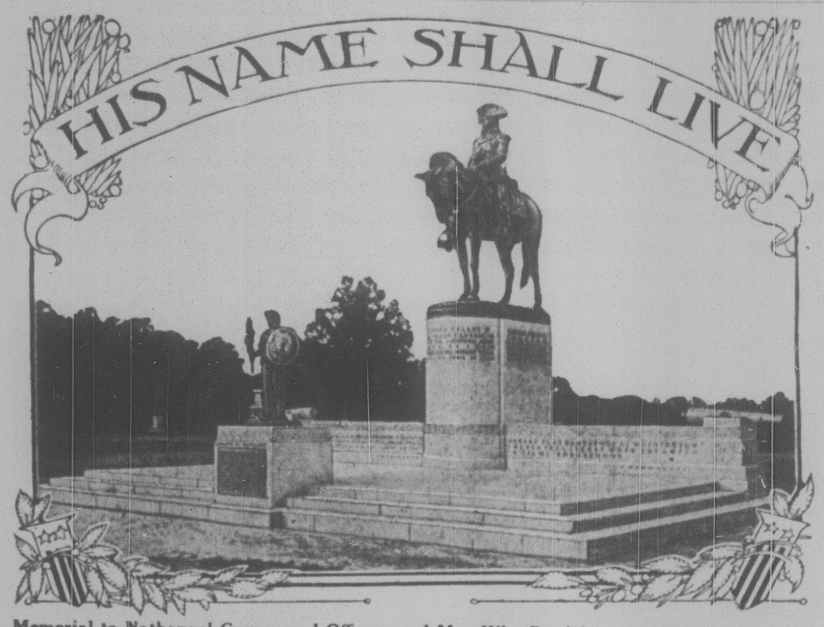


Memorial to Nathanael Greene and Officers and Men Who Participated in the Battle of Guilford Court House, North Carolina. The Monument Is Erected on What Is Now Known as the Guilford Court House Battle Ground.

Sharpshooters Important Arm of Patriot Army

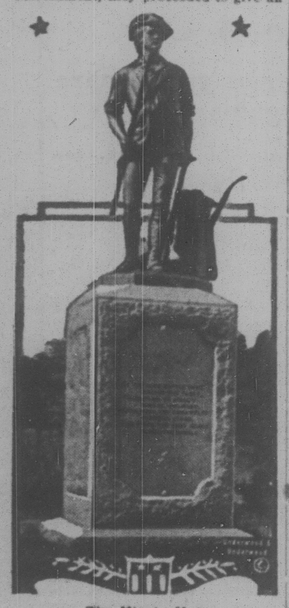
To the marksmanship of the Colonial sharpshooters is due a goodly portion of credit for the successful outcome of the war for American independence, though histories and books dealing with the subject make but slight reference to these backwoodsmen who rallied to the call and in many engagements turned into victory what would have been defeat for the regulars.

Washington well knew what the backwoodsmen could do, and when preparing for the seige of Boston probably remembered how the remnant of Braddock's 1,300 men had been saved at Fort Duquesne. For, about the first thing he did after taking command at Cambridge was to dispatch a hurry call into the West for riflemen! Couriers and messengers were sent into the Berkshires, the Cumberlands and the Alleghanies calling for every hunter, trailer, scout and pioneer to come to New England and get the honors that awaited them. They did come—1,300 came in response to Washington's call for 810 sharpshooters.

On the way east, these backwoodsmen gave exhibitions, according to orders, that recruiting for the Colonial army might be encouraged. At Boston, Washington had his 14,000 to 16,000 men, many of whose guns were of a bore so smooth and so huge that they were little better than blunderbusses, drawn up in two lines that they might witness the wonderful shooting of the frontier riflemen. In one exhibition a pole was set up and at a distance of 250 feet the riflemen simply riddled it. A rifleman, at the siege of Boston, discovering some red-coats on a scow in the harbor, spent the afternoon killing every mortal man in the party, Livingston Wright tells us in an article in Grit.

Wonderful Marksmanship.

A Pennsylvania contingent, coming east, stopped at a roadside well. After refreshment, they proceeded to give an



The Minute Man.

exhibition shoot. Before it started, a buzzard happened to be flying overhead and three men fired at it. A dispute arose as to who killed it, and inspection of the deceased scavenger revealed that all three balls had passed through it. At the beginning of the exhibition proper, two brothers stepped out. One took a piece of board 5 by 7 inches in size and, stooping over, held this board between his knees. The other brother stepped off 60 paces and put eight balls in succession through the board.

Is it any wonder that General Howe wrote to England about "the terrible guns" of the provincials? Orders went out in the British army to capture a rifleman alive, at all hazards. One was finally captured and sent to England, where he was made to perform, and his feats did more to retard recruiting than any other scheme that could have been conceived.

