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THE EARLY WESTWARD MOVEMENT OF VIRGINIA, 1722-1734.

As Shown by the Proceedings of the Colonial Council.

Edited and Annotated by Charles E. Kemper, Washington, D. C.

Nov. 5, 1724.

On reading this day at the Board Sundry Depositions taken before the Justices of Spotsylvania County against a Saponie Indian named Sawnie lately return'd from Canada, whereby it appears that the said Indian did behave himself very insolently threatening the Inhabitants with a speedy Incursion of the French Indians,¹ and the said Indian being examined in

¹It is probable that the Indians concerned in this affair belonged to the Five Naions. Certain tribes living in Canada were largely under the influence of this confederacy, but it does not seem possible that they would be permitted to penetrate so far to the south through territory entirely within the jurisdiction of the Iroquois.

At this date the Saponi Indians were living at Fort Christanna, Brunswick county, Va. Their original habitat was on the Yadkin river in Western North Carolina, near the base of the Blue Ridge. They were driven from this place about the year 1703 by the Iroquois. (Byrd,
Council did acknowledge that he was taken by the French Indians, and carried into Canada about two years ago. That he had been with the said French Indians in an Incursion on the people of New England but that last Summer he was permitted to go to Albany in company with some of the said French Indians, from whence by the Favour of Capt. Collins [and] the Officers of the Fort there, he had liberty to return to Virginia; and the said Indian alleg'd whatever he said at Germanna in the County of Spotsylvania was spoken whilst he was in Drink. And being examined if he brought any message from the French Indians to the Saponies or any other of the Tributarys or if he intended to return to Canada as he had formerly given out, he deny'd both. But forasmuch as it appears to this Board that the said Indian hath by his speeches & actions given just cause of Suspicion of his ill Intentions It is Ord'd that he be committed to prison there to remain until farther Orders unless the Great Men of his Nation shall engage for his good behavior, and that he shall not depart out of this Government or hold correspondence with any Foreign Indians. And the Interpreter is directed to signify to the Saponie Nation the Terms upon Wh th they may have the said Indian delivered to them.

MAY 4th, 1725.

The Governor communicating to the Council the advices he has received that on the 26th of last month divers Indians plundered the Quarters of Mr. John Taliaferro near the great

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History of the Dividing Line, 1728, p. 8.) About 1740 they removed from Virginia to Pennsylvania and settled at Shamokin, which is the present site of Sunbury. (Mooney, The Siouan Tribes of the East, Bureau of American Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, 1894, pp. 50-51.) They were finally adopted by the Cayuga tribe and removed to New York. The Saponi were described as “the honestest and bravest Indians Virginia ever knew.” A later Council Order seems to indicate that at least a portion of the tribe went south and joined the Catawbas.
mountains in Spotsylvania County and committed divers other outrages to the persons & goods of sundry of the Inhabitants there and particularly some of the Guns belonging to and mark'd with the name of Spotsylvania County and that one John a Nottoway Indian was amongst the said Indians, It is ordered that it be referred to Colo. Harrison to make enquiry which of the Nottoway Indians or other Tributaries have been out ahunting about that time and to give order for a search to be made for the Guns and other goods so carried away, & if he finds any of the said Tributaries have been concerned therein that he cause them to be secured & sent to Wmsburg in order to their being punished. And for the better securing the Inhabitants from the like insult for the future, It is ordered that a Warrant be prepared for the Governor's signing, empowering & requiring the commanding Officer of the Militia in Spotsylvania County, on notice given to him of the insolencies offered by any Indians to order out

This Order throws a clear light upon conditions which prevailed in Piedmont Virginia only fifty years prior to the commencement of the Revolution, and strikingly illustrates the slow westward movement of the Colony during that period. One hundred and eighteen years had elapsed since the founding of Jamestown, and the country at the base of the Blue Ridge was still open to Indian incursions.

The tradition has lingered in Madison county that the first Germans who settled there in 1724-'25 occasionally suffered from Indian depre-dations, and it is said that the last person killed by them in that locality resided near the present site of New Hope church. (Slaughter, History of St. Mark's Parish, p. 46.)

John Taliaferro, here mentioned, belonged to the well-known Virginia family of that name. He was, as has been seen, one of the first justices of Spotsylvania. His will was probated in that county Aug. 7, 1744, and to his son Lawrence he devised 1,200 acres on the Robinson river; and here probably the Indian outrages mentioned in this Order occurred. (Spotsylvania County Records, New York, 1905, Vol. I., p. 7.)

