

Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir:

Dr. Bass's contention that it was the Battle of Cowpens and not Kings Mountain which turned the tide of the American Revolution in the South and your editorial comments on that subject were very interesting.

When one examines the Revolution with a more distant view and takes into consideration all of the claims relating to specific incidents involved in it, it becomes clear that so many have laid claim to one particular event or another as having been the "turning point" that if they were all true the Revolution must have been whirling like a revolving door. It becomes difficult, actually, to separate historical perspective from local enthusiasm.

The Revolution had more than its share of indecisive battles. Others, like Saratoga in the North, had a very real effect upon the course of the war. Actually, both Kings Mountain and

Cowpens, as decisive American victories in the Southern phase of the war, contributed in a measurable way to the ultimate American victory at Yorktown. The bone of this contention seems to lie in the fact that they contributed in different ways to this ultimate victory.

I have heard both and other battles as well—described as "links in a chain of events" which led to victory, and I believe this is as accurate a summation as you can get. And since a chain is no more durable than its weakest link, probably it is true that the ultimate victory could not have been won without all of them and that, in turn, each success contributed to the next.

I expect that Dr. Bass was more interested in stimulating interest in the history of that time than he was in either downgrading Kings Mountain or upgrading Cowpens. He certainly succeeded in making more people here a-

ware of the importance of the latter!

Dr. Bass is correct in stating that Cowpens had a more lasting effect in a purely military frame of reference; that is to say it had a stronger effect upon Cornwallis personally, and cost him far more dearly in the loss of regular troops. Kings Mountain as he said, was more of an isolated incident. It cost the British fewer casualties—21 regulars, and its purely military effectiveness (if one keeps score, by numbers, as some) was further dissipated because the victor eventually allowed most of the prisoners to escape. Further, as he said, many of the victors took no active part in the war after their participation at Kings Mountain.

So Dr. Bass's contention of the greater importance of Cowpens is correct, if one adopts a limited military view, and it is easy to see how an extended exposure to British documents of the time—particularly Cornwallis' own correspondence—would help foster this view. Lord Cornwallis had been given only about 4,000 dependable regulars for his Southern campaign—which was far too few—and he hoarded them like a miser.

Cornwallis needed the support of Tory forces to win, but he had the British regular's distrust of militia. Consequently the loss at Cowpens hurt him personally a lot worse than did Ferguson's defeat at Kings Mountain—even though the latter caused the almost total collapse of the Tory recruitment program without which he could not win at all!

In short, the overall effectiveness of Kings Mountain was a far greater, in terms of its propaganda value and effect upon the Southern population as a whole, than were its numerical losses to the British. Cornwallis never understood this however.

Thomas Jefferson did, when he wrote... Kings Mountain was the joyful annunciation of that turn in the tide that terminated the Revolution in our independence. Jefferson was the first to use that phrase in connection with this battle, but notice that his emphasis appears to be on the fact that the battle had occur-

red at about the time the tide had begun to turn, contributing greatly to it of course but not necessarily the sole cause of its turn. A process of over-simplification of his views by later observers tended to blur that exact meaning somewhat, as is so often the case.

Let's just say that BOTH Kings Mountain and Cowpens were important, though if pushed to it I'd have to admit a personal belief that Kings Mountain ought to rank somewhat higher.

One other matter: Patrick Ferguson went to his death at Kings Mountain with the rank of MAJOR in the regular British Army, not Colonel, as he is so often referred to. He had briefly held but resigned the commission of Colonel in the militia forces when British regulations were changed to prohibit such dual titles. He was often referred to by his own men as "Col. Ferguson", but never signed his own documents with that rank, army dispatches also referred to him as "Major Ferguson", his proper rank.

Sincerely
Ed H. Smith

Dear Editor:

Candidate Dan Moore must have realized he is losing, and losing badly in his bid for the governorship.

He is now grasping at straws. He advocates private contractors to build roads now being built by State men and State machinery.

A road which cost the State \$5,000 to build would cost \$15,000 if built by private contractors. Moore claims to be conservative, yet advocates spending \$37,000 on State employees benefits.

He failed to explain where the money is to come from. A promise like this is a desperate attempt for votes. He either plans not to fulfill his promise, or plans to raise our taxes.

I don't think taxpayers will vote with Mr. Moore on this wild spending spree—at our expense.

And, I did not have to read the results of his own poll to know that such proposals are causing his candidacy to falter.

