PIONEER
WEST VIRGINIA

By

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CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA
To the sturdy pioneers who faced the hardships of border life in western Virginia
this volume is dedicated
Numerous books on the history of West Virginia have been published. These have furnished a vast amount of information. But the average student of local history does not have access to the large libraries containing the state and county histories. In this volume the author has sought to help such students by collecting in a brief way every important fact that will help give a complete view of the pioneer history of West Virginia.

Beginning with the early settlements in Tidewater Virginia as background, the advancing pioneer explorers and settlers are followed in their westward movements through the Piedmont Region and over the mountains to the numerous valleys beyond.

The book contains an abundance of material that will prove helpful to students and teachers in their work in the middle grades and the high school. It is not burdened by biographies, but gives information on five hundred pioneer families.

In giving a brief history of each county the author has gone into every part of West Virginia, collecting much local history that had never been published.

*Pioneer West Virginia* is sent forth with the hope that it may help many who want to know more about the story of their State.

Josiah Hughes.
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PART ONE—THE MOVING VIRGINIA FRONTIER

The Aboriginal Inhabitants

When the first English settlers came to the territory now included in Virginia, it was occupied by an Indian population numbering approximately ten thousand, divided among many tribes, each of whom was ruled over by a chief. All the tribes belonged to the Algonquin family. Chief among these tribes and confederacies in or near Tidewater Virginia were the Powhatans, the Chickahominys, the Potomacs, the Susquehannocks, and the Pamunkeys. The earliest white settlers found all that part of Virginia below the falls of the rivers in possession of the Powhatan confederacy. The chief, Powhatan, dwelt sometimes on the York River, and sometimes at the falls of the James River, where Richmond now stands.

As settlements advanced westward the backwoodsmen came in contact with other confederacies and tribes. In the center of Virginia were the Manakins and the Mannahoacs; and still farther to the west, in the mountainous part of the State, lived the Shawnees, the Cherokees, the Tuscaroras, and other tribes. The Shawnees, in later years, had their principal villages east of the Alleghanies, near the present town of Winchester. The Cherokees of North Carolina and Tennessee were represented in Virginia by a few small units or tribes. The Tuscaroras, from North Carolina, lived within the limits of the present counties of Morgan, Berkeley, and Jefferson, West Virginia.

The First Frontier

The early history of the two Virginias is an account of a series of frontiers which the hand of the pioneer reclaimed
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from nature and the savage. It is the story of a long struggle between the Indian and the white man—the Indian fighting to retain his title to the soil, and the white man seeking possession of the land. The Indian based his claim on exclusive possession and use for his purposes, for hunting, for trading, and for subsistence. The white man based his claims solely on discovery.

The first frontier was at Tidewater. The first permanent settlement was at Jamestown, in 1607, which was also the first permanent English settlement in the United States. The settlement was located on the James River, about thirty-five miles above its mouth.

The First Two Years of the Jamestown Colony

At first the colony at Jamestown consisted of one hundred and five persons. The settlement was begun about the middle of May, when a few rude log cabins and a small fort were built. Food was procured from the Indians in exchange for hatchets, beads and other articles from England. Often ill treatment from the whites made the Indians angry and caused them to refuse to trade with their white neighbors.

Unfortunately the place selected for settlement was extremely unhealthful, and by September a large number of the settlers had died. Captain John Smith, a member of the council, by his good management saved the colony from ruin. More settlers came over in 1608. Meanwhile Smith and others of the colony explored the James River and other streams near by as far back as the fall-line, the line that marks the rapid falls where the streams cross the dividing line between the Piedmont belt and the Tidewater region. About the year 1609 a settlement was established where Richmond now stands, and another at Nansemond, near the present site of Norfolk. But these settlements were destroyed by Indians. In the summer of 1609 Smith was injured by an explosion of gunpowder and was so
forced to return to England. The next winter was long
known as “the starving time.” The arrival of a new gov­
ernor from England with settlers and a fleet of supply
ships saved the colony.

A Period of Progress

“The starving time” was followed by a period of progress.
About 1611 Henrico, a new settlement, was established on
James River above Jamestown. Within the next few years
several permanent settlements were made on this river be­
tween its mouth and the present site of Richmond. About
the same time settlers crossed the Chesapeake Bay and
formed settlements on its eastern shore.

Fortunately for the progress of the Virginia settlements
it was discovered that the soil is well suited to tobacco
culture. Tobacco could be raised cheaply, and sold at prof­
itable prices in Europe. In 1618 the managing company in
England adopted a new plan which gave tracts of land to
all free settlers. This caused many ambitious families to
emigrate to Virginia. Soon wealthy colonists were culti­
vating great plantations of tobacco, bordering on the banks
of the broad rivers for miles. The widespread cultivation of
tobacco created a demand for more laborers than the colony
could supply. When, in 1619, a Dutch man-of-war brought
twenty negroes to Jamestown, they were readily sold to
the planters. These negroes were held in a condition of
temporary servitude, as many whites were held.

The year 1619 marks the beginning of representative
government and civil liberty. Sir George Yeardley, the
governor, announced in that year that the company in Lon­
don had decided to invite the colonists to choose represen­
tatives to an assembly which should make the laws for
Virginia. The assembly was called the House of Burgesses.

In the year 1622, the Indians grew murderously hostile.
In that year they fell upon the colonists, killing, in all, three
hundred and fifty persons. But they were speedily punished.

Despite this serious setback, settlements continued to multiply rapidly. Shipbuilding and glassmaking became important industries. On the great plantations tobacco was the principal crop. In 1624 there were about one thousand three hundred colonists, all living on tidal waters and on or near the Chesapeake Bay. They were scattered throughout nineteen settlements, ranging in size from two houses and eight inhabitants to sixty-nine houses and two hundred and fifty-seven inhabitants.

In 1634 the first Virginia counties were laid out. The colony was divided into eight shires, or counties. Their names were Accomack, Charles City, Charles River (later York), Elizabeth City, Henrico, James City, Warrosquyoake (later Isle of Wight), and Warwick River.

The second great Indian massacre in Virginia occurred in 1644. Many of the colonists lost their lives. The Indians were severely punished, and were pushed farther back toward the mountains. The settlements continued to grow in both number and size. By the year 1671 practically all Tidewater Virginia had been settled.

The Second Frontier

While the older settlements below the fall-line were outgrowing the primitive conditions of pioneer life, those early experiences and trials were being reproduced among the home-seekers who were pushing up the rivers to form a new frontier. The frontier line—the line that divided the settled country from the wilderness—had been pushed back into the Piedmont belt by the close of the seventeenth century. At first, settlements in this region progressed slowly. But as the Tidewater region filled up with large slave plantations, small farmers were forced to seek homes farther west. Many of them flocked to the upland country where land was cheaper and game more abundant. As
settlements advanced westward new counties were organized to accommodate the growing population.

Bacon's Rebellion

Governor Berkeley and the aristocratic planters of the older section managed the affairs of Virginia in a way that greatly displeased the frontiersmen. Things came to a head in 1676, when the governor refused to send troops to protect the frontier during an Indian uprising. Nathaniel Bacon, a young member of the council, rallied the frontiersmen, placed himself at the head of the army, and defeated the Indians. Berkeley proclaimed Bacon a rebel. By this time Virginia was in a tumult. The people demanded a new assembly and other reforms. Berkeley yielded. Meanwhile the Indians renewed their attack on the outlying settlements, and Bacon was again refused a commission to lead an army against the savages. He marched to Jamestown at the head of an army six hundred strong, and forced the governor to give him a commission. Bacon, with an increased army, rode once more against the Indians, and defeated them. Again Berkeley proclaimed Bacon and his adherents rebels and traitors, and made an attempt to raise an army to pursue them. Having defeated the Indians, Bacon now turned his army against the governor himself. Finding himself deserted by most of his supporters, Berkeley sailed away to Accomac on the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay.

Meanwhile Berkeley returned to Jamestown and fortified the place. Bacon captured the town, and his men set it on fire, not sparing even the church. Bacon was now master of Virginia, but he died suddenly. His rebellion soon came to an end for lack of a leader. Berkeley returned from his place of refuge in Accomac, and wreaked upon the followers of Bacon terrible vengeance. He put to death twenty of Bacon's leading supporters, and threw some into prison.
The Rise of New Towns and Cities

During the period of peace between the whites and the Indians (1644-1674) Virginia took steps toward encouraging the building of towns at important points in the Tidewater region. Soon after 1680 an extensive program of town building was ordered. As the pioneers pushed westward the heads of navigation at the falls on the principal rivers became cargo transfer points. At these places there soon appeared warehouses, stores, dwellings and other buildings. From these small beginnings rose cities—Richmond at the falls of the James River; Fredericksburg at the falls of the Rappahannock; and Alexandria and Georgetown near the falls of the Potomac.

The Fur Trade

During the period of colonization there was an immense demand in Europe for furs. The French were the pioneers in the fur trade, but the English were not far behind them. In Tidewater Virginia the forests abounded in wild animals whose pelts found ready sale. The Indians were encouraged in their natural willingness to hunt and trap. Trading posts were established to which the Indian hunters came with their otter, beaver, bear skins and other peltry to give the fur trader in exchange for beads, bright-colored cloth, knives, hatchets, and firearms. Soon the fur trade became an important industry in the Tidewater region. By 1660 Virginia traders were buying furs from the Indians living far out in the hills of the Piedmont region, and even to the steeper slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

As the Indians migrated farther and farther westward the traders followed and established new trading posts. It is probable that the first white visitors to the country west of the mountains were fur traders who entered the region from Virginia and Pennsylvania. As early as 1740 they followed the Delaware and Shawnee Indians to the
Ohio. Next to farming the most important occupation in early Virginia was fur trading. Even in later years the chief motive which led the pioneers toward the west was the fur trade. In every new settlement the fur-bearing animals were rapidly exterminated, for nearly every settler was a hunter.

Jamestown Abandoned

Three times Jamestown was devastated by fire, the third times in 1698, when only a few houses were left. In 1699 the Burgesses met in a private house and voted to move the capital seven miles north to the Middle Plantation, already the seat of the College of William and Mary, the second oldest college in America. The new capital was named Williamsburg. In 1779 the capital was removed to Richmond.

Abandoned Jamestown gradually wasted away, and twenty-three years later there were only three or four good inhabitable houses remaining. The site of the old town is now marked by a few ruins. Above the ground may be seen the remnants of the broken church tower, and about it some fragments of sculptured tombstones.

The Advance of Settlements Toward the Blue Ridge

Even before Bacon's Rebellion the frontiersmen were building their cabins far out in the Piedmont forests, but the Indians were ever ready to drive them back toward the Tidewater settlements. Their savage attacks continued in varying degrees of intensity well into the new century. However, by the year 1710, only a few scattered bands of Indians remained east of the Blue Ridge, and they hindered the progress of settlements but very little. During the period between 1730 and 1750 settlements advanced rapidly toward the Blue Ridge. About 1740 many northern immigrants began moving into the Piedmont settlements.
By 1754 that part of Virginia was getting pretty well filled up by county organizations.

The Unknown Region West of the Mountains

The earliest explorers at Jamestown soon penetrated the whole wilderness lying between the seacoast and the falls of the principal rivers, and before many years had passed, their explorations had been extended up through the rolling and hilly country to the mountains. But by the close of the seventeenth century only a few white men had seen the vast wilderness beyond the rocky barrier. There were settlements in Virginia on the Chesapeake Bay, and on the James, the York, the Rappahannock, and the Potomac rivers. Beyond these stood the cabins and blockhouses of the pioneer settlers scattered throughout the eastern section of the Piedmont region, and still farther beyond stood the mountains, a wall of enchantment, against the West.

But Alexander Spottswood, governor of Virginia, was determined to encounter and surmount that wall. Accordingly, in 1716, he equipped an exploring party, and heading it in person, crossed the Blue Ridge and pushed out into the Shenandoah Valley where only a few brave hunters and adventurers had ever dared to tread. This expedition was the first step in the great westward movement which was to carry the English over the Alleghanies and make them the master of the country beyond.

The Third Frontier

Immediately after Governor Spottswood returned from his expedition, home-seekers and hunters began to visit the Shenandoah Valley and mark land for future settlement. Strictly speaking the Shenandoah Valley does not include all of the Great Valley in Virginia, but that portion included within the limits of the present counties of Berkeley, Jefferson, Frederick, Clarke, Shenandoah, Warren, Page, Rock-
ingham, Augusta, and Rockbridge. The earliest settlements were made in the northern portion of the valley. In 1726 Morgan Morgan, a native of Wales, came across the Potomac, from Pennsylvania, and established a home in what is now Berkeley County, West Virginia. By some he has been regarded as the first white man to settle west of the Blue Ridge and south of the Potomac. In 1727 German home-seekers from Pennsylvania crossed the Potomac, and on its south banks founded New Mecklenburg, now Shepherdstown, in Jefferson County, West Virginia. About the same year, a few German settlers established homes on the Shenandoah a short distance below the present village of Port Republic. In 1732 Joist Hite, a German, brought sixteen families from Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley and fixed their homes a few miles south of the present town of Winchester. From 1730 to 1750 a large number of pioneers found homes in the Opequon, Back Creek, Little and Great Cacapon and South Branch valleys, chiefly within the present limits of Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan and Hampshire counties, and were among the earliest settlers in West Virginia. In 1732 John Lewis, a Scotch-Irish immigrant, established a permanent settlement near the site of Staunton, in Augusta County. This settlement was made about six years after German pioneers made the first permanent settlement in Augusta County, on the Shenandoah below Port Republic. Soon hundreds of families were scattered over the territory now embraced within the limits of Augusta, Rockingham, Bath and other counties nearby. In 1735 the first settlement was made on the South Branch of the Potomac, in Hampshire County. The next year settlements were made on the South Branch in present Hampshire and Hardy counties.

After the best lands in the Shenandoah Valley proper had been taken, the pioneers pressed on through the Great Valley to the unsettled regions farther south, even to the borders of North Carolina and Tennessee.
By the year 1750 the frontier line of Virginia had been carried westward over the Blue Ridge, and in some places far out into the valley beyond.

The Germans and the Scotch-Irish

That portion of the Shenandoah Valley extending southward from the Potomac for a short distance was settled chiefly by English from elder Virginia, but the greater part of the lower or northern half of the valley was settled almost wholly by Germans from Pennsylvania, nicknamed "Pennsylvania Dutch." They were the best farmers on the frontier.