Colonel Nathaniel Harrison is doubtless the person referred to in this Order. He was a member of the Governor's Council, accompanied Governor Spotswood to New York when the Treaty of Albany (1722) with the Five Nations was concluded, and is mentioned in the act establishing Brunswick county.
parties of the Militia to seize and apprehend all such as shall be found ranging in those parts whither (whether) they be Tributaries or foreign Indians. And in case any such be of the five Nations and have not such a passport as is prescribed by the late articles of peace that the said Commanding Officer cause every such Indian to be conveyed to Wmsburg there to be proceeded against according to the late Act of Assembly for enforcing the Treaties made with foreign Indians. And in case any such Indian shall resist, the Officers of the Militia to whom such resistance shall be offered are to subdue them by force.

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November 5th, 1725.

Whereas by Orders of their Excellencies the Lords Justices his Mat' pleasure hath been signified to allow any person desiring the same one thousand acres of land in the counties of Brunswick & Spotsylvania 8 free from the purchase of Rights or payment of Quit Rents for the term of seven years, to be computed from the first of May 1721, The Governor with the advice of the Council is pleased to order that the Surveyors of the said counties be, and are hereby impowered to receive Entries from any person not having taken the benefit of the like indulgence before, any quantity of land, not exceeding a Thousand acres to be granted by patent without purchase of Rights, but if any one shall be desirous of a greater quantity in either of those counties, the said Survey-

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8Notwithstanding the encouragement given to persons intending to settle in the frontier counties of Brunswick and Spotsylvania, their development was slow. As we have seen, the first term of the Brunswick county court was not held until 1732, on account of the sparseness of population. Spotsylvania developed more rapidly, chiefly because it was pierced by the Rappahannock and its tributaries, and the movement of population from Tidewater went up the valley of that river to the fertile lands of the Piedmont section. Even with these advantages, its progress was slow. In the first decade of its history only 316 deeds were admitted to record. (Spotsylvania County Records, New York, 1905, pp. 88-121.)
ors are not to receive Entries for the same without the usuall license from this Board, and producing Rights for the whole quantity so entitled for.

A form of the patents to be granted for lands in the counties of Brunswick & Spotsylvania without Rights or payment of Quitt Rents was this day laid before the Board and approved.

FEB. 1, 1726.

On reading at the Board a letter from his Excell[ey] Will[m] Burnet, Esq., Governor of New York together with a transcript of the late conference between him and the Sachims of the five Nations touching a complaint made from hence of a murder committed by some of their Nation on one of the Inhabitants of this Colony last summer at which conference the said Sachims acknowledged that the said murder was committed by some of their people in conjunction with some French Indians and Tuscaruroues who they pretend were in pursuit of certain Indian enemies who fled towards the house

4The Treaty of Albany was not entirely effectual in protecting the tributary Indians of Virginia and did not end the long warfare between the southern Indians and the Iroquois. It also seems to have left unsettled in the minds of the Six Nations their claim to the country west of the Blue Ridge, and in 1744 a conference was held with them at Lancaster, Pa. The conference convened on June 22, and was attended by Governor Thomas, of Pennsylvania, Hon. Edmund Jennings, and Philip Thomas, Esq., of Maryland, and the Honorables Thomas Lee and William Beverley, of Virginia. The Six Nations were represented by a number of deputies.

The Indians strongly asserted their ownership of all the territory in Virginia west of the Blue Ridge, and when the Virginia Commissioners demanded to know by what right this claim was made, one of the Indian chiefs replied: "We have the right of Conquest—a right too dearly purchased and which cost us too much Blood to give up without any reason at all, as you say we have done at Albany. All the World knows we conquered the Several Nations living on Susquehanna Cohongoranta, and at the back of the Great Mountains." He mentioned four tribes which they had conquered in that territory, and gave their Indian
of the person murthered, and that thereupon the Indians in firing killed the said person by mistake, and hoped that this Government would excuse it. The Council taking the same in consideration are of opinion that the Treaty of peace made

names. In reply, the Virginia Commissioners asserted that if such was the case the Five Nations had never occupied the country and had laid no claim to it until about eight years before (1736), and that when the whites commenced to settle there “that part was altogether deserted and free for any people to enter upon.”