In many a Revolutionary sortie and general engagement it was the riflemen who formed the backbone of the Colonial forces. The momentous battle of Saratoga, which turned the tide

Merriam's Corner.

Here the sharpshooters finished the work of routing the red-coats as they fled from the raid on Concord.

of the Revolution and brought in France as an active, open participant against England, was won largely by the backwoods riflemen. Gen. Daniel Morgan is the boy who made your Saratoga. His wonderful guerilla campaigning throughout the Revolution led Frederick the Great to refer to him as "the greatest leader of light infantry in the world." With his organization which he called "the Virginia riflemen," Morgan maneuvered a series of engagements, that culminating in the victory of Stillwater, and together with the activities of the mountaineers of Ethan Allen, Seth Warner and John Stark, made the climax at Saratoga a decisive battle.

The Kentucky rifle, largely instrumental in winning the War of the Revolution, was the result of necessity for protection against Indians and the beasts of the wilds, compelling the backwoodsmen to devise an arm better than the matchlock, wheellock or flintlock. This remarkable weapon, with its five-foot barrel and slight, graceful stock, carrying a single buckshot, was so heavy that only a powerful man could use it. The weight, like all features of the instrument, was a device that the urgencies of the times demanded. The heavy barrel absorbed much of the noise and recoil.

The discovery of ramming a buckshot home in a bit of greased cloth or "patch," as it was called, had much to do with the winning of the Revolution. This simple, time-saving device of "the greased patch" was a stroke of genius closely allied with the gradual development of that peculiar instrument of death known as "the Kentucky rifle." Even in Revolutionary days it was a rare instrument, and when one was found its owner was invariably a rare type of man—a chap who was used to wading and swimming streams, going to bed under a cliff, fireless, foodless and followed usually by the remorseless Indian, as he was to having his unerring rifle in the finest possible condition.

Rifles Held as Heirlooms.

In the Kentucky rifle the American backwoods gunsmiths evolved a wonderful achievement, but they are rarely seen today. Antique shops do not know them at all and where one is occasionally found on the wall or over the mantel of some home in the Middle West, the South or the Southwest, it is not for sale. The head of the household will tell you "thet there weepin belongs to my oldest son an' air gwinter be handed down."

When the Pilgrims began to settle around Boston in 1630 the matchlock, wheellock and snaphance were the arms. These, with the later flintlock, were guns that comprise the period of American history from the Plymouth Rock days to the Revolution. The matchlock of Miles Standish was a cumbersome affair whose chief merit was the noise it made. The wheellock, snaphance and such were flimsy excuses over the bow and arrow. The flintlock was a good gun. In the Buckman tavern at Lexington, Mass., is an enormous, six-foot-barrel flintlock with which Capt. John Nopes fired across the Sudbury river and killed an Indian, a stupendously long shot for that period (1670). These were the guns of the Minute men and most of the regular troops of the Colonial army, the improved "Kentucky rifles" being used almost wholly by the backwoods sharpshooters, who made up in skill what they lacked in numbers.

Battle of Bennington

Near the town of Bennington, Vt., the Americans under Stark defeated the British under Baum and Freyman, on August 16, 1777.

Oh! Never may the purple stain
Of combat blot these fields again.
Nor this fair valley river-laved
To wear the placid smile of peace.

And men shall hold the memory dear
Of those who fought for freedom here,
And guard the heritage they won
While these green hillsides feel the sun.

—William Cullen Bryant.

SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN

Services Rendered by Haym Salomon Were Invaluable to the Revolutionary Cause.

It is unlikely that one person in a thousand has ever heard the name of Haym Salomon, a figure of importance in Revolutionary times, yet one who has been strangely neglected in our annals. Haym Salomon was a Polish Jew banker of New York and Philadelphia who financed and backed the new United States in their fight for self-government. His services have been ignored for nearly 150 years, his name, although appearing in the encyclopedias and in President Madison's correspondence to Randolph and in congressional records, also being mentioned in a few histories, is practically unknown. Haym Salomon was born in Lissa, Poland, in 1740. He came to America in 1772 and was identified with the cause of American independence. In 1776 he was imprisoned by the British on a charge of espionage, and although a prisoner, succeeded in stirring up sedition among Hessian officers. Two years later he escaped to Philadelphia, where he became an agent of Robert Morris and succeeded in obtaining large sums from Holland and France for the conduct of the American war. Salomon loaned Morris about $600,000 of his own money for the patriot cause, and at his death in 1785 $400,000 of this had not been returned. In addition he supplied funds to Jefferson, Madison, Randolph, and other patriot leaders. Haym Salomon died at the age of forty-five in Philadelphia, leaving a widow and two small children. All his papers and the documents showing the government's obligation were lost in the confusion following the occupation of Washington by the British in 1814.