The upper or southern half of the valley was settled by Scotch-Irish. They were not Irish at all. About the year 1600, their forefathers, Scotch Presbyterians, began to migrate from Scotland to the province of Ulster, in northern Ireland. Religious and economic grievances in Ireland drove thousands of the Scotch-Irish to America, where they sought out a better livelihood and more tolerant surroundings. They began to come to America in the closing years of the seventeenth century, but they did not begin to come in great numbers until about the year 1720. They formed pioneer settlements in practically all the Thirteen Colonies, but, like the Germans, they found Pennsylvania more attractive. Many of them were given grants of land in the western mountains of Pennsylvania, where they were to act as a buffer between the eastern colonies and the Indian frontier. Like the Germans, the Scotch-Irish were drawn into the Shenandoah Valley by glowing accounts of its invigorating climate, fertile soil, and pure water. The Scotch-Irish were our typical backwoodsmen, and our greatest Indian fighters. Their descendants are numerous in every part of the United States.
Other Parent Counties

It has already been pointed out that in 1634 Virginia laid out eight counties. Four years later Northumberland County was formed. This county was very large, and its boundaries extended westward without limit being given. From it was formed Old Rappahannock, in 1651. In 1652 Old Rappahannock became extinct and its territory fell to Essex and Richmond counties. Until 1720 no organized county of Virginia included definitely any part of the region west of the Blue Ridge, but in that year Spottsylvania County was formed from Essex, King William and King and Queen counties. Its western limit was the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, west of the Blue Ridge. In 1734 Orange County was created from the westernmost portion of Spottsylvania County. It then embraced not only its present area east of the Blue Ridge, but also the present counties of Augusta, Frederick, Culpeper, Madison, Greene, Shenandoah, Rockbridge, and Rockingham, in Virginia, a great portion of the present State of West Virginia, and the whole of Kentucky. In 1738 settlements west of the Blue Ridge were so numerous that the portion of Orange County lying west of the summit of the Blue Ridge was erected into two new counties, Frederick, which embraced the northern part of the Shenandoah Valley, with Winchester as the county seat, and Augusta, which embraced all the southern part of the valley, with Staunton as the seat of justice. These two counties included the whole of West Virginia. Frederick included, in West Virginia, all the present counties of Jefferson, Berkeley, and Morgan; and in Virginia, the present counties of Frederick, Shenandoah, Warren, and Clarke. Augusta embraced all the remainder of West Virginia. In 1754 Hampshire, the oldest county in West Virginia, was formed from parts of Frederick and Augusta counties. It then included all of present Hampshire, Mineral, Grant, and Hardy, and parts of Barbour, Upshur, Webster, Preston, Morgan, and Pen-
dleton, in West Virginia, and part of Highland County, Virginia.

The French and Indian War

Both England and France claimed the Ohio Valley. England based her claims upon Cabot’s discovery, also upon a treaty with the Iroquois Indians in 1684. France claimed it on the ground of LaSalle’s discovery. Neither country, however, recognized the claims of the other as being just. The time had come when they must take measures to enforce their respective claims.

In 1749 the French sent an official expedition down the Ohio to take possession of the region in the name of the King of France, and to warn off all trespassers. The English hunters, fur traders, and settlers, however, were not to be frightened away. The Virginia Assembly gave large land grants to companies who were to encourage settlements in the Ohio Valley. The persistent activity of the land companies so thoroughly aroused the French that they at once began to prepare for a conflict. In 1752 they began the construction of a chain of forts that would strengthen their position at the entrance of the Ohio region. Dinwiddie, the governor of Virginia, sent George Washington with orders for them to leave. Washington was entertained with the greatest courtesy by the French officers, but their answer was that the territory in dispute truly belonged to France and that they must carry out the orders of their master, the king.

Governor Dinwiddie, in 1754, sent Captain William Trent with a small force to erect a fort at the forks of the Ohio. But the French drove them away and built one for themselves, giving their stronghold the name of Fort Duquesne.

Meanwhile Virginia mustered a force for service on the Ohio, and Washington was leading it toward the forks of the Ohio when the news of the disaster reached him. At the Great Meadows, a little valley among the mountains of
western Pennsylvania, he erected a stockade, which he named Fort Necessity. Here he was soon attacked and forced to surrender. The year 1754 closed with the French in complete possession of the Ohio Valley.

In 1755 General Braddock, with two regiments of British regulars, was sent by the English government to Virginia for the purpose of attacking the French at Fort Duquesne. Braddock set out on his march from Alexandria. Washington met the army at Fort Cumberland, and became a member of General Braddock’s staff. All went well until the army had nearly reached Fort Duquesne, when suddenly it was ambuscaded by a body of French and Indians and utterly defeated. Braddock was mortally wounded. The retreat began at once. Washington took charge of the troops and covered their flight.

Many of the western Indians, fearing retaliation by the English, had not become allies of the French. The defeat of Braddock dispelled all their fears, and they soon joined the other savages in their plan to destroy all the white settlements west of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Hundreds of the defenseless settlers on the Virginia border were massacred, and many men, women and children were carried into hopeless captivity beyond the Ohio.

In 1756 Governor Dinwiddie sent an army under the leadership of Major Andrew Lewis to destroy the Shawnee towns on the Scioto River and near the Great Kanawha. The expedition is known in border history as the Big Sandy River expedition. The little army had a long march through a great wilderness. It passed through that part of West Virginia south of the Great Kanawha to a point in what is now Mingo County, West Virginia, where an order was received to abandon the expedition. The homeward march was attended with great suffering from cold and hunger.

In 1758 England prepared the largest forces that had been sent to America, intending to move simultaneously
against certain points, including Fort Duquesne. The expedition against Fort Duquesne was put in charge of General Forbes, who was assisted by Washington. This stronghold of the French was captured late in 1758, and renamed Fort Pitt, now Pittsburgh, in honor of William Pitt, the distinguished statesman who had made the victory possible. The victory gave the English control of the Ohio country.

The war closed with the surrender of Montreal in 1760, and a treaty of peace was signed at Paris in 1763. The conflict resulted in the downfall of France in America.

Ancestors of West Virginians in the French and Indian War


The Work of the Mound Builders

When white men came to the Ohio Valley they found great mounds of earth in various forms, many of them covered with trees of centuries of growth. Some of them represent animals. Some were for purposes of defense, and others were for religious rites and burial. About nine-tenths of the mounds contain human skeletons, also many relics, such as weapons of war and chase, trinkets of copper, pipes, and combs. For a long time scientists and
antiquarians believed that these people were a distinct race, earlier than the Indians and more advanced in civilization, but modern scholars are reaching the conclusion that they were the ancestors of the Indian race.

The Mound Builders had towns and villages in various parts of West Virginia, principally along the Ohio and in the valley of the Great Kanawha. The great mound at Moundsville is the largest in West Virginia, and is now owned by the State.

The Buffalo Traces and the Indian Trails

The traces of the buffalo often became the trails of the Indian. The buffalo made roads to and from the salt licks and feeding-grounds. The trails of the Indian were laid with reference to the location of their enemies and their hunting-grounds. Thus it may be seen that the two differed chiefly as their individual destinations differed. Both were made narrow because, animal-like, the Indians traveled in single file. Usually the Indian trail was not worn as deep as the buffalo trace.

The real discoverers of the Indian trails that crossed the mountains and followed the ridges and the valleys of what is now West Virginia were adventurers who traded with the western Indians. We have already seen that as early as 1740, or earlier, fur traders followed the Delaware and the Shawnee Indians to the Ohio country. Even before the third settler west of the mountains, in West Virginia, had built his cabin, traders by scores were passing between the eastern cities and the Ohio River, following the principal Indian trails westward.

The Seneca Trail, sometimes called the Shawnee Trail, led from the mouth of Seneca Creek, in Pendleton County, across the Alleghanies into the valley of upper Cheat River, thence to Tygart’s Valley, where the town of Elkins now stands; thence following Tygart’s Valley nearly to its
source, it crossed to the head of the Little Kanawha, and thus reached the Ohio River.

The Nemacolin Trail led from Cumberland, Maryland, to Pittsburgh. It received its name from an Indian guide, Nemacolin, who assisted Colonel Thomas Cresap in blazing the trail. Only a part of the trail was in present West Virginia.

The McCullough Trail led from Moorefield, Hardy County, via Patterson's Creek and Greenland Gap across a spur of the Alleghanies to the North Branch, thence to the upper Youghiogheny River, in Maryland, and continued through Preston County, where it was called the Eastern Trail. Thence it continued to the Ohio River.

The Horseshoe Trail diverged from the McCullough Trail near the town of Gorman, in Grant County. Not far from the Fairfax Stone it crossed the dividing ridge that separates the Potomac waters from the tributaries of the Monongahela, thence down Horse Shoe Run to Cheat River, and crossing Cheat River, it passed Laurel Hill to the Valley River, near Philippi; thence to the Ohio via Glenville.

The Pocahontas Trail crossed the Alleghanies from the headwaters of the South Branch of the Potomac to the headwaters of the Greenbrier. One branch crossed into Randolph County, and another led to the Great Kanawha Valley.

The Virginia Warriors' Trail was one of the most important eastern trails. It became a traders' and explorers' route. It crossed from the head of Shenandoah Valley to the head of the Clinch Valley, thence passing through the Cumberland Gap via the site of "Crab Orchard," Kentucky, and Danville, Kentucky, to the falls of the Ohio (Louisville).

The Scioto-Monongahela Trail was an important route of travel. After crossing from Lower Shawnee Town eastward to the Muskingum Valley and from Big Rock (near Roxbury, Ohio) southeast via the watershed to the mouth of the Little Kanawha River and after a junction with
another trail from the mouth of the Kanawha and the lower Scioto Valley, it finally crossed the Ohio and ran up the Little Kanawha Valley and crossed to the Monongahela Valley.

The Fourth Frontier

Even before the opening of the French and Indian War some of the most restless and daring of the frontiersmen of Virginia pushed across the Alleghany Mountains to form a still newer West, a fourth Virginia Frontier. The New River Valley in its upper course was probably seen by explorers as early as 1641. Colonel Abraham Wood saw it in 1654, and Thomas Batts followed it, in 1671, to the Great Falls of the Kanawha River. The first white man to see the Ohio River was LaSalle, the eminent French explorer, who descended it as far as the present city of Louisville, in 1669. Before any settlers crossed the mountains, they had listened with interest to stories related by fur traders—marvelous tales of dense forests teeming with game of every description, bison, elk, deer, and wild turkey. The early pioneers were hunters and trappers, and were always eager to find rich hunting grounds.

Early New River Settlements

No one knows who built the first cabin on New River. John Toney, a pioneer of the valley, found in the center of a small clearing the ruins of a settler’s cabin. Nearby was a grave with a stone bearing the inscription, “Mary Porter was killed by Indians November 28, 1742.” Furthermore, surveyors in the valley in 1745 noted the finding of the home of Adam Harmon on New River in present Giles County, Virginia.

In 1748, the Ingles, Drapers, and others, Scotch-Irish migrants from Pennsylvania, established a settlement on New River, the “Draper’s Meadows Settlement.” In 1755
a party of Shawnees from beyond the Ohio killed part of these settlers and carried the others into hopeless captivity. Mrs. William Ingles and Mrs. John Draper were among the prisoners carried beyond the Ohio. Mrs. Ingles finally escaped from the Indians, and made her way back to the Virginia settlement at Dunkard Bottom.

In 1750 Philip Lybrook came from Pennsylvania and settled at the mouth of Sinking Creek, below Harmon's settlement in Giles County. In 1753 Andrew Culbertson, a native of Pennsylvania, built his cabin on New River, in what is now Summers County, West Virginia. Soon after this date Thomas Farley, of Albermarle County, settled on New River, and erected a fort near the Culbertson settlement. Among the other pioneers in or near the Summers County area were C. S. Rollyson, John Chapman, Richard Chapman, Mitchell Clay, also the Kellers, the Ferrells, the Cooks, the Gwinns, the Lowes, and the Fosters.

Beginning about the year 1753, the Indians became more and more hostile, and the settlers suffered greatly from their attacks. The year 1756 was a very harrassing one on the whole Virginia frontier. It is probable that all the New River settlements were broken up during this troublesome period.

Early Settlers in the Greenbrier Valley

Probably the first white man to see the Greenbrier River was a lunatic who wandered from Frederick County, Virginia, in 1748. On his return he reported that he had discovered a river running westward. It is supposed that he saw the Greenbrier River.

The first settlers on the river were Jacob Marlin and Stephen Sewell, who settled at the mouth of Knapp's Creek, on the site of Marlinton, in Pocahontas County. They were found there in 1749 by Andrew Lewis, agent of the Greenbrier Land Company. This company was authorized to locate one hundred thousand acres of land on the waters
of the Greenbrier River. Its object was to induce home-seekers to settle in that region. Many surveys were made for settlers between 1750 and 1755, and a large number of settlements were made in the Greenbrier Valley prior to 1755. Among the early pioneers were James Burnsides, John Fulton, Archibald Hopkins, John Trotter, Thomas Berry, Archibald Clendenin, Jr., Nap Gregory, William Renick, George Sea, Mathias Yoakum, William Mann, James McCoy, Alexander Crockett, William Blair, Richard Madison, and Thomas Campbell—probably each a Scotch-Irish ancestor of many later pioneers who found homes in regions farther west.

On the outbreak of the French and Indian War, Indians, incited by French officials, began their attacks on the Virginia frontier, and all the inhabitants along the Greenbrier were forced to retreat to older settlements. Stephen Sewell was killed by the savages. When the French and Indian War closed, some of the settlers returned to their clearings on the Greenbrier waters. Meanwhile the Indians northwest of the Ohio were led into a conspiracy by Pontiac, a chief of the Ottawas, to drive the English out of the Ohio Valley. The blow of the conspirators fell in the spring of 1763, when a reign of terror began all along the western borders. The frontier of Virginia suffered greatly. In July of that year a large band of Shawnees went up the Kanawha River to the Greenbrier country. They visited the home of Frederick Sea on Muddy Creek and were kindly entertained by him and Felty Yoakum. Suddenly the savages fell upon the men who had fed them. After killing them, the Indians made prisoners of their families and many others. They then went over into the Levels and attacked the house of Archibald Clendenin, Jr., in which from fifty to one hundred persons had taken refuge. Of the whole number of men at Clendenin’s, only one escaped. The women and children were carried with the other prisoners to the Indian towns beyond the Ohio. For six years fol-
lowing these attacks the Greenbrier country was without inhabitants.

The Greenbrier Settlements From 1769 to 1777

In 1769 many of the former Greenbrier settlers returned to their plantations, bringing others with them. One of the new settlers was Colonel John Stuart, who later became famous in the history of Greenbrier County. Among the other settlers who came in 1769 were James Hughart, John McCoy, Lawrence Murphy, Hugh Gillespie, William Lewis, Hugh Johnson, Robert McClanachan, Thomas Renick, and Thomas Williams. Within the next two years came James Jordan, John Patton, Samuel McKinney, David Keeney, William Blake, and many others.