The Indians finally relinquished their claim to that great section of country in Virginia between the Blue Ridge and the Ohio river. The consideration which they received was 400 pounds, one half of which was paid in goods and the remainder in gold. The Indians also complained because they had been obliged to remove their trail to the south through the Valley of Virginia so much further to the west, and stated that it was then at the foot of the “Great Mountains” (Alleghanies), and asked that they be allowed to use “the road which was last made (the wagon road), and to this the Virginia Commissioners assented. (For Treaty of Lancaster, see Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, 1851, Vol. IV., pp. 698-737.)

The great war trail of the Five Nations to the south started at Tioga, in western New York, and, descending the north branch of the Susquehanna, passed through Pennsylvania, Maryland, and the Valley of Virginia. (Morgan, League of the Iroquois, Rochester, New York, 1851, p. 438; work rare, copy in Congressional Library.) The road selected by them at the Lancaster conference is shown on Fry and Jefferson’s map of Virginia (1751), and was called “The Great Road from the Yadkin river thro’ Virginia to Philadelphia, distant 435 miles,” and in territory now embraced within the limits of Rockingham county, it bears this legend, “Indian Road by the Treaty of Lancaster.” This road crossed into Virginia from Maryland at Williams Ferry (now Williamsport, Md.), and passed through Winchester and Staunton. At the latter place it turned westward and skirted the North mountains in present Rockbridge county. James river was crossed at Looney’s Ferry, and then the route was to the south diagonally across the upper Valley, passing near the present site of Roanoke, Va. The Blue Ridge was crossed through the water gap of the Staunton or Roanoke river, and the road then turned to the southwest and ended at the Yadkin river.

The same map also shows a section in old Hampshire county, Va., marked “Indian Road,” some miles to the westward of the south branch of the Potomac, but its course is not delineated.
with the said Northern Indians will be rendered altogether ineffectual if such excuses as this shall be accepted for the murder of his Maj's subjects, since these Indians may always find the like pretence for coming into this Government contrary to the express words of the Treaty, and that therefore it is fit that the Governor of New York be desired to interpose his authority with the said Indians for obliging them to deliver up the person or persons guilty of the said murder in order to be punished as the crime deserves, and it is ordered that a letter be prepared accordingly.

Nov. 2, 1726.

Sundry patents for land were read and granted as follows:

Thomas Chew 1600 acres above the little mountains in Spotsylvania County.

Whereas divers murders have been lately committed on the Frontiers of this Colony wherein the Nottoway Indians are greatly suspected to have been the actors and the said Indians by their late behaviour rendering it highly necessary that a strict watch be kept on their motions to prevent the like mischiefs for the future, this board have therefore thought fit to order that none of the said Indians do hereafter depart out of the bounds of the lands appropriated for them without a pass from Nathan Harrison, Esq., who is hereby impowered

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5The home of the Nottoway Indians was in southeastern Virginia on the Nottoway and Black Water rivers. (Mooney, p. 7.) In 1744 they were much reduced in numbers by sickness and other casualties, and the General Assembly passed an act authorizing the sale of their lands on the south side of the Nottoway river in Isle of Wight county, Va. At that time their possessions had been reduced to a tract of land six miles square. The Nansemond Indians are mentioned in the same act, and 300 acres of land belonging to them in the county which bears their name were directed to be sold. This latter tract was described as being adjacent to "Buck-Horn swamp." The recitals in the act indicate that these ancient tribes were rapidly nearing extinction in 1744. (Hening's Statutes, Vol. V., pp. 270-273.)
to grant such passes from time to time to such number and with such limitations of time and place as he shall judge fit, and he is hereby further authorized & empowered to appoint a proper person to repair once a week or as often as it shall be thought convenient to the Nottoway Town, & there examine whether any of the said Indians be absent from thence without such pass as is herein before directed, and also to enquire whether the said Indians are gone & if those that have passes do keep within the bounds prescribed therein; of all which the person so appointed is to make a true report to the end that if any murders shall be hereafter committed by any of that Nation, the same may be better detected & punished.

FEB. 16, 1727.

