speak at the United Church at 7:30 tonight. Dr. Leavitt has recently returned from a leave of absence in Spain, and the subject of his talk will relate to his experiences while away.

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