In 1773 William McClung settled on Big Clear Creek. He patented a large tract of land on Meadow River, which took its name from McClung's meadow on the river. In the next year Andrew Donnally, a famous pioneer in later years, settled ten miles northwest of the site of Lewisburg, and there built a fort, known as Fort Donnally. Within the next two years surveys were made on the Greenbrier or its water shed for James Callison, Thomas Cook, Patrick Lockhart, George Cutlip, James Donnally, Charles Clandenin, William Jameson, Michael Daugherty, James Kincaid, Peter Vanbibber, Daniel Workman, Joseph McClung, and many others.

New Counties Created

In 1769 Botetourt County was formed from Augusta. The line between the old county and the new ran through the middle of the present county of Rockbridge. From the source of Kerr's Creek it ran northwesterly to the point on the Ohio where Jackson and Wood counties join on that stream. In the present West Virginia area, Botetourt County then included approximately all the southern half of the State. The dividing line in West Virginia between
Augusta and Botetourt counties passed through the southern parts of Pocahontas, Webster, Braxton, Calhoun, through the northern part of Roane, and between Wood and Jackson. Botetourt County included about twenty of the present counties of West Virginia.

In 1772 Fincastle County was formed from Botetourt and covered more than half of the present State of West Virginia, all of Kentucky, and what is now known as Southwest Virginia. It included that part of West Virginia which lies south of the Kanawha and New rivers.

In 1776 Fincastle County was extinguished and its territory divided into three new counties, Montgomery, Washington, and Kentucky. All of Fincastle County lying in West Virginia then became Montgomery County. Montgomery then included, in West Virginia, present Cabell, Wayne, Mingo, Logan, McDowell, Wyoming, Mercer, Boone, Raleigh, Lincoln, and parts of Putnam, Mason, Kanawha, Fayette, and Summers.

In 1776 from the District of West Augusta were formed the counties of Yohogania, Monongalia, and Ohio. The greater part of Yohogania County fell to Pennsylvannia, and the remainder was added to Ohio County. Monongalia embraced its present territory and, wholly or in part, the present counties of Harrison, Doddridge, Lewis, Gilmer, Ritchie, Tucker, Preston, Marion, Upshur, Braxton, Calhoun, Wirt, Webster, Clay, Roane, Wood, and Pleasants. Ohio County included, wholly or in part, the present counties of Brook, Tyler, Marshall, Hancock, Wetzel, and Ohio.

In 1777 Greenbrier County was formed from Botetourt and Montgomery. It then included, wholly or in part, the counties of present Greenbrier, Clay, Jackson, Wood, Nicholas, Monroe, Summers, Fayette, Kanawha, Putnam, Mason, Braxton, Calhoun, and Roane.
The Earliest Settlements on the Upper Waters of the Monongahela

About the same time the earliest pioneers of the Greenbrier Valley were building their first cabins, hunters and home-seekers were beginning to find their way over the mountains to the upper waters of the Monongahela. The first to attempt settlement in this region were David Tygart and Robert Files, who brought their families from the South Branch of the Potomac about 1754. Files built his cabin where Beverly now stands. Tygart settled three miles above Beverly. Tygart's River bears his name. Although the settlers experienced no difficulty in supplying their tables with meat from the forest, they were without breadstuff. They soon began to plan their return to the South Branch, but before they could carry out their plans the Files family became victims to savage cruelty. A strolling band of Indians massacred all excepting a boy, who making his escape, hastened to warn the Tygarts, and all made their escape by flight.

In 1754 a party of Dunkards, comprising Dr. Thomas Echarly and two brothers, settled on Dunkard’s Bottom on Cheat River, in Preston County. Dr. Echarly went to visit a trading post on the Shenandoah River, and upon his return he found only the ashes of his cabin and the scalped and mutilated bodies of his brothers, the work of a band of Indians.

In the autumn of 1758, Thomas Decker and others commenced a settlement on the Monongahela just above the site of Morgantown, at the mouth of a creek which bears his name. In the spring of 1759, the settlement was broken up by a war party of Delawares and Mingoes, and the greater part of the inhabitants were massacred.

Thus it may be seen that the earliest settlements on the upper waters of the Monongahela were destroyed by Indians. Permanent settlements were not made until after the close of the French and Indian War.
We have seen that prior to the opening of the French and Indian War daring adventurers and home-seekers had settled west of the Alleghenies, but were driven back. Soon after the capture of Fort Duquesne other attempts were made to establish white settlements in the western wilderness. When the treaty of Paris was signed, February 10, 1763, and the English came in possession of the eastern portion of the Mississippi Valley, the Indians became greatly alarmed. They saw and felt that the expulsion of the French from that region would soon prove a severe blow to their fortunes; that the expulsion of the French meant their own expulsion. Furthermore, when the war had ended, settlers from Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia poured over the mountains in great numbers.

The King’s Proclamation

It was the policy of the English government to reserve to the Indians the valley of the Ohio and the adjacent regions as an Indian domain. To this end a proclamation was made the seventh of October, 1763, forbidding settlers to establish homes west of the Alleghenies. The proclamation caused great indignation among the backwoodsmen, who resolved to disregard it, and push steadily westward. Governor Fauquier, of Virginia, issued three proclamations, warning settlers west of the mountains to withdraw from the lands. The settlers paid no attention to the proclamations.

Pontiac’s Conspiracy

No sooner had the English begun to take full possession of the lands newly won from France than they were told by the great chiefs of the Indian tribes that the country had never belonged to France, but to the Indians themselves. Pontiac, a chief of the Ottawas, circulated among the dif-
ferent tribes the false report that the English had formed the design of driving the Indians from the country. By this crafty policy he led the tribes of the Northwest into a conspiracy to drive the English out of the Ohio Valley. A reign of terror began along the western borders in the spring of 1763. The Indians captured many forts by ambuscade and stratagems. Hundreds of frontier families were murdered and scalped, or borne away as captives into the Ohio country.

General Bouquet's Expedition

When the colonists came to know the magnitude of Pontiac's conspiracy, they organized an expedition under General Henry Bouquet, and sent it to the relief of the border settlements. In 1763, when Fort Pitt was being hotly besieged by Indians, Bouquet marched from Philadelphia to rescue the garrison. On hearing of Bouquet's approach, the Indians abandoned the siege, and marched to attack him. The two armies met at Bushy Run, where they fought two battles. The Indians were defeated, but the loss of the British in the two battles surpassed that of the enemy. On the day after the second battle, Bouquet resumed his march toward Fort Pitt.

Bouquet's force was not large enough to enable him to invade the Indian country beyond the Ohio. The next summer, 1764, with a large army, he marched into the very heart of the Indian country beyond the Ohio. At the forks of the Muskingum River, a treaty of peace was concluded with the Indians, who delivered more than two hundred captives, many of whom had been carried away from what is now West Virginia.

Ten Years of Peace

Immediately following the expedition of General Bouquet into the Ohio country, there were ten years of nominal peace. That portion of Augusta County lying west of the
mountains, the “District of West Augusta,” began to be filled up more rapidly. The suppression of the Indians and the peace terms secured from them gave new life to the scheme of western settlements. By the treaty made at Fort Stanwix, in 1768, it was provided that the Indian tribes hunting south of the Ohio should withdraw to the region north of it. Thus a vast territory lying between the Alleghanies and the Ohio River was thrown open to the whites for settlement. Settlements in that region grew most rapidly between the years 1769 and 1774.

**A Quartette of Deserters from Fort Pitt**

Some time during the French and Indian War, William Childers, John Lindsey, John Pringle, and Samuel Pringle emigrated from England, joined the royal army, and later were among the soldiers stationed at Fort Pitt. About the year 1761, growing tired of martial life, they deserted the fort, and ascended the Monongahela River to the mouth of George’s Creek, where they remained a short time. They then crossed over to the headwaters of the Youghiogheny, and, encamping in the glades, they continued to live there one year. While hunting and trapping, Samuel Pringle found a path which he supposed joined Fort Pitt to the nearest inhabited portion of Virginia. Later the four adventurers followed the trail eastwardly and found that it led to Looney’s Creek settlements, in present Grant County, then the most remote western settlements. While among the settlements here the quartette of deserters were apprehended. The Pringle brothers escaped and returned to their camp in the glades, in present Preston County, where they remained until some time in the year 1764. About this time they were employed as hunters and trappers by John Simpson, from the South Branch of the Potomac. Simpson and the Pringles decided to seek richer hunting grounds farther west. The three started together, and while journeying through the wilderness, and after having reached Horse-
shoe Bend of Cheat River, a dispute arose between Simpson and his two companions, and they separated.

**Simpson’s Camp Near Clarksburg**

Simpson, after parting with the Pringles, crossed Valley River near the mouth of Pleasant Creek, in what is now Taylor County, and passed on to the head of another stream, which he named Simpson’s Creek. Thence, proceeding westward, he arrived at a stream which he called Elk Creek, at the mouth of which he erected his camp, the first white man’s cabin in the vicinity of Clarksburg. Here he continued to live until permanent settlements were made around him.

**The Pringle Camp on the Buckhannon**

After the Pringles separated from Simpson, they proceeded up the Valley River to the mouth of the Buckhannon River, which they ascended to the mouth of Turkey Run, where they took up their abode in a hollow sycamore tree (1764). Here they resided, not far from the site of Buckhannon, until the autumn of 1767, when John left his brother for the purpose of going to a trading post on the South Branch to secure ammunition and other supplies. John returned in the spring of 1768, bringing the news of the treaty with both the French and the Indians. Soon after his return, the two brothers abandoned their abode temporarily, and proceeded to the settlements on the South Branch for the purpose of prevailing on a few others to join them in their settlement on the Buckhannon. In the autumn of 1768, Samuel Pringle brought several prospective settlers to the Buckhannon Valley.

**The First Permanent Settlement on the Buckhannon**

The prospective settlers brought to the Buckhannon Valley in 1768 by Samuel Pringle were pleased with the coun-
try. Bringing other South Branch pioneers with them, they returned in the spring of 1769 to prepare the way for a permanent settlement by erecting cabins, clearing land, and planting and cultivating crops. After completing their work, they returned to the South Branch, then in the autumn came back to harvest their crops, which they found entirely destroyed by buffaloes. It appears that no families were brought to the settlement that year, but several were brought in 1770. The settlement grew rapidly during 1771 and 1772.

Among the pioneers who established homes in the Pringle settlement were John Jackson, Sr., and his two sons, George and Edward; also John and William Hacker, Alexander and Thomas Sleeth, Thomas and Jesse Hughes, William and John Radcliff, John Cutright, John Brown, and Henry Rule.

Mason and Dixon’s Line

A dispute over the boundary between Pennsylvania and Maryland and Virginia lasted many years. In 1763 Mason and Dixon, two English surveyors, were directed to locate the line. In 1767 Indians hindered the completion of their work. The work was completed in 1784 by surveyors employed by Virginia and Pennsylvania, who planted a post to mark the southwest corner of Pennsylvania as the terminus of the line, which became known as Mason and Dixon’s line. In the years of slavery agitation Mason and Dixon’s line and the Ohio River were regarded as the line that separated freedom and slavery. Mason and Dixon’s line was commonly referred to as the line that separated North from South.

Other Pioneer Settlements in Monongahela Valley

We have already mentioned a few early settlements made in the vast region later embraced within the limits of Old or Greater Monongalia County, which included, wholly or
in part, about seventeen of the present counties of West Virginia.

In 1766 several other settlements were made within the limits of the county, which was then a part of Augusta County. Thomas Merrifield settled on a branch of Booth's Creek, in present Marion County. Richard Merrifield and Moses Templin located near the line between the present counties of Harrison and Marion. James Workman settled on the Little Kanawha, within the limits of Gilmer County. John Crouch built his cabin where the county seat of Tucker County stands. William Roberts settled at Dunkard Bottom, on Cheat River, near where the Echarlys met their sad fate several years before. The next year, 1767, Zackquill Morgan and others made the first permanent settlement at Morgantown, and soon thereafter David Morgan migrated farther up the Monongahela to lands now included in the bounds of Marion County.

During the period between 1771 and 1775 home-seekers in the middle and upper Monongahela Valley were very active—some in establishing permanent places of abode, and others in marking lands for further settlement. Most of the "settlements" made during this period were not actual settlements. When the home-seeker found land that suited him, but which he did not desire to occupy at that time, he cleared a small patch of the land, girdled a few trees, then cut his name in the bark of a few others. This work gave him what was known as a "tomahawk right" to four hundred acres, with a pre-emption right to one thousand acres adjoining. In some cases a pole cabin was built and corn was planted. This gave the "settler" a "corn right" to the land.

Under Virginia's old homestead law it was provided that any settler who before the year 1778 had marked out or chosen for himself any waste or unappropriated land and made the required improvements thereon was entitled to the amount of land here mentioned.
Only a few settlers came to the trans-Alleghany region of northern West Virginia prior to the year 1769, when about twenty-two pioneers built their cabins in various parts of that region. In 1770 about ninety-one settlers came, but in 1771 only sixty-six came. 1772 brought one hundred and forty-three. In 1773 about two hundred and forty-seven homes were established. With the year 1774 came the trouble with the Indians, and only about one hundred and sixty-eight home-seekers were daring enough to build their cabins on the border.

Washington’s Trips to West Virginia

It appears that the “Father of Our Country” made about seven trips to the West, and in each of them he traversed a part of what is now West Virginia.

On his first trip, 1747-8, while surveying lands for Lord Fairfax, he was in the present counties of Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Hardy, and Mineral. It appears that he probably passed through the same section of the State on his mission to the French Forts, in 1753-4.

In the year 1770, Washington made his only trip down the Ohio and to the Great Kanawha Valley, the purpose of which was not to survey lands, but to select good lands for himself and for his soldiers who were entitled to patents for western lands for their service in the French and Indian War. Washington was accompanied by Dr. Craik, Capt. William Crawford, and several others, including a number of Indian guides. They arrived at the mouth of the Great Kanawha on the last day of October, and encamped on the site of Point Pleasant. The next day they went up the Kanawha about ten miles, and on November 2nd Washington and others went about four miles farther up the river, where they spent the day hunting. They killed five buffaloes and three deer. Some of the hunters went five miles farther up the valley, reaching a point about nineteen miles from Point Pleasant. Washington went up the river
probably as far as the present site of Arbuckle, in Mason County, and others of the party perhaps reached a point below Buffalo, in Putnam County. Thus it may be seen that all the traditions that place Washington's presence farther up the valley are false. He owned lands farther up the valley, but he never saw them.