Whereas some doubt hath been made whether the exemption from purchasing Rights granted by his late Mat7 to the persons taking up lands in the counties of Brunswick and Spotsylvania doth extend to lands which shall be surveyed but not patented before the first of May next. It is the opinion of this Board that the said exemption doth extend to all lands actually survey'd in the said counties before the first day of May next, tho' patents shall not be passed for the same and the Surveyors of the said counties are to cause the said surveys to be returned into the Secretary's office with all convenient speed.

OCT. 17, 1727.

Whereas the Board is inform'd that the Inhabitants of this Colony near Roanoak had lately been infested with a company of the Cattawba Indians* who had committed sev1 Robberies

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*The original home of the Catawba Indians was on the river which bears their name, close to the boundary line between North and South Carolina. Their largest village was in the present county of York in the latter State. (Mooney, pp. 70-71.) They seem to have been the bravest and most enterprising of all the southern tribes, sometimes going as far north as Pennsylvania to wage war with the Five Nations.

Kercheval makes frequent reference to this tribe as participants in battles fought with the northern Indians in the Valley of Virginia.
upon them, and that they expected they would return soon with a more considerable number and do more mischief, not only to the English Inhabitants, but to the Tributary Indians; and that there was some reason from their insolent behavior of late, to apprehend they design'd to take possession of Christiana Fort in which there are several Cattawbas at this time, and that they will do other acts of Hostility, Colonel Harrison is

prior to the coming of the whites. However, he gives no dates; the localities are not fixed with exactness; his accounts rest entirely upon tradition, and most of them are vague in one respect or another. (Kercheval, History of the Valley, 2nd ed., 1850, pp. 29-34.) He invariably states that the northern Indians engaged in this warfare were Delawares, but the Council Orders and authorities cited in these notes make it certain that they belonged to the Five Nations. He says that the battle of Hanging Rocks was fought by the Catawbas and the Delawares, but Schnell, the Moravian missionary, who passed the spot in 1749 states that the Mohawks and Catawbas were the opposing tribes in that engagement. (Virginia Magazine, Vol. XI., p. 118.)

A preceding note shows that the Five Nations exercised jurisdiction over all that portion of Virginia lying to the westward of the Blue Ridge, and that their war trail to the south passed through this section. The Iroquois were not always successful in their forays against the southern tribes. In a letter from William Keith, then Governor of Pennsylvania, dated July 19, 1720, addressed to the Governor of New York concerning Indian affairs, the following passage occurs: "For the southern Indians being at last provoked beyond measure, came out this spring to meet the Mighty Warriors of your Five Nations, and pursued them with slaughter almost as far as the Potomeck river." (Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, Vol. III., pp. 99-100.) This battle is probably one of the traditional engagements mentioned by Kercheval.

In a letter dated Jan. 25, 1719-'20, Governor Spotswood addressed a vigorous remonstrance to the President of the Council of New York concerning the conduct of the Five Nations. stating that they had assisted the Tuscaroras in Virginia in 1712-'13; that in 1717 a large body of them passed to the south on the east side of the Blue Ridge, and proceeding to the Catawba country, had fallen upon those Indians, capturing a large number of them. The letter also declares that the settlers on the frontiers of Virginia were suffering great annoyance at the hands of the Five Nations, and if the Governor of New York did not restrain them, the Virginians would do so, even if an Indian war resulted. (Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, Vol. III., pp. 82-89.)
desired to take such measures as he shall think most expeditious for protecting the Frontiers against the Invasions of those Indians.

_Oct. 22, 1729._

An order of his Majesty in his privy council bearing date the 1st of Feb^7^ 1728 Whereby his Majesty is graciously pleased to Order & direct that fifty nine thousand seven hundred and eighty-six acres of Land in Spotsylvania County held by Coll. Alex' Spotswood by a defective Title be regranted to him by Patent upon his procuring Rights for the same & declaring his Majesties pleasure that the same Exemption from payment of quit Rents be extended to the said Lands as was granted by his late Majesty to the Patentees of a thousand acres of Land in the same county whereupon it being propos'd to the consideracon of the Board how far other persons having large Tracts of Land in the afs'd county for w'ch no Rights were paid or produced at the time of the Grant ought to be charged agreeable to his Majestie's Intentions it is resolved and ordered That Coll. Spotswood ought to produce Rights & pay Quit rents for the full Quantity of Land men'cond in the above Order of his Maj^y^ in Council the Sd Quit rents to be accounted from the first day of May 1728 & that the same be demanded accordingly.