First Continental Congress.

The first Continental congress was held at Philadelphia September 5, 1774. It voted not to obey the recent acts of parliament; protested against standing armies being kept in the colonies without consent of the people; sustained Massachusetts in her resistance, and agreed to hold no intercourse with Great Britain

PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

Admitting that he struck his mother in the head with eight plates, Lewis Brown, aged 17, of Uniontown, was held for examination.

Anthony Dean, 35 years old, injured at Packer No. 2 colliery, died at the State Hospital, Shenandoah.

The appointment of James N. Rule, Washington, as deputy superintendent of public instruction is announced by Dr. J. George Becht, superintendent of public instruction. Rule had been second deputy under Thomas E. Finegan. Berkey Hood, secretary of property and supplies, announced the appointment of Joel B. Rambo, Philadelphia, as assistant secretary. Mr. Rambo had been deputy superintendent of the department of public grounds and buildings, which was abolished by the reorganization code.

Lewis J. Bender, Jones county, Iowa, who left County fifty-one years ago with his parents and a yoke of ox team, returned to Bloomsburg recently for his first visit. He now is a man of 65 years.

The failure of a small bridge just west of Juniata crossing, Bedford county, caused the state highway department to issue a warning directing truck traffic to refrain from using that section of the Lincoln highway between Bedford and McConnellsburg. The department said it was possible to get touring traffic across the stream at this point, but if trucks are being turned back. The department said that westbound traffic should follow the William Penn highway to Ebensburg, Johnstown and Jennertown, thence into Pittsburgh over the Lincoln Highway. Eastbound traffic will reverse this route.

Samuel C. Todd, former executive clerk for the secretary of the commonwealth has been appointed western representative of the state chamber of commerce with headquarters in Pittsburgh.

It cost McAndrew of Blackwood, $10 fine and his temporary liberty for calling District Attorney Palmer at Bar while the latter was addressing a jury in a case in which McAndrew was a witness in Pottsville. Judge Bechtel imposed a fine and as McAndrew did not have the money he was taken to jail until it is paid.

Charged with having defrauded Mrs. Ida Frantz, of Monessen, out of $37,000 in a stock deal, two men giving their names as William A. Benjamin and H. C. Johnson, of Philadelphia, were arrested and committed to the county jail in Pittsburgh in default of $25,000 each. The police are looking for a third man in connection with the case, said by the district attorney's office to be Robert D. Adair, of Philadelphia. Mrs. Frantz told District Attorney Gardner that a man named Adair sold her $15,000 worth of stock more than a year ago and later introduced her to Benjamin, to whom she paid $5000. When she complained about receiving no dividends, according to her story, Benjamin offered to sell her stock at a profit and she gave him a block to sell. From that deal, she alleged she heard nothing.

Preparations were completed by state legal forces to file an appeal to the supreme court from the decision of the Dauphin county court in the test action instituted to determine the constitutionality of the Buckman law, passed by the recent legislature, under which, submission to the voters of constitutional amendments would be permitted in odd-numbered as well as even-numbered years. The action was brought by Attorney General Woodruff in behalf of a state automobile organization against Secretary of State and Finance King for a writ of mandamus directing the secretary to advertise constitutional amendments in odd-numbered years. The Dauphin judges issued the writ.

Forest receipts for May were $10,150, State Forester Stuart announced. This is the largest amount received for one month in the history of the department. The state forest commission at its monthly meeting approved the application of W. K. Weatherill, of Wynnewood, to have 55 acres of land in Lower Merion township, Montgomery county, classified as an auxiliary forest reserve. Experts from the department of forests and waters believe they have found the largest black gum tree in Pennsylvania. The tree stands in a tract of virgin timber near Milroy and is ten feet in circumference at breast height, is 95 feet high and is clear of branches for more than fifty feet from the base.

Governor Pinchot, in an address to the graduates of the Soldiers' Orphans Industrial School, in Chambersburg, stressed the importance of having one ideal in life and pursuing that assiduously. Other speakers were Lieutenant Governor Davis and Adjutant General Beary. The fourteen graduates participated in drills held later in the day.

Swooping down upon the Moose clubroom in Connellsville, state troopers found a complete barroom in operation.

Slipping from a high rock, Helen Bentler, 14 years old, of Daleville, fell into Lake Henry, near Scranton, and was drowned.

For the first time in many years a Fayette county man has been charged with horse stealing. Albert Inks is accused of stealing a horse on one of the main streets of Uniontown and driving it to Gibbons' Glade, where he is alleged to have sold the animal for $5.