Sincerely
Kenneth G. Spencer

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN



KNOW YOUR STATE'S ACCIDENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

THEY MUST BE REPORTED

American Trucking Association

Dear Sir:

Let's Be Smart February 29 — Pass The Hospital Bond Issue! Bring in The Bulldozer and tear down the old 1920 Central Unit.

Let's erect a modern fire-proof building for Shelby and Cleveland County!

How can our capable doctors and staff give their best service with these antiquated facilities?

Why pay out your money for such out-moded accommodations?

What if there were a fire and your wife and baby were still in the Obstetrical wing?

What if a major disaster or epidemic were to strike!!! And no beds available.

Why put it off and fail to get the Hill-Burton \$1,500,000 money while it is AVAILABLE!!!

My eyes were opened! I saw

children and mothers cramped without adequate facilities for giving proper and comfortable medical care.

It is of wooden structure throughout with shell of brick veneer. The electric wiring is obsolete and overloaded. The baths and toilets are inadequate, poor heating system and ventilation. Continual repair is necessary for old falling plaster and water seepage in basement has caused several repair jobs recently.

The children are placed in this unit Obstetric Department is here with delivery suite so old and out of date the physicians cannot use modern anesthesia. It would be a hazard.

When X-rays are made there is not waiting place for patients. It would be impossible for the doctors and nurse to handle a large emergency and a disaster would be tragic. The laboratory and Pharmacy are obsolete, so is the Admitting and Business Offices.

The bonds provide modern X-ray Department, Laboratories, Pharmacy, Emergency Rooms, Offices, Operating Rooms, 246 beds, parking areas, kitchen and modern food service.

We pay the bill. \$1,500,000 from Hill-Burton funds, thanks to hospital and manager. Many other cities want these monies, but do not have such great needs. \$1,500,000 in bonds tax us approximately \$1.25 per thousand dollars valuation.

\$500,000 is rightly being added to the \$1,500,000 for this area of Cleveland County. Hospital and health officials estimate this provides adequate service there.

LET'S PASS THE BOND ISSUE AND KEEP SHELBY IN STEP WITH PROGRESSIVE CLEVELAND COUNTY.

A. V. Nolan

Building On Increase

RALEIGH, Feb. 20 — January building permits totaled \$25,097,383 in 36 North Carolina cities of more than 10,000 population, the State Department of Labor reported today.

State Labor Commissioner Frank Crane said the first-month total was an all-time high for the month of January and was 22.8 per cent, or more than \$4,600,000, higher than the previous record total set in January last year.

Winston Salem led the cities with building permits for the month totaling \$10,990,640. Of this amount \$10,177,924 was a permit for construction of a new office building for the Northwest Corporation.

Charlotte was second with permits totaling \$2,249,615, Raleigh third with \$1,782,855, and Greensboro fourth with \$1,089,558.

January building permits for the other 32 cities of more than 10,000 population were: Albemarle \$11,430, Asheville \$83,400, Asheville \$301,899, Burlington \$388,576, Chapel Hill \$293,069, Concord \$213,026, Durham \$740,934, Elizabeth City \$253,000, Fayetteville \$778,387, Gastonia \$557,600, Goldsboro \$283,000, Greenville \$238,645, Henderson \$67,300, Hickory \$227,971, High Point \$692,290, Jacksonville \$6,000, Kinston \$286,135, Lenoir \$29,175, Lexington \$53,900, Lumberton \$101,400, Monroe \$35,100, New Bern \$14,000, Reidsville \$490,957, Roanoke Rapids \$102,921, Rocky Mount \$498,679, Salisbury \$679,881, Sanford \$31,850, Shelby \$183,946, Statesville \$112,600, Thomasville \$63,450, Wilmington \$48,575, Wilson \$84,500.

Musical authorities are in disagreement over who developed the first "modern violin," but the credit is generally given to Andrea Amati, who lived in Italy in the 16th century, and founded a family of famous violin-makers. According to the Book of Knowledge, the family's finest craftsman was Nicolo, who made the "grand Amati," owned by Paganini, and whose pupils included Antonio Stradivari and Andrea Guarneri.



John Warlick or Wesley Bush

about this question: "Most people have one attorney-one doctor-one dentist to serve them. If they likewise had one professionally-trained local independent insurance agent survey their risks and handle all their insurance, could they be more certain of adequate coverage with less overlapping of policies and expenses?"

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