That for all the other large Tracts of Land taken up in the said county & not within the benefit of his late Majesties Bounty an Immediate Demand be made of the Rights for the same which ought to have been & were not paid at the time of the Grant excepting always such of the said Lands as have been since lapsed & granted to other patentees when his Majesty hath been satisfied for the rights thereof.

That in like manner where the first Patentees have continu'd hitherto in possession of their several Tracts the Quit Rents for the same be demanded from the first day of May 1728 but forasmuch as the Sd Patentees have been already recommended to his Majesties favour in relacon to the Arrears accrued before the first day of May It is resolved that the De-
mand of the Arrears be Suspended until his Majesties pleasure be known.

Whereas the Catawbow Indians have by some of the Indian traders signified their Desire to enter into a Treaty of Friendship with this Government.

Its the Opinion of this Board that the Sd Indians be encouraged in their good Inclination and for that purpose be invited to repair hither at the next General Court. But in case the Sd Treaty take effect it is insisted that the said Cattawbaw Indians shall undertake for the peaceable behaviour of the Sapony Indians who have lately deserted their settlement in this Colony & Joined themselves to the Sd Cattawbaw Indians.

Oct. 25th, 1729.

On reading at this [Board a] L're from Coll. Montgomery Governor of New York with a Transcript of a conference held the 21st July last between the Commissioners for Indian affairs at Albany and some of the Chiefs of the Oneidas, wherein the

It is not definitely known whether the Treaty contemplated by this Order was concluded, but at a later period the Catawbas became the firm friends of the Virginia Government. They aided the colonies in the war against the Tuscaroras (1711-13) and participated on the English side in the French and Indian War. During the Revolution they stood with the Whigs of South Carolina in their great struggle against British invasion and occupation. (Mooney, p. 72.)

The inveterate hostility between the Catawba Indians and the Five Nations was indirectly the cause of an encounter between the white settlers of the upper Valley and the latter tribes, which for a time threatened to involve the western border of Virginia in an Indian war. The Treaty of Lancaster settled the Indian claim to the country west of the Blue Ridge and amicably adjusted the still more serious question of peace or war with the Iroquoian League. In December, 1742, a party of Indians belonging to this confederacy were on their way south to engage the Catawbas, when a battle between them and the white settlers took place in the present county of Rockbridge, then Augusta, near Balcony Falls, on the north branch of the James river. The true history of this fight is of considerable historical importance, because it was the first battle of which there is record between the whites and
Sd Indians complain that a considerable number of their Nation have been lately killed & taken prisoners by the Virginia Indians & designing reparacon. But it appearing to this Board by several late accounts brought by the Indian Traders that

Indians in all the vast territory then belonging to Virginia west of the Blue Ridge. Waddell gives an interesting account of this engagement, based on a letter written in 1808 by Judge Samuel McDowell, son of Captain John McDowell, who was killed in the action. He states, however, upon the authority of Judge McDowell, that the Indians engaged were Delawares, which was not the case. (Waddell, Annals of Augusta County, 2nd ed., 1902, pp. 46-47.) There is in existence a copy of a letter written on the same day of the engagement, which sheds new light upon the affair. This letter seems to have escaped the notice of all historians of the Virginia Valley. The following is a literal copy:

"Augusta County, 18 Dec., 1742.

Hon'd Sir

A parcel of Indians appeared in hostile manner among us, killing and carrying off horses, etc. Captain John Buchanan and Captain John McDowell came up with them this day and sent a man with a signal of peace to them, which man they killed on the spot and fired on our men which was returned with bravery, in about 45 minutes the Indians fled leaving eight or ten of their men dead on the spot, and eleven of our men are dead, amongst which is Captain McDowell. We have sundry wounded. Last night I had an account of the Indians' behaviour and imidiately traveled towards them with a party of men and came up within two or three hours after the battle was over. I have summoned all the men in our county together in order to prevent them from doing any further damage and (but by God's assistance) to repel them force by force. We hear of many Indians on our frontiers. I beg your Honour's Directions and Assistance both as to ammunition and men. The particulars of the battle and motions of the enemy I have not now time to write you.

I am, Yr Honour's M't Obedt Serv't.

James Patton.

P. S.

There are some white men supposed to be French amongst the Indians. Our people are uneasy but full of spirits and hope their behavior will show it for the future, not being any way daunted by what has happened.