The dedication of the new beef cattle barn at the college agricultural school at State College took place in the presence of hundreds of farmers and boys and girls here for the annual Farmers' Day. Dean Watts had charge of the ceremony, in which the keys were turned over to the college trustees represented by E. S. Bayard, of Pittsburgh. President Thomas accepted them in behalf of the college and Professor W. H. Tomhave for the department of animal husbandry. Addresses were made by Deputy Secretary of Agriculture J. M. McKee and W. H. Pew, of Ravenna, Ohio.

While cleaning out a smoke stack at the Chester Hospital, workmen found the skeleton of a carrier pigeon, with an aluminum ring bearing the notation, "A. U. 21 B. 1497," on its foot.

The long-expressed desire of the Pottsville chamber of commerce for a big new fireproof hotel for that city was realized when Doutrich & Co. announced their intention to build an eight-story hotel over a new store. The firm has purchased the Schuylkill Trust company's building on North Center street, which will be torn down to make room for the new structure.

After lying unidentified in the Pittsburgh morgue after he was killed by lightning as he sought refuge under a tree in North Park, Robert Marston, of Manchester, N. H., was recognized by Edward Mart, with whom he had lived for a year.

Governor Pinchot announced the appointment of Samuel W. McCulloch, of Harrisburg, as insurance commissioner. He had been acting commissioner, and prior to that served as deputy commissioner for a number of years. Appointment of Alvin M. Whitney, of Coudersport, formerly examiner in the banking department, as third deputy commissioner of banking under the reorganization, also was announced. Captain John W. Morrison has been reappointed first deputy and Charles P. Graeff second deputy.

City Commissioner Bence Keatley, of Altoona, has solved the problem of the high cost of crushed stone. He has opened the city's quarry at Canan station and believes he can produce stone for the streets at one-half the price he would have to pay in the open market.

Harry Andrewshyon, of Frackville, 41 years old, was instantly killed when a new automobile he was driving went over a twenty-five foot embankment.

When his foot slipped while roofing his garage at Northumberland, Cyrus Eby rolled to the ground and suffered two broken ribs.

While picking cherries at his home in Conroy township, Lancaster county, Frank Nagle fell from the tree, breaking an arm and a leg.

More than $12,000 in mercantile taxes for Northumberland county has been paid into the office of the county treasurer.

Deer are becoming so tame that even passing automobiles in the vicinity of Franklin fail to scare them. Twice within the last three days deer have made their appearance on farms fronting improved roads.

A woman and two children were badly burned and the house wrecked when a twenty-gallon whisky still exploded in the cellar of the home of Mrs. Mary Stechnack, in West Scranton. Mrs. Stechnack was burned on the body and face and her children, Edward, 9 months old, and Anne, aged 19 months, who were on the first floor, were burned on the hands and legs.

Deputy Sheriff W. B. McCool, of Pottsville, started collecting fines imposed on a number of members of the local Pennsylvania national guard for failure to attend drills. The fines were imposed by the colonel of the regiment only after ample warning. One soldier was sentenced to serve five days in jail, having not only failed to attend drill, but not even showing up at the court-martial ordered in his case.

An unidentified child was killed by lightning and a tank in the Butler street plant of the Atlantic Refining company at Pittsburgh, was fired during a terrific thunderstorm there. The tank was filled with refined oil. Efforts of a large force of firemen were required to prevent the spread of the flames to other tanks in the vicinity.

Taking refuge from a severe electrical storm under a cherry tree, while en route to him home in New Castle from his work, Gaitano Benardelli was killed when the tree was struck by a bolt of lightning. Aside from a slight singeing of the hair, the body was unmarked, when discovered by his wife. His widow and three children survive.

A bond issue of $20,000 to replace bonds issued thirty years ago and forgotten was sold by the Danville council to the Danville National Bank.

R. Carroll Engle, for a number of years teller of the First National Bank of Marietta, was elected cashier to succeed Henry S. Rich, who held the office 25 years.

Representing Pittsburgh and Detroit manufacturers, two men have obtained options on 1000 acres of land at Tipton.

Struck on the head with a pick handle, John Kish, of Maxwell, was robbed of $135 by a white man and two negroes.

Albert Mearita, of Masontown, attempted to swim the Monongahela river at Martin and drowned.

While hundreds of persons looked on, Arthur Swensen, a victim of poison gas in the world war, leaped to his death from the roof of a Pittsburgh department store.

After thirteen years of service in the Shippen School for Girls in Lancaster, Miss Emily Underhill has resigned.

Juniata Blair is the name given a waif found abandoned on a porch chair at the Children's Home at Williamsburg.

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Four-Pass. Sedanette	850	Utility Express Truck Chassis	575

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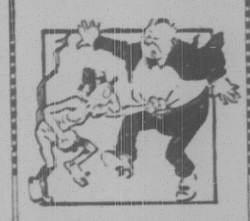

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