First Settlements on the Ohio—The Fifth Frontier

Soon after the capture of Fort Duquesne, Scotch-Irish and German backwoodsmen began the erection of cabin homes around the fort, which had been renamed Fort Pitt. Here, in 1765, the town of Pittsburgh was laid out. Four years later Ebenezer Zane and others from the South Branch laid the foundation of the first settlement along the Ohio on the western border of West Virginia. At the mouth of Wheeling Creek, in the autumn of 1769, Zane and his companions made a small clearing and built a cabin. Silas Zane was left to hold possession, and the other pioneers returned to the South Branch. The next year brought Ebenezer Zane, Jonathan Zane, Isaac Williams, and several other home-seekers, to the mouth of Wheeling Creek, where a permanent settlement was soon formed. Among those who came about the same time were Colonel David Shepherd, John Wetzel (father of Lewis Wetzel), and the McCulloch brothers—Abraham, George, Samuel, and John.

Soon after the Wheeling settlement was made, pioneer settlers built their cabins above Wheeling Creek, on Short Creek, Buffalo Creek and vicinity. Among these pioneers were John Dodridge, George Lefler, Benjamin Briggs, Daniel Greathouse, Joshua Baker, and Andrew Swearingen. About the same time Joseph Tomlinson and others settled near the site of Moundsville.

All these pioneers established their homes on the south side of the Ohio, the north side being regarded as strictly "Indian country." They were the earliest settlers on the fifth frontier line—the Ohio River.
In 1774 Fort Fincastle was built at Wheeling. It was then the only place of refuge on the Ohio between Fort Pitt and the present site of Louisville until after the battle of Point Pleasant was fought, after which Fort Blair was erected at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, November, 1774.

Early White Visitors to the Great Kanawha Valley

The first white persons to pass through the Great Kanawha Valley were captives of Ohio Indians, carried from the white settlements east of the mountains. Two of these early captives were Mrs. Ingles and Mrs. Draper, captured in 1755 at the Draper’s Meadows settlement. Probably other white prisoners saw the valley at a much earlier date, but we have no record of their capture.

Christopher Gist visited a small portion of the valley in 1750 and 1751. Mrs. Hannah Dennis, having escaped from Indian captivity in 1763, made her way up the Kanawha to the Muddy Creek settlement in the Greenbrier country. Matthew Arbuckle passed down the Kanawha in 1764, and returned. Washington and his companions spotted lands in the lower part in 1770. Simon Kenton and other hunters established a camp at or near the mouth of Two-mile Creek of Elk River, near Charleston, in 1771.

The First Home-Seekers in the Great Kanawha Valley

Tradition has it that Walter Kelley, a fugitive from South Carolina, was the first white man to make a family settlement in the Great Kanawha Valley below the Falls. However, the records of Augusta County preserve depositions of some pioneer settlers showing that several other prospective settlers came down from the Greenbrier country with Kelley in the spring of 1773, when several cabins were built and other improvements made in preparation for permanent settlement. Among these prospective settlers, besides Kelly,
were James Campbell, Peter Shumaker, James Pauley, John Alderson, Joseph Carroll, William Morris, John Morris, Archibald Taylor, Philip Cooper, and John Herd. It is probable that Kelly was the first to bring a family. He settled at the mouth of Kelley's Creek, where he was killed by Indians the next year.

James Campbell made his improvement at the mouth of Campbell's Creek, which probably took its name from this event. John Morris later claimed Campbell's improvement. Campbell died in 1777, and Morris afterward secured a patent for the land and sold part of it to William Droddy, Sr., father of Charles Droddy, the founder of Droddyville, now Walton, in Roane County.

It appears that a number of settlers brought their families to the valley early in 1774. Among them was William Morris, Sr., who brought a large family. His sons, William, Jr., Henry, Leonard, Joshua, John and Benjamin were among the noted pioneers of the valley. Leonard Morris is accredited the earliest permanent settler in the Kanawha Valley, but the proof is not convincing. He probably came with his father. He settled at the mouth of Slaughter's Creek, and later removed to the present site of Marmet.

Early Explorers in the Valley of the Little Kanawha

Long before white men found their way to the valley of the Little Kanawha Indians wandered through it in making their visits to distant tribes east of the mountains and west of the Ohio River. No one knows who the first white visitors were, nor when they came. One false tradition followed by several local historians states that Jesse Hughes, Elias Hughes, and William Lowther, who, in 1772, passed down the river from about the site of Glenville, were its earliest white explorers. But Christopher Gist and his assistants saw the lower part of the valley as early as 1751, and French hunters and fur traders probably saw it still earlier.
In a letter to George Washington, dated January 7, 1769, Captain William Crawford said: "I have not been down on any part of the Little Kanawha, but I have conversed with numbers that have been from the head to the mouth."

In 1770 Washington made his only trip down the Ohio. On his return he explored the lands at the mouth of the Little Kanawha. In the journal of his trip he stated that he saw one Mr. Ennis who had traveled down the Little Kanawha almost from head to mouth.

About the year 1771 William White, Thomas Drennen, Paul Shaver, and John Cutright, each noted in border history, were sent out from the settlements on the waters of the upper Monongahela to act as Indian spies. They went down the Little Kanawha to its mouth.

The First Settlers in the Little Kanawha Valley

In the same year that home-seekers were pushing their way down from the Greenbrier country to the Great Kanawha to establish the earliest homes along that river the first cabins in the Little Kanawha Valley were being built by prospective settlers. In 1773 Robert Thornton, Vallen­tine Cooper, Benjamin Harding, and James Neal made tomahawk settlements on the Little Kanawha at and near its mouth, where Parkersburg now stands. Robert Thornton made his improvement on the present site of Parkersburg.

Among the other prospective settlers who made improvements in the valley in 1773 were Calder Haymond, on Salt Lick; Morgan Morgan, on Salt Lick; John Logan, on Hughes River; William Robinson, on Salt Lick; Patrick Beatty, below the mouth of Hughes River; John Ramsey, at the mouth of Hughes River; and David Shepherd, five miles from the mouth of the Little Kanawha. Other home-seekers came in 1774 and 1775, but Indian hostilities soon drove all the settlers out of the valley. It was a decade or more before permanent settlements were established along the
Little Kanawha, and but few were made prior to the year 1800.

The Proposed Province of Vandalia

A few years prior to the outbreak of the Revolutionary War there was a definite plan on foot for the formation of a separate government for that portion of Virginia lying west of the Alleghanies. The new province was to be called Vandalia, and the capital was to be at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, where Point Pleasant stands. The proposed province was to include the greater part of what is now West Virginia and a portion of Kentucky. Indian hostilities and the Revolutionary War put an end to the scheme.

Frontier Troubles

We have seen that from 1764 to 1774 there was comparative peace between the Indians of the Ohio country and the white settlers along the Virginia frontier. During this period the Indian traders spent much of their time among the savage tribes beyond the Ohio, and the Indian and the white man often hunted and trapped together in the western forests of Virginia. But there were many frontiersmen who claimed that “the only good Indian was a dead one,” and many of the Indians believed that a white man was worth no more than the value of his scalp. It was these hostile men of both parties that caused most of the border troubles.

The year 1773 brought many surveyors and settlers to the southern banks of the Ohio and to its main tributary streams and their branches. The Indians began to fear that soon the pale-faces would attempt to cross the river and take possession of their hunting grounds. They usually considered the Ohio River the boundary line between the Indian lands and the white man’s possession, but they watched with jealous eye any attempt of the white man to
build his cabin near the Indian country. During the year a few families were murdered in what is now West Virginia, and a number of Indians were slain by whites in retaliation.

The next year brought greater troubles. In February, 1774, Indians killed several white men along the Virginia border. Early in April Colonel Michael Cresap and others killed and scalped two Indians in a canoe, near Wheeling, and followed a larger number down the river to the mouth of Captina Creek, where they attacked the Indians, killing one and wounding several others. Later in the same month a party of whites, led either by Colonel Cresap or Daniel Greathouse, enticed some Indians across the Ohio from near the mouth of Yellow Creek, above Wheeling, caused some of them to become helplessly drunk, then murdered all of them—five in all. Among those slain were the father, a brother, and a sister of Logan, a famous Mingo chief. Logan accused Colonel Cresap of the crime, but Cresap’s friends claimed that he was not present. The sister killed was the Indian wife of Colonel John Gibson, a noted Indian trader. Logan had been opposed to war with the whites, but he now declared his intention to take ten lives among them for each of his three slain relatives. He took thirty scalps in the summer of 1774.

Dunmore’s War

The atrocities committed upon the frontier in the spring of 1774 precipitated a conflict between the whites and the red men, known as Dunmore’s War, Lord Dunmore, governor of Virginia, having taken a leading part in the struggle. The governor directed his lieutenants to collect armies to invade the Ohio country. He ordered Colonel Angus McDonald to raise a force sufficient to protect the frontier until larger armies could be collected for the invasion. Colonel McDonald established his headquarters on the site of Wheeling, on the Ohio. In the summer of 1774 he led an army of four hundred men into the Indian country, where he
burned several Indian towns and laid waste many cornfields. But Colonel McDonald's expedition increased rather than diminished the Indian atrocities upon the Virginia frontier.

Meanwhile Governor Dunmore and his lieutenants collected an army in two divisions, called the northern and southern wings. Dunmore assumed command of the northern wing, collected largely in the counties of Dunmore (now Shenandoah), Frederick, Berkley and Hampshire, and heading it in person, proceeded to Fort Dunmore (Fort Pitt), now Pittsburgh. The southern wing, raised principally in Botetourt, Augusta, and Fincastle counties, was placed under the command of General Andrew Lewis, and rendezvoused at Camp Union, now Lewisburg, Greenbrier County. The two wings of the army were to form a junction at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, where Point Pleasant now stands, before marching into the Indian country. In September each moved toward the mouth of the Kanawha. Dunmore halted at the mouth of the Hockhocking River, where he built Fort Gower, and where he awaited the arrival of intelligence from General Lewis. September 11, 1774, with about eleven hundred men, General Lewis began his march from Camp Union down the Great Kanawha to its mouth expecting to join Dunmore. Lewis' army reached Point Pleasant October 6. A message from Dunmore stated that he had changed his plan of military operation and would later march from Fort Gower through the Ohio country, and ordered General Lewis to proceed up the Ohio to the mouth of the Hockhocking to join him there.

Meanwhile, unknown to the armies of Dunmore and Lewis, Cornstalk and other chiefs were collecting a great force of red warriors. Their scouts had watched the movements of the two armies and kept the dusky chiefs well informed. It was the purpose of Cornstalk to crush the south-
ern and northern wings of the army in turn before they could unite.

The Battle of Point Pleasant

Cornstalk's first move was to launch an attack on General Lewis. In the dark of night he and his one thousand picked warriors crossed the Ohio on rafts and went into camp about two miles from the camp of the Virginians. Their presence was discovered early in the morning, October 10, by two white hunters from the camp, one of whom was killed by a shot fired by an Indian. The other hunter escaped and quickly carried the news to Lewis' camp. Instantly the drums beat to arms, and the Virginians and the Indians were soon engaged in a stubborn bloody conflict, the bloodiest in Virginia's long series of Indian wars. The hostile lines extended through a dense forest and reached from the bank of the Ohio to the bank of the Kanawha, and distant a half mile from the point. Colonel Charles Lewis, brother of General Andrew Lewis, fell mortally wounded, in the first fire, and was carried to the rear, where he soon expired. With battle lines never more than a few rods apart, the whites and the red savages fought with daring bravery, swiftness of attack, and skill in taking cover. The leaders of the savage warriors urged their men to "lie close, shoot well, be strong, and fight." Much of the fighting was a succession of single combats. Above the din of the conflict could be heard the cries and groans of the wounded and shouts and jeers of the combatants. After more than six hours of hard fighting, the Indians began to fall back. They reached a position rendered strong by trees, fallen logs, and steep banks, and all effort to dislodge them by attacks in front failed. General Lewis sent three companies, commanded by Captain Isaac Shelby, George Matthews, and John Stuart, with orders to proceed up the Kanawha River, and under the cover of the banks of Crooked Creek attack the Indians in the rear. This movement decided the battle,
and the defeated savages soon began to retreat across the Ohio.

The Virginians, though the victors, had probably lost more than were lost by their foes. They had sixty men killed and ninety wounded. The loss of the Indians was not ascertained. They left thirty-three dead in the woods, and threw others into the Ohio River.

After the Battle

Early the next day, October 11, large parties were sent out from Point Pleasant to search for the enemy, but Cornstalk and his warriors were then retreating rapidly toward the Scioto River. For several days General Lewis and his men were busy in burying the dead, caring for the wounded, and building a store house and a temporary fort.

Dunmore started on his march from the mouth of the Hockhocking the day after the battle. His scouts had heard the sound of fighting, but he was far out in the Ohio wilderness when the rumor of battle was confirmed by a message from Lewis, who was now ordered to join him about twenty-eight miles east of the Indian towns. Lewis started on his march through the Ohio country October 18. Meanwhile the Indian chiefs became greatly alarmed and begged for peace. Dunmore halted near the Scioto and there built Camp Charlotte. Here he opened negotiations with the humbled chiefs. When Lewis had reached a point a few miles east of the Indian towns, Dunmore ordered him to halt his army, as peace had been very nearly concluded. Lewis led his army back to Point Pleasant. A treaty was later signed at Camp Charlotte whereby the Indians agreed to regard the Ohio River as the boundary between them and the whites and not to molest white voyagers on that river.

Logan’s Defiance

Of all the chiefs, Logan alone refused to attend the peace council at Camp Charlotte. However, by Colonel John Gib-
son he sent to the council a short speech in which he said:

"I appeal to any white man to say if ever he entered Logan's cabin hungry and he gave him not meat; if ever he came cold and naked and he clothed him not. During the course of the last long and bloody war, Logan remained idle in his cabin, an advocate for peace. Such was my love for the whites that my countrymen pointed as they passed and said, 'Logan is the friend of the white man.' I had even thought to live with you, but for the injuries of one man. Colonel Cresap, last spring, in cold blood and unprovoked, murdered all the relatives of Logan, not even sparing my women and children. There remains not a drop of my blood in the veins of any living creature. This called on me for revenge. I have sought it; I have killed many; I have fully glutted my vengeance. For my country I rejoice at the beams of peace. But do not harbor a thought that mine is the joy of fear. Logan never felt fear. He will not turn on his heel to save his life. Who is there to mourn for Logan? Not one."

The Return of the Army

By rivers and trails, in large and small companies, started home the army that had vanquished the foe and won the land south of the Ohio. Lewis arrived at Point Pleasant October 28, and leaving Captain Russell with a garrison of fifty men at that place, he proceeded to Fort Savannah, on the site of Lewisburg, where his army was disbanded. After concluding the treaty with the Indians, Lord Dunmore returned with the northern division of the army by way of Wheeling. Cornstalk accompanied him to the Hockhocking.