To the Honorable Will'm Gooch Esq', &ca."

(Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York, Albany, 1855, Vol. VI., pp. 230-31.)
the attack defeat given to the said Onyedo was by the Cattabaw Indians on above Towns the said Onydes had made a secret attack and in the retreat were fallen upon by the Cattabaw Indians without the Intervention of any of the Indians.

Until the discovery of this letter it was not known that Captain Buchanan commanded one of the companies engaged in this battle. Governor Gooch at once communicated with Lieutenant Governor Clarke of New York, by letter dated Jan. 3, 1742-3, and Col. Patton's letter as given above was transmitted as an enclosure. Governor Gooch solicited the good offices of Governor Clarke in bringing the perpetrators of this outrage to justice, and the interpreter to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs of New York, was at once sent to the Six Nations. He obtained no satisfaction, the Indians claiming that the whites had been the aggressors. They also stated that there was one half-breed in the party, but no white men. The Six Nations were restless at the time, and the authorities of New York were apprehensive of the result. (Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York, Vol. VI., pp. 230-242.)

In the meantime Governor Gooch had also communicated with Governor Thomas of Pennsylvania, who undertook to act as mediator in order to avert an Indian war. Conrad Weiser, the celebrated interpreter and Indian agent of Pennsylvania, was sent to the Six Nations. His Report to the Governor of Pennsylvania, and Journal of his visit to the Iroquois, give a complete account of this affair from the Indian standpoint. Among other things, he took the testimony of an Indian who participated in the battle. This Indian stated, in substance, that the party consisted of twenty-two Onondaga and seven Oneida Indians. They passed peaceably through Pennsylvania where they were civilly treated, but the people of Virginia received them in a different spirit, refused to issue them a passport, and would not give them anything to eat. He also stated that game was scarce, and they would have starved if they had not killed a hog occasionally, which they did at Jonontore (Shenandoah). They were several times interrupted by the whites on their way up the Valley, but avoided difficulties with them, being on their way south to fight the Catawbas. They had rested two nights and one day near the place where the fight occurred, and then resumed their march to the south, when a great number of white men on horses assailed them. Two Indian boys in the rear were fired upon, but not injured. The Indian captain, whose name was Jonnhaty (as given by Weiser), told his men not to fire, because the whites carried a white flag. The latter, however, fired again, killing two Indians on the spot. Their captain then told them to fight for their lives, which they did at close quarters with hatchets. The Indian claimed that the whites were worsted in the engagement, losing ten killed. He admitted an Indian
of this Colony. It is ordered that the same be signified to
the Governor of New York to prevent any Misunder-
standing with the Six Nations. But forasmuch as the Oneydes
seem principally concern'd to recover their prisoners out of
the hands of the Cattabaws, It is ordered that a Message be
sent to the Cattabaws to desire that the Sd Prisoners be del'd
up to this Government, as the surest means for their obtaining
a Peace with the Six Nations in which this Governm't will
Employ this Mediation.

APR. 29, 1730.

Whereas his Majesty by order in his privy Council bearing
date the 19th Novr MDCCXXIX having been graciously
pleased to declare & order that the remission of Rights which
by Order in Council on the 6th of Augt MDCCXXXIII was
granted to the two new counties of Brunswick & Spotsilvania for
seven years be understood to extend to all grants of Land in the
County of Spotsilvania not exceeding 6000 Acres including
therein the 1000 Acres allowed by the afs'd Order in Council
& that the Grantees be permitted to hold the same upon con-
dition that they do pay the seven years Quit Rents now in Ar-
rear but that whoever shall be desirous to hold more than six
thousand Acres shall be oblig'd to pay both the same Rights
& Quit Rents for ever(y) acre exceeding that Number, as
Lands in any other part of Virg* are liable to, & It is Ordered
that the officers of his Majesties Revenue demand as well the
Quit Rents now in Arrears as the Money due for the Rights

