

Troop Movements In Section Before Battle Of Kings Mtn.

(Another of a series of articles written on the incidents leading up to the battle of Kings Mtn. by Prof. W. E. White, county historian. Mr. White has been sick for several weeks, hence a number of installments have been delayed. He hopes now to finish the series.)

On the evening of Oct. 5th, 1780 the army of Colonel Campbell reached the ford of Green River. He decided to select the best men and horses with which to continue the pursuit of Ferguson. So 700 mounted men were chosen for this purpose and the remaining 600 volunteers were left under the command of Major Joseph Herndon and Capt. William Neal.

The next day the little army marched to Cowpens, S. C. At this place they were joined by several hundred patriots, who had been in camp at Flint Hill or Cherry Mountain as it is now called. Some 1,000 mounted soldiers were selected from this reinforcement, and on October 7th the American force of a little more than 900 men was on the march to find Ferguson. As Joseph Kerr, the crippled spy had been in the British camp the day before and had reported to the patriot leaders at Cowpens on the previous evening the Americans knew the locality in which they expected to find and to attack the enemy that day.

When the Whigs were within eight miles of Kings Mountain, they captured two Tories whom they forced at the peril of their lives to guide them to Ferguson's camp. A little farther on some of Colonel Stryker's men went into the home of a Tory to get some information. The men in the house would only say that Ferguson was not far away, but as the riflemen were departing a girl followed them and inquired: "How many are there of you?" "Enough to whip Ferguson, if we can find him," was the reply. "He is on that mountain," responded the girl, pointing to the exact locality. This information cheerfully heard of the patriots who were eager for battle.

Young Spy Captured.
As the Americans approached nearer the position of the enemy, Providence seemed to have again favored them. They captured John Ponder, a youth of 14 years, whom Colonel Ferguson had just dispatched to Charlotte to Lord Cornwallis. When Colonel Hambricht had the youth arrested it was found that he was carrying a message to Cornwallis in

ploring aid and expressing anxiety about the situation. In addition to these things, the American officers also learned the numerical strength of Ferguson's army, but did not reveal this to the privates. Young Ponder was then questioned as to how Colonel Ferguson was dressed and replied that the British commander was the best uniformed man on the mountain, though his military suit could not be seen, as he wore a checked shirt or duster over it. When this information was obtained, Colonel Hambricht a native of Germany addressed his men as follows in his broken English accent: "Well boys, when you see dot man mit a pig shirt on over his clothes, you may know who him is, and mark him mit your rifles."

After the patriots had come within a mile of the enemy, they met with still more good fortune. George Watkins a good Whig who had been a prisoner with Ferguson, had been released on parole, and was on his way home from the British camp when he unexpectedly came into contact with the American army. He gave the patriots the very latest information and assured them that the enemy still maintained their position on the mountain. The Whigs then hastened to the scene of action and got ready for battle. Then came the final general order: "Fresh up your guns and every man go into battle firmly resolving to fight till he dies." The American army was divided into three divisions, commanded by Colonels Campbell, Shelby and Cleveland. These gallant leaders and their able assistants soon surrounded the mountain on which the British and Tories were stationed. A new chapter was about to be written in American history.

My next article will be completely devoted to the battle of Kings Mountain.

Won On Salisbury P. O.

Salisbury, Mar. 28.—Work on the \$143,000 addition to Salisbury's post office is to begin in a few days. The superintendent and assistant superintendent to be in charge of the work have arrived in the city and announce that work will probably begin next Monday. All the labor is being secured through the labor bureau of the chamber of commerce.

Old Letters Tell Of Hardships Men In

Written by A. B. Irvin, Father of B. Irvin of R-2 Mooresboro in 1862 And 1863.

The following letters written by A. B. Irvin, father of J. M. Irvin, of Mooresboro R-2, to A. B. Irvin's father, Eli Irvin in 1862, and 1863 tell of the many hardships the soldiers underwent in the service of the Confederacy.

Appalling Losses in Battle.

Company A, 4th N. C. Reg. Camp near Richmond, Va., May 18 1865.

Dear Father:

I received a letter from you yesterday. You cannot imagine how glad I was to get a letter from home and learn you were all well and getting along so well. We have left York Town. We were compelled to the Yankees had planted their cannon and were shelling us to death. We left there three weeks ago last night, and we have been retreating and fighting every few days, ever since, the Yankees attacking us in the rear and while our loss has been heavy, we have whiped them in every attack.

Perhaps the severest battle fought so far in this war was fought two weeks ago last Monday at Williamsburg. The losses on both sides was appalling. To give you some idea of it, the 5 N. C. regiment went into battle 1000 strong and came out with 210, the balance were either killed, wounded or taken prisoners. A Mississippi regiment and a Louisiana regiment fared nearly as bad. It has been raining on us most of the time day and night ever since we left Yorktown and the mud is everywhere from ankle to knee deep at Williamsburg. We lay on the battle field that night. I felt sure I would perish from cold and hunger, having been without anything to eat for two days and our clothes wet and muddy. The sun is shining bright today and we are getting this done. However, we have orders to break camp in the morning. It is not thought that we will remain in the camp as Danville is said to be our destination. Some think we will remain around Richmond.

I have not seen or heard from brother Miles since we left Yorktown and do not know if he has been in any of the battles or not, as his regiment the 6th N. C., was not in our brigade. Rubin Lollar captured a fine Yankee rifle before we left Yorktown. He run a great risk doing it, crawled several hundred yards on his hands and feet under Yankee fire. The gun is a Colts re-

McAdoo's Son Fined For Going On Spree

Former Secretary Treasurer's Boy Pleads Guilty To Charge In California.

Beverly Hills, Calif.—William Gibbs McAdoo, Jr., son of the former secretary of the treasury, pleaded guilty to a charge of being drunk and paid a fine of \$10. The plea was entered in a justice of peace court at Sherman, near here.

John W. Montgomery, his companion, did likewise. The two men were arrested Saturday night, after an argument with a taxicab driver, to whom McAdoo tendered a check. Charges of disturbing the peace made against the pair, were dismissed.

The case was set for 10 a. m. but telephonic arrangement was made for postponement for a week. Two

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Tax Collections On Decline To Uncle Sam

Washington, Mar. 31.—Income tax collections for March continued their downward trend in the area-

hours later the men appeared in court, asked for immediate arraignment, and the case was disposed of.

ary report for March 27. For the month only \$329,115,961 had been collected as compared with \$549,960,217 last year. The day's collections totalled \$1,851,614 as compared with \$2,804,414 last year.

The collections since last July 1 were approximately \$300,000,000 less than for the similar period of the preceding year. They were \$1,560-

548,016 as compared with \$1,802,594,395 in 1930.

Senator J. Ham Lewis predicts four political parties in 1932. No, no, Jim, we really haven't enough graft for the two we now have.—Hubbard (Ors.) Enterprise.

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