Ancestors of West Virginians Fought in Dunmore's War

Ancestors of many of the families of West Virginia were soldiers in Dunmore's War. But few of the rolls or rosters of the companies are preserved. Among the family names

The Last Survivor of the Battle of Point Pleasant

It has been claimed that the last survivor of those who participated in the memorable battle of Point Pleasant was Elias Hughes. He was a son of Thomas Hughes and a brother of the famous Indian fighter, Jesse Hughes. Elias Hughes was born near the South Branch of the Potomac River and came with his parents to the early settlements on the Buckhannon River. For more than twenty years following the battle of Point Pleasant he served as an Indian spy. Meanwhile Indians killed the young woman he loved most dearly, also his father. He vowed vengeance, and even the return of peace did not mitigate his hatred of the race. He removed to Ohio a short time after Wayne's treaty at Greenville had been signed. He gave service in the War of 1812. He died in Licking County, Ohio, in 1845, more than seventy years after the battle of Point Pleasant was fought.

The Virginia Frontier in 1775

Soon after the close of Dunmore's War a steady stream of emigration began to flow into the country south of the Ohio. But several settlements were made in that region a
few years before the battle of Point Pleasant. While the Zanes and others were founding the earliest settlements along the south bank of the upper Ohio, 1769-1770, Daniel Boone was leading hunters and explorers into that part of Virginia now included within the boundaries of Kentucky, and William Bean and others were penetrating the wilderness as far south as the valley of the Watauga, a branch of the Holston River.

At the time of the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, in 1775, settlements had been made within the limits of about one half the present counties of West Virginia, and there was a total population of about thirty thousand. Among the present counties not settled at that time are Wirt, Jackson, Roane, Calhoun, Gilmer, Braxton, Webster, Clay, Nicholas, Boone, Lincoln, Raleigh, Wyoming, McDowell, Logan, Mingo, Wayne, and Cabell. “Tomahawk improvements” may have been made within the limits of a few of these prior to 1775.

Augusta and Botetourt counties extended across West Virginia to the Ohio. Only two of the present counties of West Virginia were then in existence. They were Hampshire and Berkeley. They then included within their limits half a score or more of the present counties of the State.

In 1775 Fort Pitt (Fort Dunmore) at Pittsburgh, Fort Fincastle at Wheeling, and Fort Blair at Point Pleasant were the only fortifications upon the long western frontier, the Ohio. Fort Blair was evacuated in the summer of 1775, and its buildings were burned soon afterward by Indians.

The District of West Augusta

We have seen that, when formed in 1738, Augusta County included almost all the present territory of West Virginia, and that in 1769 Botetourt County was erected, taking from Augusta the lower portion of West Virginia.

For years prior to the Revolutionary War that part of Augusta County lying west of the Alleghanies, and drained
chiefly by the Monongahela and its branches, and by streams farther west flowing westward into the Ohio, was known as the "District of West Augusta." It acquired its name probably by general usage, from its remote western location from Staunton, the seat of justice. In a way the district was a unit of government, but it was not a county, although it had a court house and a court was held thereat. It was recognized as being entitled to representation, and was required to furnish soldiers.

It appears that the District of West Augusta was without definite limits until its bounds were laid off and defined by an Act of the Assembly in October, 1776, when it was divided into three counties, Ohio, Yohogania, and Monogalia. By the extension of the western boundary between Pennsylvania and Virginia, the greater portion of the county of Yohogania fell within the limits of Pennsylvania, and by an Act of the Assembly of 1786, the residue was added to Ohio County. Thus Yohogania County became extinct.
The backwoodsmen of western Virginia who marched into the Ohio country with Lord Dunmore and General Lewis in the autumn of 1774 had heard of the prospect of war between the colonists and the mother country, and although they were under the command of a royal governor, they were in full sympathy with those of the colonists who had taken up the cry, “No taxation without representation!” Some of them had recently engaged in the all-day conflict between the Virginians under General Lewis and the Indians led by Cornstalk—a battle of great advantage to the American cause in the future struggle for independence, but not a “battle of the Revolutionary War”, as some historians would have it.

Soon after their return from Dunmore’s War the soldiers living in what is now West Virginia found new duties facing them. The quarrel between the colonies and the mother country had reached its crisis. The First Continental Congress had sent the king a “Declaration of Rights and Grievances”, and while the colonies awaited a reply preparation for defense went steadily forward. April 19, 1775, brought the battles of Lexington and Concord, the opening conflicts of the war.

Early Patriotism

The news of Lexington and Concord was soon carried to all parts of the country, and by the middle of 1775 all the colonies were seething with the spirit of revolt. In Virginia, as well as in some other colonies, the royal governor was forcibly ejected from his office. The Assembly issued a call for a convention to meet at Richmond on the 17th of July, 1775, “to organize a provincial form of government and a plan of defense for the colony”. Among
the representatives of the Virginia Convention were several representing the people living within the limits of what is now West Virginia.

Meanwhile many of the West Virginia pioneers were enlisting for service. In July, 1775, a body of troops started on their long march from the Eastern Panhandle to Boston, where they were cordially welcomed by General Washington. Other troops from what is now West Virginia soon followed.

Virginia's call for men and supplies from west of the mountains met with ready responses. Having been trained to fight their way against hard conditions of frontier life, the backwoodsmen of Virginia did not falter in the face of obstacles which to the average colonist would seem overwhelming. It is said that at a perilous time during the war General Washington revived the spirit of some of his counselors by saying, "Leave me but a banner to plant upon the mountains of West Augusta and I will gather around me the men who will lift our country from the dust and set her free."

The Year of Independence

The year 1776 was one of warfare in the colonies. It marked the time of the evacuation of Boston by the British troops, the attack on Fort Moultrie, the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, the battle of Long Island, the battle of White Plains, the capture of Fort Washington, Washington's retreat through New Jersey and the battle of Trenton.

During the year each of the Virginia counties within the limits of present West Virginia responded freely to the second call for Western Virginia soldiers for the Continental Army. At that time the counties of Berkeley, Hampshire, Ohio, and Monongalia each furnished its quota of officers and men. Each of the counties of Augusta, Botetourt, and Fincastle extended to the Ohio River, and each sent to the army men from what is now West Virginia.
Before the close of the year 1776 an Indian war on the frontier seemed to be approaching. The British agents at Detroit were active in urging the Indians to war against the frontier settlers. The tribesmen who were most hostile during 1776 were known to the border settlers as “far Indians”, dwelling about Detroit and along the Sandusky, Maumee, and Wabash rivers. The Shawnees and other tribes nearer the Virginia frontier had agreed to remain neutral during the war with England. They had not yet forgotten the battle of Point Pleasant and the invasion of their country that soon followed.

In 1776 Fort Fincastle, at Wheeling, was enlarged and the name changed to Fort Henry; and in the same year Fort Randolph was built at Point Pleasant near the old site of Fort Blair. Other old forts were made stronger and new ones were built.

The Bloody Year of the Three Sevens

In border history the year 1777 is known as “the bloody year of the three sevens”. In that year, urged by British agents, the red savages fell upon the settlers along the western frontier, sparing not even the women and the children. Many of the border forts were abandoned, and soon after were burned by Indians. During the closing months of the year nearly all the settlements between the Alleghanies and the Ohio River were attacked. Two invasions were made into the middle Monongahela Valley, and one into Tygart’s Valley. In September an unsuccessful attack was made on Fort Henry, at Wheeling, where both the Indians and the whites lost heavily. Late in September the Foreman massacre occurred at Grave Creek Narrows, below Wheeling, where Captain William Foreman and twenty of his men fell into an ambuscade and were killed. During the year preparations were made to march an army into the Indian country, particularly against Detroit.
The Murder of Cornstalk at Point Pleasant

In 1777 Cornstalk and another chief visited Captain Arbuckle at Fort Randolph. He told Captain Arbuckle that the British were inciting the Indians to war, and that his own tribe, the Shawnees, seemed determined to “drift with the current” in spite of his efforts to restrain them. Cornstalk was detained as a hostage to insure the neutrality of his tribe. While thus confined in the fort he was visited by his son, Elinipsico. The very next morning after the arrival of Elinipsico two soldiers of the fort went across the Kanawha to hunt, and one of them was killed and scalped by lurking savages. No sooner had the canoe bearing the mutilated remains of the soldier touched the shore than his comrades, over the protest of Captain Arbuckle, rushed in furious anger into the fort and killed Cornstalk, the chief who accompanied him to the fort, and Elinipsico.

Fort Randolph Attacked

In May, 1778, the Shawnees, in their attempt to avenge the death of their chief, Cornstalk, mustered a force of about two hundred warriors, marched from their towns in the Ohio wilderness, secretly crossed the Ohio River, and approached Fort Randolph. At first, a few savages showed themselves, hoping to decoy a party in pursuit. Captain McKee suspected that an ambuscade had been set, and therefore refused to permit any of his men to leave the fort. The Indians then came forth in full force. Captain McKee having refused to comply with their demand for surrender, they made a furious attack upon the fort. For several days they kept the garrison closely besieged. Finding, however, that they made no impression on the fort, they killed all the stock belonging to the garrison, then started toward the Greenbrier settlements.
The Attack on Fort Donnally

Among the pioneer forts in the Greenbrier region were Fort Donnally, about ten miles northwest of Lewisburg, and Fort Savannah, at Lewisburg.

When the Indian army withdrew from Fort Randolph and began its march up the Kanawha toward the Greenbrier settlements, Captain McKee sent two scouts, John Prior and Philip Hammond, to warn the settlers of their danger. The two scouts passed the Indians on Meadow River, and a few hours later delivered the warning barely in time for the settlers to escape to places of safety. About twenty families took refuge in Fort Donnally, and about one hundred in Fort Savannah. The invading savages directed their march to Fort Donnally, arriving there at night. An order that no one in the fort should open the door in the morning until an examination of the premises had shown that there were no lurking savages near was disobeyed by a man who, at daybreak, went out for kindling wood, and left the door open. He was shot by the Indians, who then rushed to the open door. A white man with a tomahawk killed the first intruder at the door, and a negro servant checked the rush by the use of a musket, and thus made it possible to close the door. The men in the fort soon poured such deadly fire upon the savages that they fell back, leaving seventeen of their number dead in the yard. The Indians continued the attack, firing at longer range, until evening, when sixty-six men arrived from Fort Savannah and put the savages to flight. The whites in the fort had four killed and two wounded.

The Northwest Saved

Virginia claimed the great area north of the Ohio River. George Roger Clark, a young Virginia scout, undertook to break the power of the British and the Indians in that region. He obtained a military commission from Governor Patrick Henry, then gathered a band of about one hundred
and fifty frontiersmen from west of the mountains, some of whom were pioneers of what is now West Virginia. With these men, in 1778, he floated down the Ohio, and about fifty miles above its mouth he landed and made his way northward. In July, 1778, he captured the British garrison at Kaskaskia, on the Mississippi River. Then he took Cahokia, a little farther north. He inflicted defeat after defeat upon the Indians and their British allies.

Governor Hamilton of Detroit was determined to recover the lost ground and to extend his conquests even into what are now Kentucky and West Virginia. He organized Indian raids against the frontier, paying the savages liberal prices for scalps. He captured a small garrison which Clark had left at Vincennes, Indiana. But Clark surprised and captured him there early in 1779, and sent him a prisoner to Richmond. The conquests of George Rogers Clark secured to the United States the country as far west as the Mississippi, and proved to the Indians that the British were not able to protect them against the daring frontiersmen of the Virginia border.

A Critical Period on the Frontier

For a period of several years extending from 1777 the western frontier of Virginia was in constant danger of Indian incursions. Early in 1779 great difficulty was experienced in raising drafts to re-inforce the garrisons on the weak and feeble border. It was found almost impossible to obtain a proper supply of food for the soldiers and for the settlers who had taken refuge in the frontier forts. At Fort Randolph the period of enlistment of some of the men expired in the spring of 1779, which left but few to guard the fort and protect the settlers in the Great Kanawha Valley. In the summer of the same year the fort was evacuated and immediately burned by Indians. Point Pleasant was then without inhabitants until the autumn of 1784, when the settlement was renewed. About the time Fort
Randolph was abandoned and burned, all the settlers along the Kanawha were forced to leave the valley. For a period of about five years the whole region around the present site of Point Pleasant and all along the Great Kanawha was left desolate. The deserted cabins were soon reduced to ashes, and only the “clearings” marked the places where the pioneer settlers had lived, cultivated their crops, and supplied their tables with meat from the forest.

Virginia Plans for New Forts on the Border

Soon after the destruction of Fort Randolph the government of Virginia planned a system of protective posts along the Ohio and the Great Kanawha to fill up the great gap between Fort Henry at Wheeling and the Falls of the Ohio, where Louisville, Kentucky, now stands. The plan included a fort to be built at the mouth of the Little Kanawha, one at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, and one at the mouth of Kelley’s Creek, on the Great Kanawha, above Charleston.

Under the date August 10, 1780, in a letter to Colonel Joseph Crockett, General Andrew Lewis said:

“You will soon be in motion for your station on the Ohio. You will find in your instructions from His Excellency that a fort is to be erected at Kelley’s on the Great Kanawha, where you are to station twenty-six of your command for the purpose of keeping open the communication to Fort Randolph (when built). This fort (Kelley’s) is to be a receptacle for your provisions as they are carried over the mountains; from thence it is supposed you will take down all your stores by water. . . . . . . Give me leave to further recommend it to you when you march from Kelley’s to take no more of your beef cattle with you than you think necessary for your support until you have constructed a fort of sufficient capacity where stood Fort Randolph.”

For reasons unknown to our present day historians, none of the forts planned for at that time was built, and the pioneer settlers who had hoped for the protection that they
might return to their abandoned plantations on the Great Kanawha and other places, were forced to wait a few years longer.

**Former Kanawha Settlers Seek to Return**

In their petition to Governor Nelson and Council of State, dated September 10, 1781, sixty-nine inhabitants of Greenbrier County asserted that they had been away from their plantations along the Great Kanawha for three years past, hoping that peace might come, and that they were fully determined to return and erect a fort at the mouth of Elk River. They requested that a lieutenant and thirty of the militia of the county be stationed there. Among the signers of this petition were several pioneer settlers of each of the present counties of Kanawha, Putnam, and Mason.

February 16, 1782, Samuel Brown, in a letter to Governor Harrison, requesting that a garrison be posted at the mouth of Elk River, stated:

"I have been much solicited to implore your Excellency on this head by a number of people who formerly lived on the Great Kanawha and have been driven from there since the commencement of the present war, and are now desirous of returning, if a guard of twenty men is allowed."

But no fort was erected at the mouth of Elk River prior to 1788, and probably no settler was daring enough to return to his desolate plantation on the Great Kanawha until the abandoned settlement at Point Pleasant was renewed, in 1784, and a new fort was built there to take the place of Fort Randolph, abandoned and burned in 1779.