loss of only two killed and five wounded. He also stated that ten of
them went up the river to the mountains and were pursued by the
whites to the Potomac, narrowly escaping with their lives. The engage-
ment, he said, was fought near the river called "Galudoghson," which
was evidently the Iroquoian name for the north branch of the James.
Upon full investigation of the affair, Governor Thomas reached the
conclusion that the whites were the aggressors, and so informed Gov-
ernor Gooch, who waived the point and gave the Six Nations one
hundred pounds by way of reparation. The matter was finally adjusted
by the Treaty of Lancaster. (For Report and Journal of Conrad
Weiser, see Minutes of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, Vol.
IV., Harrisburg, 1851, pp. 640-646, 660-669.)
of all Tracts of Land exceeding the Quantity of six thousand acres held by any one Patentee in the Sd county pursuant to his Majesties Pleasure signified on the above recited Order and it is further Ordered that the former Order of this Board for Demanding the money due for Rights for the Sd Tracts of Land be as it is hereby revok'd and that all Bonds given in the Secretary's Office for paym't of the Rights for any Tracts of Land not exceeding the quantity of six thousand Acres be vacated.

On reading at this Board a report from R° Hicks & Daniel

8In July, 1712, Robert Hix, of Surry, and John Evans, David Crawley, Richard Jones, and Nathaniel Urven, of Prince George county, Va., received a license from Governor Spotswood to trade with the "Western Indians." They gave a penal bond of three hundred pounds not to trade with the Tuscaroras or any other Indians in league or alliance with them. (Calendar of Virginia State Papers, Vol. I., p. 155.) In his letter of Jan. 25, 1719-20, to the Governor of New York, Governor Spotswood stated that during the Tuscarora War (1711-1713) two hundred of the New York Indians had set upon and robbed a caravan of Virginia Indian traders as they were going south, killing one of them and nearly all of their horses. At the Treaty of Albany (1722) the Deputies of the Five Nations admitted that they had robbed "that honest man, Captain Hicks," and promised to make reparation.

Because of the numerous references made to the Iroquois in these notes, a brief statement concerning their history is deemed appropriate.

Mr. Mooney states, on page 21 of his learned essay, that this great Confederacy was formed about 1570, quoting J. N. B. Hewitt as authority. The League originally consisted of five tribes—the Mohawk, Seneca, Cayuga, Oneida, and Onondaga; hence their name, The Five Nations. They came in contact with the Virginia colonists at an early period. Col. Henry Coursey, representing Maryland and Virginia, first met them at Albany in 1677, but the agreement then made was not strictly observed by the Iroquois. In 1679, Col. William Kendall, as agent of Virginia, held a conference with them at the same place. This was followed by another conference also at Albany in 1684, in which Lord Howard of Effingham, then Governor of Virginia, participated. (Colden, History of the Five Nations, New York, ed. 1902, Vol. I., pp. 24-25, 31-32, 34-51.) The Treaty of 1722 has been mentioned, and this was followed by the Lancaster conference of 1744. Negotiations were also held with these tribes by the Virginia Government at the beginning of the French and Indian War.

In 1720 Governor Hunter, of New York, estimated the warriors of
Hicks who at the instance of the Governor of New York were sent to the Cattabaw Indians to demand the liberty of certain Prisoners of the five Nations taken by them. It appearing to the Board that the Sd Rob\textsuperscript{1} & Daniel have diligently p-formed the service req'd of them. It is therefore Ordered that there be p'd to each of them out of his Majesties Revenue of 2 $ p hhd the sum of thirteen pounds Curr\textsuperscript{4} Money for their Trouble in the Sd Service.

On the application of the Sheriffs of the counties of Hanover & Spotsilvania for a more suitable allowance to enable them to collect & make convenient the Quit Rent of tob.- arising in these counties many of the Plantations lying some sixty & eighty miles distant from Water Carriage. It is ordered that they be allowed 30 p Cent on all the Tobo they receive.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

VIRGINIA MILITIA IN THE REVOLUTION.

(continued)

Rogers, David, for pay, &c., of West Augusta Militia, P. Acco't, 5,995. 6. 11.
July 12. Randolph, Thomas, Paymas'r to the Amelia Min't Batt'n for pay, &c., P. Acco't, bal'd, 261. 2. 7.
Sep'r 1. Rives, Capt. George, for pay, &c., of his Comp'y of Sussex Militia, 111. 10. 5.
9. Royston, Capt. Peter, for Ditto Charles City Ditto, 96. 15. 11.

the Five Nations at 2,000. (New York Documents, Vol. VI., p. 557.) They were unquestionably the strongest family in every respect among the North American Indians. Governor Clinton, of New York, called them "The Romans of the West."