

American Volunteer. Local Items. HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND VALLEY.

Through the efforts of Gov. Morris and his successor, Gov. Denny, twenty companies of militia, consisting of fourteen hundred men, were raised and equipped for the defense of the frontier. The second battalion of the Pennsylvania regiment, commanded by Lieut. Colonel John Armstrong, of Erie, Pa., was raised at Fort Mifflin, Pa., in 1762.

Speaking of Col. Armstrong, Dr. Duffield says: "I fell to the lot of the infant of the Cumberland valley, whose name became dear to the hearts of the American people, and whose zeal and courage, firing the spirit and directing the daring of the genius of Cumberland county, accomplished at Kittingau one of the most glorious deeds of retaliation which ever disgraced the pages of American history."

It was wisely determined that nothing should be done until the Indian troubles were so far advanced as to leave the Indian country and an indiscriminate slaughter of the inhabitants. This was the average mode of warfare, and the interests of humanity and civilization. Shortly before his retirement from office, Gov. Morris, in concert with Col. Armstrong, planned an expedition against the Indian town of Kittingau.

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At length, the army of the Cumberland valley, under the leadership of Col. Armstrong, moved towards the Indian town of Kittingau. The expedition was successful, and the town was destroyed. The Indian population was scattered, and the settlement of the Cumberland valley was advanced.

trusty weapons to see that they were ready for the fray. The dance suddenly ended, and one of the Indians gave a peculiar whistle, which Armstrong's men supposed to be a signal of the approach of the savages. The savages prepared himself for a sudden onslaught of the savage foe; but the French deserter, Baker, explained that the whistle was the manner in which an Indian called a squaw after the dance was done.

At length the fires burned low, and all was quiet. Armstrong now roused his men, some of whom, wearied by the long march, had fallen asleep. He directed a portion of them to fall upon the Indians sleeping in the corn field, and another portion to attack the houses which were then dimly seen in the early dawn. The attack began in the corn field, where a number of Indians were slain. The savages fled in confusion, and the army followed them to the Indian town of Kittingau.

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with, he consented to go with some of his men by a path to the place of rendezvous, but unfortunately they encountered the Indians who had defeated Lieutenant Hogg. Several whites were killed. Capt. Mercer was mounted on a horse, and he and his men fought bravely. The savages were routed, and the army moved on towards the Indian town of Kittingau.

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SPRING-TIME.—Nature has strange ways of doing beautiful things. Out of the oozy earth, the mud and rain of early spring, come the most delicate flowers, their white leaves, born out of the dirt, as unguilted and pure as if they had bloomed in the garden of Paradise. The flowers, warm, rattling spring rains, take the frost out of the ground, and "settle" the earth, and make the farmer think of the plough and the seed time. They start the birds to twitter among the budding buds, and awake the croakers of the swamp and wash the plumes of the ruffled plovers till they look new again. Everything seems to be getting ready to be beautiful. True, March may bluster a little, once or twice, but the lilies of the field will soon stand up, and the pastures will grow green along "the coming-plum brooks," and the violets will look up and catch the color of the blue skies overhead.

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