**Expedition of General McIntosh**

In 1778 General McIntosh, at the head of an army of one thousand men, collected at Pittsburgh and Wheeling, marched into the Ohio wilderness. On the west bank of the Tuscarawas, below the mouth of Sandy Creek, he erected Fort Laurens. Here he left a garrison of one hundred and
fifty men under the command of Colonel John Gibson, then marched his army back to Wheeling. Early in 1779 Fort Laurens was besieged by a large Indian army, led by a British officer from Detroit. The fort was not taken, but a number of Colonel Gibson's men were killed. In August, 1779, Colonel Gibson abandoned the fort, and returned with the garrison to Wheeling.

General Brodhead's Expedition

General McIntosh was succeeded as head of Virginia's Western Military Department by General Brodhead. In April, 1778, General Brodhead, with a force of three hundred of the most daring frontiersmen of Virginia, crossed the Ohio at Wheeling and entered the wilderness beyond. The expedition was sent against the Delaware Indians, who were friendly to the whites on the border during the early years of the Revolution, but finally became a most dangerous foe. With but little loss on his part, General Brodhead destroyed several towns and captured a number of Indians, all of whom were put to death except a few women and children, who were carried to Fort Pitt.

The Sad Fate of Colonel William Crawford

Early in the spring of 1782 an army of four hundred and eighty men was collected on the Ohio, above Wheeling, for the purpose of destroying the Wyandot towns on the Sandusky plains. The army was put under the command of Colonel William Crawford, a native of Berkeley County, now in West Virginia. The entire force was mounted. After a long march through the wilderness, an encampment was made three miles north of Upper Sandusky, within the present limits of Wyandot County, Ohio. Here, June 4, 1782, was fought the battle of Sandusky, in which the Indians defeated Crawford's army, which suffered a loss of more than one hundred in killed and wounded. The next day the defeated army began its retreat toward the Ohio,
with the Indians in hot pursuit. But few of Crawford's men escaped, and Colonel Crawford himself was captured and was later burned at the stake.

The Last Indian Raid Across the Alleghanies

For nearly two decades prior to 1782 no Indian incursions had disturbed the peace of the Virginia settlers across the mountains. In March, 1782, in sight of the fort at Buckhannon, Captain William White was shot from his horse and tomahawked and scalped by Indians, and at the same time Timothy Dorman and his wife were taken prisoners. The fort was abandoned, and soon thereafter burned by the Indians. The Indians went to Tygart's Valley, and between Wilson's and Westfall's fort they killed Adam Stalnaker. They then crossed the Alleghany Mountains, and in what is now Pendleton County, West Virginia, they killed a young woman named Gregg. The settlers soon drove them back to the west side of the mountains. This was the last Indian foray across the Alleghanies.

The Siege of Fort Henry in 1782

In the autumn of 1782, Fort Henry, at Wheeling, was besieged for the last time, and on this occasion by a combined force of British soldiers and Indian warriors. The attack was led by Captain Bradt, whose demand for the immediate surrender of the fort had been promptly refused. The attack was begun at night, during which the savages made several attempts to burn the fort. Unsuccessful attempts were made to break down the gates. For nearly two days the fort was successfully defended by only a few soldiers, and without the presence of their commandant, Captain Boggs, who had gone off hurriedly before the attack to warn the settlers. The arrival of Captain Boggs with a force of seventy men soon put an end to the siege.
The Close of the Revolutionary War

By the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, Virginia, October 19, 1781, and the signing of the treaty of peace at Paris, September 3, 1783, the struggle for our independence was brought to a successful close. The scheme of England and France to make the territory north of the Ohio River a part of Canada and not of the colonies and the section south of that river between the Alleghanies and the Mississippi River an Indian territory as a part of the terms of peace failed. Our peace commissioners, Franklin, Adams, Laurens, and Jay, were determined that the work of the backwoodsmen in holding the present territory of West Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee and the conquering of the Northwest was not to be given up, and that the Mississippi River instead of the Alleghany Mountains should become the western boundary of the United States by the terms of the treaty of peace.

Some of Our Ancestors in the Revolutionary War

The following is an incomplete list of persons who once resided in West Virginia, and who gave service in the Revolutionary War:


BROOKE COUNTY—Joseph Biggs, William Guthrie, Patrick Gass, Elijah Hedges, Oliver Brown, Joseph Fowler, Thomas


HAMPShIRE COUNTY—Thomas Atha, Richard Addison, John Bond, John Dalley, Andrew Gwinn, John J. Jacob, Hugh Malone, George Payne, Francis Ravencraft, Robert Williams, James White, Isaac Welch, George Hill, John Newman, George Little, John Queen, John Peters, Thomas Shores, William Heron, Daniel Taylor, Isaac James, John Westfall, Christopher Armentrout, Thomas Buffington,

HARDY COUNTY—Joseph Van Meter, Jacob Fisher, Joseph George, Christopher Goodnight, Benjamin Marshall, John Rosebraugh, Adam Bullinger, Jacob Randall, Cichman Ours, John Ebills, Daniel Ketterman, John Berry, Richard Redman.


JACKSON COUNTY—Samuel Carpenter, Elijah Runnion, Zacharia Rhodes, Samuel Tanner, Basil Wright, Constantis O'Neale, Joseph Parsons, Michael Rader, Charles Smith, Thomas Good, Andrew Welch, John McKown, David Harris, Henry Raburn, Thomas Hughes.


KANAWHA COUNTY—Isham Bailey, William Bailey, Marshall Bowman, John Casey, Robert Christian, Peter Grass,
Rush Milam, Job Martin, Alexander Thompson, Joseph Thomas, John Young, John Jones, Martin Hammack, Benjamin Stone, Fleming Cobbs, Thomas Smith, Peter Cook, James Wilson.


**MARSHALL COUNTY**—David Ferrell, John Caldwell, John Cummins, John Fox, Henry Yoho.


**MERCE COUNTY**—Josiah Meadows, Joseph Davidson.


NICHOLAS COUNTY—William Foster, Isaac Rose, Jesse Carpenter, Jacob Chapman, Abraham Duffield, Jonathan Dunbar, Jacob Fisher, Benjamin Hamrick, Benjamin Lemasters, Jeremiah O'Dell, James Simms, Peter Bowyer, Jacob Grose.


PENDLETON COUNTY—Burton Blizzard, Jacob Hoover,

POCAHONTAS COUNTY—Adam Arbogast, John Bradshaw, Isaac Hawk, John Slaven, Thomas Tucker, Joseph Woodell, John Young, John Webb, William Sharp, Richard Hill.


WOOD COUNTY—Camuel B. Bell, James Neal, Matthew Maddox, Caleb Wiseman, Samuel Barrett, Patrick Board, John Brookover, William Cunningham, Adam Deem, James Holder, George Leach, Thomas Leach, Jacob Swisher, Patrick Sinnett, John Sheets, William Congrere, Richard Nicholls, Francis Langfitt, Bailey Rice, Jacob Deem, Peter Anderson, Moses Rollins, Jacob Beeson.
PART THREE—PERIOD OF THE LATER INDIAN WARS (1783-1795)

The Year 1784

The settlements east of the Alleghanies were not disturbed by Indian hostilities as much as were those west of the mountains during the Revolutionary War, and therefore made greater progress during that period. The population increased rapidly west of Harpers Ferry along the Potomac and up the South Branch. In spite of frequent Indian incursions into the settlements west of the Alleghanies during the war, by the year 1784 settlers' cabins were to be found in great numbers on the upper Monongahela and its principal tributaries, in the Greenbrier country, and on the upper Ohio and its tributaries. At the beginning of the year there were but few settlements, if any, between Moundsville and the site of Huntington. The settlement at Point Pleasant was abandoned in the summer of 1779, and was not renewed until in November, 1784. During that period no settler was probably so daring as to occupy a cabin in the Great Kanawha Valley.

Old and New Counties of West Virginia

At the close of the struggle for our independence, in 1783, five of West Virginia’s counties had been organized—Hampshire, Berkley, Ohio, Monongalia, and Greenbrier. The most densely populated was Berkley, with a population of approximately 11,000. Hampshire came second, with a population of about 8,000. Greenbrier had upwards of 6,000, Monongalia about 2,400, and Ohio approximately 2,000.

At that time Montgomery County, Virginia, extended to the Ohio River, and included all that part of West Virginia between the Great Kanawha and Big Sandy rivers. That
part of West Virginia had few, if any, permanent settlements prior to 1784.

In 1784 Harrison County was created from territory contributed by Monongalia County. The original boundaries of the new county included, either wholly or in part, the present counties of Randolph, Barbour, Marion, Pleasants, Jackson, Calhoun, Braxton, Pocahontas, Lewis, Tucker, Taylor, Wood, Wirt, Gilmer, Upshur, Webster, and Ritchie, given in order of their creation.

Indian Hostilities Renewed

Soon after the close of the Revolutionary War the governor of Canada called the great Indian chiefs together at Detroit and told them that the British and the Americans were no longer at war with each other. Before dismissing them, he advised them to make peace with the whites. The Indians were sullen and disappointed. Left without their former allies, the British, many of the chiefs favored peace. A short uneasy lull in the long struggle with savages along the western border of Virginia soon followed. During this brief period several fruitless treaties were concluded with the frontier tribes. Often the treaties were violated by the whites as well as by the Indians. White men were attempting to settle on the Muskingum River, in the Ohio country, as early as the year 1783. A letter sent from Fort Pitt to Governor Harrison of Virginia informed him that about four hundred men from the frontier of Virginia, now West Virginia, had crossed the Ohio to settle on the Muskingum River.

The Indians were determined to drive the intruders away from their hunting ground, and break up the settlements on the southern border of the Ohio. They renewed their raids on the border settlers of Virginia in 1784. In 1785 they committed depredations in Greenbrier, Ohio, Monongalia, Harrison, and Montgomery counties.
Settlement at Neal’s Station

The records of Augusta County, Virginia, show that David Richardson and others claimed that, in December, 1773, 28,400 acres of land at the mouth of the Little Kanawha was patented to them, in consideration of military services in the French and Indian War. In 1773 several tomahawk improvements were made on the land by Robert Thornton, Benjamin Harding, Mark Harding, Henry Castle and others. But it appears that the first permanent settlement at the mouth of the Little Kanawha River was made by Captain James Neal, a veteran of the Revolutionary War, who erected Neal’s Station, in the winter of 1785-1786, on the south side of the Little Kanawha, about one mile from the Ohio, to which he brought his family from Greene County, Pennsylvania, in 1787. Here he lived until he died, in 1822. During the later Indian wars his station was a prominent place of protection for both settlers and travelers.

The Second Settlement at Point Pleasant

The mouth of the Great Kanawha has long been a point of great interest. It was here that the French probably had a trading post and bartered with the Indians a quarter of a century or more before the armies of General Lewis and Cornstalk fought the famous battle.

We have already seen that in the summer of 1779 the settlement established at the mouth of the Great Kanawha immediately after the battle of Point Pleasant was abandoned and that no further attempt was made to make a settlement there until in November, 1784. Thus it may be seen that the old settlement at Point Pleasant was not continuous.

In the autumn of 1784, Andrew Lewis, Jr., Thomas Lewis, and William Lewis brought settlers to the place and laid out a town into lots and streets. By an agreement, dated November 20, 1784, Andrew Lewis, Jr., was to give
a town lot to each of nineteen men named therein for their service in protecting the new settlement against Indian hostilities. Among these protectors were the famous pioneers, Thomas Teays, Joseph Looney, Shadrach Harri man, Leonard Cooper, Charles McClung, and Jacob Vanbibber.

In 1794, by an act of the Virginia Assembly, the settlement was established as a town under the name of Point Pleasant.

Native Animals and Birds

When the first white visitors came into the forests of West Virginia, they found many kinds of wild animals. Small herds of buffalo and elk, unmolested, save by the arrow of the Indian hunter, had long wandered over the hills and mountains and through the valleys, and their presence in later years gave names to many springs or licks, creeks and ridges. But most of them soon disappeared before the rifle of the pioneer hunter. A few still lingered in the forest after 1800. The bear, the deer, the wolf, and the panther remained numerous a few years longer.

Of the fowls of the air, the pheasant, the wild pigeon, and the wild turkey were of greatest interest to the early hunters. The wild pigeons and the wild turkeys were very destructive to the grain crops of the pioneer settlers. Both were extremely abundant. The wild pigeons often came in flocks that darkened the sky. The lovers of pigeon pot-pie often visited the great pigeon roosts and easily killed enough to supply their wants.

Moving Westward

From the earliest in colonial days the people had been moving slowly westward, at first from the coast to the falls of the great rivers, thence through the Piedmont section to the Blue Ridge Mountains and the great valley beyond, and later across the Alleghanies to the Ohio Valley.
Although many of the pioneer settlers west of the Alleghanies came westward from across the mountains, the Ohio River was the chief highway to the western lands. The Kentucky country was widely known for its fertility, and attracted many settlers even before the close of the Revolutionary War, and an untold number during the decade that followed. Thousands of these came overland along Boone's old Wilderness Trail, but the greater number came by water.

During the same period other sections of the Ohio Valley were attracting home-seekers in great numbers. The Ordinance of 1787 opened up the way for settlement in all the territory northwest of the Ohio, and that river was no longer the limit of the great westward movement. In 1786 the erection of Fort Harmar at the mouth of the Muskingum River, on its western side, was completed. In 1788 the first permanent settlement in Ohio was made opposite Fort Harmar, and named Marietta. In the same year Cincinnati was founded. During that year approximately eight hundred boats, carrying ten thousand emigrants, went down the Ohio.

Perils of the Ohio

Numerous perils beset early navigation on the Ohio. For many years travel on the river was at great risk of life. The stream itself was unknown and unsafe, being obstructed by sand bars, snags, and great boulders.

During the great flood of immigration westward, roving bands of Indians camped along the shores of the Ohio, and watched and waited to fall upon the unwary voyagers. White prisoners were often used as decoys to bring the boats to the shore; but those on board usually suspected danger, and the boat was kept in mid-stream. Fear of treachery caused many a poor captive, who was really trying to escape, to be left to suffer the vengeance of his savage pursuers. The full history of the many deadly encounters, the bloody massacres, and the hopeless captivities enacted on the Ohio can never be written.
New Counties Created

Between the years 1784 and 1790 four new counties were created in the West Virginia area. They were Hardy, Randolph, Pendleton, and Kanawha.

In 1786 Hardy County was formed from Hampshire, and named for Samuel Hardy, of Virginia. Settlements began in the new county in 1740. When created the county had a population of about 6,000. Moorefield became the seat of justice.

Randolph County was erected in 1787 from part of Harrison County, and named for Edmund Randolph. It was first settled in 1754, but permanent settlements began about 1772. In 1790 it had a population of 951. Beverly was for many years the county seat.

Pendleton County was formed in 1788 from parts of Augusta, Hardy and Rockingham counties, and named for Edmund Pendleton. It was settled about 1747, and had a population of about 2,450, in 1790. Franklin became the seat of justice.

The act forming Kanawha County from parts of Greenbrier and Montgomery passed the Virginia Assembly in 1788, but the new county was not organized until October, 1789. It joined on Harrison County, and extended down the Ohio River from near Belleville, now in Wood County, to the Big Sandy River, and included approximately all the territory of the present West Virginia counties lying southwest of the Little Kanawha River, from the southern borders of greater Harrison County to the southern border of present McDowell County. It was sparsely settled, the population being about 2,500. The Clendenin Settlement (Charleston) became the seat of Justice.

Daniel Boone Settles in West Virginia

Daniel Boone, the most famous pioneer and backwoodsman of early American history, was for a decade or more a resident of the Great Kanawha Valley. He was born in
Pennsylvania, and removed with his parents to the Yadkin River in North Carolina, where he married. He became the founder of Kentucky, where he took up several large tracts of land. His carelessness in securing clear titles for his land holdings caused him to lose all that he possessed. About the year 1786, he took his family to Point Pleasant, which was then in Greenbrier County, Virginia, but three years later in Kanawha County. He soon removed to a more retired home on the south bank of the Great Kanawha, a short distance above Charleston. While living in Kanawha County, he served as deputy-surveyor, lieutenant-colonel of the county militia, and delegate to the Legislature at Richmond. About 1797 he removed to Missouri, where he died in 1820, at the age of eighty-six.

The Great Kanawha Valley in 1787

When the new settlement was started and a new fort completed and garrisoned at the mouth of the Great Kanawha, in 1784, the pioneer settlers who had abandoned their homes along the upper Kanawha about 1779 for want of protection against Indian hostilities, began to return to their clearings and rebuild their cabins. By the year 1787 about sixty families had established homes on the river, some on the Greenbrier side and others on the Montgomery side. The Ohio Indians tried to break up the settlements, and gave the settlers much trouble during 1787. Roving bands of savages stole furs and horses and kept the families in constant fear of the tomahawk and scalping-knife.

In 1787, if not earlier, Lewis Tackett, a bold pioneer, built Fort Tackett near the mouth of Coal River. This fort was built a year or more before the founding of the settlement at the mouth of Elk River, where Charleston now stands.
The Great Kanawha Valley in 1788

According to information furnished by George Clendenin, dated January 5, 1788, there were at that time four small stations in the valley—one at Point Pleasant, then in Greenbrier County; one at the mouth of Coal River, in Montgomery County; one at John Morris' home on the south side of the Kanawha, nearly opposite Malden, in Montgomery County; and one at the mouth of Kelley's Creek, the home of William Morris, Sr. It was recommended that these stations be supplied with more men to protect the inhabitants and encourage further settlements.

In the spring of 1788 George Clendenin and others made the first permanent settlement at the mouth of Elk River, where Charleston now stands. A block-house and about six rude cabins were built. Fort Clendenin, later named Fort Lee, became a famous place of refuge in times of danger. The new settlement became the seat of justice of Kanawha County only about seventeen months after it was founded.

Early Settlers in Elk River Valley

Soon after the settlement at the mouth of Elk River, where Charleston now stands, had been fully established, home-seekers began building their cabins on the lower waters of that stream. About the year 1790 Leonard Cooper and William Porter settled in the vicinity of Cooper's Creek and Porter's Island. Soon thereafter the Newhouses, the Youngs, the Prices, the Baxters, the Hammacks, the Cobbs, the Naylors, and the Jarretts—mainly from Greenbrier County—settled on Elk River, within easy reach of the Clendenin Fort.

About the year 1791 Jeremiah Carpenter, Benjamin Carpenter, and others, came from Bath County and settled on upper Elk River waters, within the present limits of Braxton County. They were soon joined by Adam O'Brien, a noted backwoodsman. O'Brien incautiously blazed the
trees in various directions from his cabin as guides back to his forest home. One of these marked traces led a band of Indians to his cabin. Finding no one in the cabin, they proceeded to the home of Benjamin Carpenter, killed and scalped both Carpenter and his wife, then reduced their cabin to ashes. The other settlers made their escape to the West Fork settlements, leaving behind them their stock and other possessions to be destroyed by the savages.

Two Heroines of Service on the Border

The border history of West Virginia shows that not all the heroic service on the frontier was rendered by men. Traditional history, now almost forgotten, told of many acts of bravery performed by heroines of the frontier settlements. Prominent on the pages of our local history are the names of Betty Zane and Anne Bailey.

It is told that in 1782 during the second siege at Fort Henry (Wheeling) the supply of powder ran low, and on her urgent request Betty Zane was allowed to run to the cabin of Ebenezer Zane, some distance away, to secure the needed supply. She returned with the powder without injury, although she passed through a storm of gunfire in going and returning.

Anne Bailey, a pioneer heroine of the Great Kanawha Valley, had a long career as spy, scout, and messenger. She hunted, rode alone through the wilderness, and fought the Indians like a Boone or a Kenton. For several years she resided at Fort Clendenin (Fort Lee) at Charleston. She died in Gallia County, Ohio, in 1825.

Pioneer Forts

The Indians in their savage attacks upon the white settlers did not spare even the infant in its cradle. For the protection of the women and children as well as for the men log structures of defense were built. These places of defense were of three classes, known respectively as
block-houses, stockades, and forts, according to the plan of construction. The block-house was a two-story building made of large logs, the walls of the upper story projecting about two feet beyond those of the lower story. The stockade was an enclosed space made by setting on end firmly in the ground a line of strong posts or logs, called palisades. The fort usually combined the plan of both the block-house and the stockade. It consisted of cabins, block-houses, and stockades. The block-houses were built at the angles of the fort. The walls of the stockades, cabins, and block-houses were provided with port-holes. A large folding gate made of thick slabs closed the fort.

Life in Frontier Forts

The fort was not only a place of safety in times of savage attacks, but the residence of a small number of families as well. Back in the forest only a few miles from the fort stood the plantation cabins, surrounded in the summer by patches of corn, beans, and other vegetables. Here in times of peace the settlers lived in happiness and perfect contentment. But their tranquility was not usually of long duration. In times of war the Indians made long journeys to reach the frontier settlements, and at last to hide in the woods near their unsuspecting prey to fall suddenly upon them in the darkness of the night. Owing to the exposure in the cold weather, the nakedness of the woods, and the increased facility of pursuing their trail in the snows, the Indians did not usually make incursions into the settlements during the winter. But on the approach of summer, scouts, employed to watch along the principal trails for signs of the enemy, were required to be more vigilant. At their warning the settlers abandoned their homes and sought shelter and safety within the walls of the fort, there to spend the long summer, with ever a fear that probably within the shadow of the stockade there lurked the stealthy foe.
The men were often compelled by necessity to venture outside to raise the crops or secure meat for the sustenance of their families, who sometimes had little or no food. Not infrequently did they eat their venison, bear meat, or wild turkey without bread or salt.

Life in the fort was attended by a full share of loneliness and solitude. In the gloom of the evening and in the darkness of the night the monotony was often broken by the dull hoot of the foreboding owl, the hideous howl of the wolf, or the fierce scream of the panther. These made the inmates often long for the help, sympathy and companionship of the friends of former days.

Locations of a Few of the Pioneer Forts of West Virginia

**FORT ARBUCKLE**—On Muddy Creek, at the mouth of Mill Creek, in Greenbrier County.

**FORT ASHBY**—On Patterson's Creek, in Mineral County. Erected in 1755.

**FORT BAKER**—At the head of Cresap's Bottom, in Marshall County.

**FORT BALDWIN**—In Monongalia County, on the site of Blacksville.

**FORT BECKLEY**—Near Greenbrier River, in Pocahontas County. Sometimes called Fort Day or Fort Price.

**FORT BELLEVILLE**—On the present site of Belleville, in Wood County. Erected 1785-1786.

**FORT BLAIR**—On the site of Point Pleasant. Erected in November, 1774, by Captain Russell and others. Evacuated in 1775 and burned either by the soldiers at the time of its evacuation or soon thereafter by Indians.

**FORT BUCKHANON**—On the site of Buckhannon, in Upshur County. Built by John Jackson, the pioneer of the Jackson family of this region.

**FORT BURNSIDES**—On Greenbrier River. Erected prior to 1773.

**FORT BUSH**—On the Buckhannon River, near the site of Buckhannon. Erected by John Bush.
FORT BUTTERMILK—On the South Branch of the Potomac, in Hardy County. Erected in 1756.

FORT COOK—In Monroe County, on Indian Creek, near Red Sulphur Springs.

FORT COON—On West Fork River, in Harrison County.

FORT COOPER—On the Great Kanawha, about eight miles from its mouth, in Mason County. Erected by Leonard Cooper, in 1792.

FORT CULBERTSON—In Crump's Bottom, on New River, in Summers County. Erected in 1774.

FORT CURRENCE—Near the site of the village of Crickhard, in Randolph County. Erected in 1774.

FORT DONNALLY—About ten miles northwest of Lewisburg, in Greenbrier County. Erected by Colonel Andrew Donnally, in 1771.

FORT DRENNIN—Near Edray, in Pocahontas County.

FORT EDWARDS—On or near the site of the village of Capon Bridge, in Hampshire County.

FORT EVANS—Near Martinsburg, Berkeley County. Erected in 1755-1756.

FORT FLINN—On the Ohio River, at the mouth of Lee's Creek, in Wood County.

FORT FRIEND—On Leading Creek, in Randolph County.

FORT HADDEN—On the west side of Tygart's River, at the mouth of Elkwater Creek, in Randolph County.

FORT HENRY—Formerly Fort Fincastle, on the Ohio River, at Wheeling.

FORT HOLLIDAY—On the site of Holliday's Cove, in Hancock County.

FORT JACKSON—John Jackson's residence on the site of Buckhannon; also a fort erected in 1774 on Tenmile Creek, in Harrison County.

FORT KELLEY—On the site of Cedar Grove, in Kanawha County. Usually known as Kelley's Station. Erected by William Morris, Sr., in 1774.

FORT KERNS—Near the mouth of Decker's Creek, in Monongalia County.
FORT LEE—On the site of Charleston, at the northeast corner of Kanawha and Brooks streets. Sometimes called Fort Clendenin. Erected in 1788 by George Clendenin and others.

FORT LIBERTY—On the site of West Liberty, Ohio County.

FORT LINK—In Ohio County, near the town of Triadelphia. Erected in 1780, by Jonathan Link.

FORT MARTIN—At the mouth of Fish Creek, in Marshall County. Erected by Presley Martin.

FORT MARTIN—On Crooked Run, on the west side of the Monongahela River, in Monongalia County. Erected by Charles Martin.

FORT MINEAR—On Cheat River, on the present site of St. George, Tucker County. Erected by John Minear, in 1776.

FORT MORGAN—On the site of Morgantown, Monongalia County.

FORT MORGAN—On Hog Run, a tributary of Sandy Creek, now in Preston County. Erected in 1774, by Richard Morris.

FORT MORGAN—On the south bank of the Great Kanawha, opposite the mouth of Campbell's Creek, in Kanawha County. Erected in 1774, by John Morris.

FORT NEAL—On the south bank of the Little Kanawha, one mile from its mouth, in the vicinity of Parkersburg, Wood County. Better known as Neal's Station.

FORT NUTTER—On the south bank of Elk Creek, near Clarksburg, Harrison County. Erected about 1772, by four brothers—Thomas, Mathew, John, and Christopher Nutter.

FORT PAWPAW—On Pawpaw Creek, in present Marion County.

FORT PIERPOINT—Near Easton, in Monongalia County. Erected in 1769, by John Pierpoint.

FORT POWERS—On Simpson's Creek, in Harrison County. Probably erected by John Powers, in 1771.
FORT PRICKETT—At the mouth of Prickett’s Creek, on the east side of the Monongahela River, five miles below Fairmont, Marion County.

FORT RANDOLPH—On the site of Fort Blair, at Point Pleasant. Erected by Captain Mathew Arbuckle and others, in 1776. Evacuated and burned in 1779, when the settlement was abandoned. Settlement renewed in November, 1784, when a new fort was built on the Ohio River bank, fifty rods above the site of the former forts—Fort Blair and Fort Randolph.

FORT RICE—On Buffalo Creek, near where Bethany College now stands, in Brooke County. Erected by Abraham and Daniel Rice, prior to 1782.

FORT RICHARDS—Near the mouth of Sycamore Creek, six miles from Clarksburg, Harrison County.

FORT SAVANNAH—On the site of Lewisburg, Greenbrier County.

FORT SEYBERT—On the South Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac, in Pendleton County.

FORT SHEPHERD—At the Forks of Wheeling Creek, in Ohio County. Built by David Shepherd.

FORT STATLER—On Dunkard Creek, now in Monongalia County. Erected about 1770 by John Statler.

FORT STUART—Near Fort Spring Depot, on Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, in Greenbrier County. Erected by John Stuart, 1769.

FORT TACKETT—On the Great Kanawha, one-half mile below the mouth of Coal River, near St. Albans, Kanawha County. Erected by Lewis Tackett, in 1787, or earlier, and destroyed by Indians probably as late as 1790.

FORT TOMLINSON—On the site of Moundsville, Marshall County. Erected by Joseph Tomlinson and others, about 1773-1774.

FORT VAN METER—On Short Creek, about five miles from its mouth, in Ohio County. Erected in 1774.

FORT WARWICK—Virgil A. Lewis, historian, gives Huttonville District, Randolph County, as the location, and the
historian, J. T. McAllister, of Virginia, states that there was a fort of this name on Deer Creek, about three miles from its mouth and about four miles from Cass, Pocahontas County.

**FORT WELLS**—On the dividing ridge between the waters of Cross Creek and Harmon's Creek, in what is now Brooke County.

**FORT WEST**—On Hacker's Creek, in Lewis County, near the town of Jane Lew. Erected by Alexander West and others, about 1770.

**FORT WESTFALL**—One-fourth mile from Beverly, Randolph County. Erected by Jacob Westfall, in 1774.

**FORT WETZEL**—On Wheeling Creek, in present Marshall County. Built and defended by John Wetzel and his sons—Martin, Lewis, Jacob, George, and John.

**FORT WILSON**—In Tygart's Valley, near the mouth of Chenoweth Creek, between Beverly and Elkins, Randolph County. Built and defended by Colonel Benjamin Wilson.

**FORT WOODS**—On Rich Creek, in Monroe County, and about four miles east of Peterstown. Built about 1773, by Captain Michael Woods.

**Famous Scouts and Rangers on the West Virginia Frontier**

Many were the frontiersmen who risked their own lives fighting Indians, that the feeble settlements on the West Virginia frontier might be protected. Prominent among the early scouts and rangers were the following:

Daniel Boone, who after leaving Kentucky, was for ten years a resident of the Great Kanawha Valley.

John Wetzel, a pioneer on Wheeling Creek, and his son, Lewis Wetzel, who alone killed more than one hundred Indians.

Ebenezer Zane and his three brothers, Silas, Jonathan, and Isaac, founders of Wheeling.

Samuel McColloch, whose steed made the famous leap over a precipice near Fort Henry.
Zackquill Morgan, founder and protector of Morgantown.

David Morgan, who killed two Indians in an encounter near Fort Prickett.

Isaac Williams, a pioneer in the vicinity of Moundsville, and founder of Williamstown, in Wood County.

John Stuart, a pioneer of Greenbrier County.

Jesse Hughes, who hated Indians and killed them because they killed his father.

Elias Hughes, who was the last survivor of the battle of Point Pleasant.

John Bush, the builder of Bush's Fort at Buckhannon.

Jacob Bush, who often pursued Indians from the West Fork country to the Ohio.

William White, the main stay of the Buckhannon Fort, near which he was finally killed by Indians.

William Crawford, friend of George Washington, and who was captured by Indians in the Ohio Country and burned at the stake.

John Young, a famous protector of the Great Kanawha Valley.

William Hacker, Sr., a pioneer of the Hacker's Creek settlement.

William Lowther, first sheriff of Harrison County, also of Wood County.

John Cutright, a protector of the Buckhannon settlements.

David Casto, a pioneer of present Upshur County.

Alexander West, one of the builders of West's Fort.

Jacob Westfall, builder of Fort Westfall at Beverly.

David Sleeth, a pioneer of the Buckhannon settlement.

John Jackson, and his son George, noted pioneers of the Buckhannon settlement.

Thomas Hannon, a pioneer of Point Pleasant and the earliest settler in Cabell County.

William Powers, a pioneer of Harrison County.

Lewis Bonnert and his brothers, Peter and John, the last
named killed while pursuing Indians on the Little Kanawha River.

Fleming Cobbs, who shot the last Indian killed in the Great Kanawha Valley.

Shadrach Harriman, the last man killed by Indians in the Great Kanawha Valley.

John Carpenter, who fought with General Braddock, Colonel Crawford, and General St. Clair, and was a companion of Lewis Wetzel.

Samuel Brady, the famous scout east of the Alleghanies.

Andrew and Adam Poe, who scouted along the upper Ohio, and are remembered partly for their famous fight with Bigfoot, the Indian chief.

The Closing Years of the Indian Wars on the Virginia Frontier

The opening of the Ohio country to white settlement did not confine Indian hostilities to that region. They continued their forays into the Virginia settlements east and south of the Ohio for several years after the founding of Marietta, 1788.

In August, 1789, a small band of Indians crossed the Ohio and started on their way to the settlements on the Monongahela. On Little Island Creek they met two white men riding along a narrow path, and killed and scalped them. Taking the two horses with them, they continued on their route until they came to the house of William Johnson on Tenmile Creek. They made prisoners of Mrs. Johnson and some children, and proceeded back toward the Ohio. Mr. Johnson and others had followed the trail of the savages only a short distance when they found four of the children tomahawked and scalped. The bodies were buried, and further pursuit was abandoned.

In the same year, 1789, two Indians went to the home of a Mr. Glass, in what is now Brooke County, and made prisoners of Mrs. Glass and her child and a negro woman
and her child. After proceeding a short distance toward the Ohio River, the savages killed the negro child. Later in the day they came to the river and passed down the stream about five miles, and encamped a few miles back from the north bank of the river. Early the next morning the Indians continued on their journey toward their towns, encamping again late in the afternoon. Meanwhile Mr. Glass had collected ten men, and followed the trail of the Indians and their prisoners, and here in their camp the men came upon them, wounded one of the savages and rescued the prisoners.

About the year 1790 a sick girl in Clendenin's Fort, at Charleston, begged for a drink of water from a cool spring across the Kanawha just opposite the fort. James Hale, her young lover, and another man went to the spring, filled their pails, and had started on their return to the fort, when lurking savages fired upon them, killing Hale instantly. His companion made his escape by swimming the river. The spring is still known as "Hale's Spring."

In May, 1790, John McIntire and his wife in returning from a visit passed through Uriah Ashcraft's yard, and soon thereafter Mr. Ashcraft was startled by the sudden growling of his dog. Stepping quickly to the door, he saw an Indian holding his gun ready to shoot. Closing the door, Mr. Ashcraft ascended the stairs that he might have a fair aim at the savage intruder, but he soon found that his gun failed to fire. Mr. Ashcraft then called loudly for help, and as his neighbors approached the cabin the savage and his companions retreated. About a mile from the home of Mr. Ashcraft the scalped body of John McIntire was found. Mrs. McIntire was carried a prisoner for a short distance, then killed and scalped.

In May, 1791, a large party of Indians, about thirty in number, attacked eighteen white men at a point on the Ohio River about one mile above Point Pleasant. The whites were defeated, and two of their number, Michael Sea, or See, and Robert St. Clair were killed, and one white
man and a negro boy were taken prisoners.

Later in the same year, 1791, James Kelley, who, with his family, resided at Belleville, in present Wood County, while working in his field, was killed and scalped by a party of Indians. The Indians, at the same time, captured his son, Joseph, who was taken to the Indian country beyond the Ohio, where he remained until the treaty of peace was signed at Greenville in 1795.

In August, 1791, a band of Indians crossed the Ohio a short distance below the site of Parkersburg for the purpose of destroying Fort Neal (Neal’s Station). While they were hiding in the woods near the fort waiting for night to come on, in the dusk of the evening they killed and scalped two small boys, who were hunting for their cows. That night the Indians made an unsuccessful attempt to burn the block-house. The men of the fort drove them back across the Ohio. The fate of the two boys was not known until early the next morning, when their bodies were found by a searching party from the fort.

Early in June, 1791, a large party of Indians committed numerous depredations in the upper Ohio River settlements. Captain Lawson Van Buskirk, while leading about forty men in pursuit, was ambushed by the enemy, about thirty strong, and Captain Van Buskirk and one of his men were killed. The contest lasted more than one hour, both the Indians and the whites fighting from behind trees and logs. The Indians were finally forced to retreat.

In June, 1791, Indians attacked the family of Daniel Jolly, whose home was in the neighborhood of Wheeling. The family consisted of the parents and four children, with one grandchild. Mrs. Jolly and two other members of the family were killed. One son and a nephew of Mrs. Jolly were taken prisoners. Two of the children were absent from the home, and thus escaped.

Early one morning in May, 1792, a Mr. Hewett, who lived at Neal’s Station, left the station and went into the woods in search of his horse. While walking along an
obscure path about one mile from the station, he was surprised and captured by three Indians. In the wilderness, not far beyond the Ohio, his captors halted to hunt for game. They tied their prisoner in the camp and left him alone while they were hunting. Hewett succeeded in releasing himself, and finally found his way back to his home.

In the autumn of 1792 Daniel Rowell, Henry Neal, and a Mr. Triplett, residents of Neal’s Station, went up the Little Kanawha in search of game. Near the mouth of Burning Springs Run, in present Wirt County, they were attacked by Indians. Neal and Triplett were shot and killed, but Rowell made his escape. Neal was a son of Captain James Neal, and Rowell was Captain Neal’s son-in-law.

In 1792 a party of Indians came to the home of John Waggoner, who lived on Jesse’s Run, a tributary of Hacker’s Creek. They found Mr. Waggoner sitting on a log near his cabin. An Indian fired at him, the bullet passing through the sleeves of his shirt. Waggoner then made his escape. In the meantime the other Indians had gone to the cabin, killed a boy in the yard, and made prisoners of Mrs. Waggoner and her other children. Waggoner and others soon followed in close pursuit. They had gone only a short distance when they found the dead bodies of Mrs. Waggoner and three of the children. Further pursuit was later abandoned. Peter Waggoner, the only surviving boy, remained with the Indians for more than twenty years. He married an Indian woman and they had two children when he returned to spend the remainder of his life in Hacker’s Creek settlements, leaving his Indian family behind. In 1814 he married a white woman, and raised a family of children; but he often lamented having left his Indian family.

In the autumn of 1793, while hunting on the Virginia side of the Ohio River, near Marietta, Ohio, and still nearer Williamstown, in Wood County, Bird Lockhart came upon
two Indians. Both he and the Indians took shelter behind trees. One of the savages having selected a tree too small to hide his body, was shot by Lockhart. The other savage, after some delay, left his hiding place and started toward Lockhart; but finding that Lockhart had reloaded his gun, he sprang behind another tree. While each was remaining behind his tree, Lockhart pushed his hat out to the side of his tree, and the Indian, thinking that Lockhart’s head was exposed, fired at the hat. Lockhart then succeeded in killing the savage.

The family of George Tush resided on Wheeling Creek, and consisted of the parents and five children. In September, 1794, while Mr. Tush was feeding some hogs near his cabin, he was fired upon by three Indians, one of the balls striking his shoulder blade. Crazed by pain and fear, instead of running for the house, he made his way into the woods and thus escaped. Three of his children were killed and scalped; and another child was tomahawked, scalped, and left for dead, but she recovered, married, and reared a family of children. Mrs. Tush was taken captive.

In 1794 John Armstrong, residing on the Virginia side of the Ohio River, near Blennerhassett Island, went out of his cabin one dark night to ascertain the cause of the fierce barking of his watch-dog. He saw three or four Indians near the cabin and instantly fired upon them, then ran into the cabin and barred the door. The savages soon burst open the door. Mrs. Armstrong and three of the children were tomahawked and scalped, and the three remaining children were made prisoners. Mr. Armstrong, finding successful resistance impossible, made his escape through the roof of his cabin.

In July, 1794, Jacob Cozad’s four boys were captured by Indians while bathing in a swimming hole on Hacker’s Creek, at the mouth of Lawson Run. The youngest of the boys was tomahawked, and the other boys were taken to the Indian village in the Ohio country. They returned home after the close of the Indian wars.
In 1794 a small band of savages crossed the Ohio River and were proceeding toward the settlements on the upper waters of the Monongahela, when they met with Joseph Cox, who was on his way to the mouth of Leading Creek, a tributary of the Little Kanawha. Mr. Cox was on his horse, which, when wheeled for flight, became stubborn and refused to move. Mr. Cox dismounted and ran for his life, but he was soon overtaken and captured. He was taken to the Indian towns, but he finally made his escape and returned to the settlements.

We have seen that the Indians who gave the border settlers so much trouble, came from the region northwest of the Ohio River. When the Marietta settlement was founded and Congress established government in the Northwest Territory, with General Arthur St. Clair as first governor, the Indians became more than ever determined to drive all white intruders out of the Ohio Valley. White men were then building their cabins along the Muskingum and in other parts of the Northwest. In 1789 St. Clair concluded the treaty of Fort Harmar with some of the tribes, but most of those interested refused to make a treaty. War followed, and the settlers on the north and the south sides of the Ohio suffered greatly. There were three campaigns in the struggle. The first, under the command of General Harmar, resulted in his defeat. The second campaign was under the leadership of General St. Clair, who suffered a terrible defeat.

It then seemed for a time that all the country north of the Ohio would fall into the hands of the Indians. The region had finally to be won for settlement by the United States Army. President Washington sent out General Anthony Wayne to conduct the third campaign. In August, 1794, he met the red warriors in the battle of Fallen Timbers, on the Maumee River, where he administered to them a crushing defeat. In August, 1795, Wayne and the Indian chiefs entered into an agreement known as the Treaty of Greenville, by which the Indians were to with-
draw from eastern Ohio (about two-thirds of the present State) and surrender their white captives, many of whom had been carried away from what is now West Virginia. This removal of the savages farther west put an end to Indian hostilities in present West Virginia. No longer was it necessary for the inhabitants of the scattered plantations to desert their homes and seek refuge within the walls of forts.

Pioneer Days and Ways

When a home-seeker moved farther west into the wilderness, he selected land, usually near a stream or spring so that an ample supply of water would never be wanting. The site selected, the first work was to clear the ground where the cabin was to stand. When the logs for the walls of the cabin had been cut, if the settler had neighbors he was likely to have their aid in raising them into proper position. The logs were fitted into each other at the corners by notches cut into them so that they held each other in place and made a comparatively tight wall. The spaces between the logs were chinked with sticks and daubed with mud-mortar. Rafters were affixed to the uppermost logs and to one another with wooden pins through auger holes. The roof was usually of clapboards, weighted down with heavy poles. A huge fireplace occupied a part of one side of the cabin. Often the house had only one room with perhaps a loft overhead where part of the family slept. Sometimes there was only an earth floor, but usually puncheons were used in laying the floor. These were made by splitting logs and dressing down the faces with a broad-ax or an adz. There was commonly a single door, made of thick slabs and hung on wooden hinges. Square holes in the walls were used as windows. Oiled paper answered for window panes. The settler made his own bedsteads, chairs, cupboards, and tables.

As soon as the house was completed the family moved
in. But soon a more arduous task faced the pioneer. He must clear and fence fields for his first crops of corn, beans, pumpkins, and potatoes. It required a great deal of labor to clear the land. The numerous bushes had to be grubbed and piled, the saplings felled, the larger trees girdled, the brush burned, the logs cut and piled, then burned. Plowing among the stumps was no easy task. The pioneer was a hunter as well as a farmer. With the corn planted, he went in search of game. He depended upon his skill with his rifle for the support of his family till his crop was ready to eat. His main dependence was upon the deer. Bear meat was much relished and sometimes very plentiful. An abundance of wild turkeys and immense flocks of wild pigeons furnished a variety in diet. The rifle of the pioneer furnished also a part of the clothing for the family. The skin of the deer was dressed and made into breeches for the men and into moccasins to be worn instead of shoes. Fur-bearing animals like the beaver and the raccoon furnished hats and material for other clothes.

It usually required several years for the pioneer to get a “good start”. In time, if thrifty, he had a farm of several fields under cultivation and pasture fields for his horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs. Wolves, panthers, bears and catamounts often preyed upon his stock. In the days before the close of the Indian wars the savages would sometimes kill his cattle and steal his horses. As time went on he built a new and better house in which to live, and constructed barns and other farm buildings.

The pioneer often raised large crops of corn. Some of the corn had to be ground into meal. In early pioneer days this was done by a “mortar and pestle”. Usually the mortar was nothing more than a carefully made hollow in the top of a stump. The pestle was a heavy, rounded, wooden sledge, or hammer, which was used to pound and crush the corn. When mills sprang up, the settler hauled his corn to them. Sometimes he made part of his corn into whiskey,
which too many pioneers relished better than the corn in the form of pone and mush.

In the rude dwelling grew up the pioneer family—numerous and hardy. As a rule, the entire family shared in all the pioneer hardships. Hard work gave good appetites and healthful sleep. Their evenings in winter were pleasant and appreciated. In the hot ashes in front of the roaring fire the children roasted nuts and baked their apples, or popped their corn, while they listened with wide-eyed interest to the stories told of Indians, bears, panthers, and wolves. The family usually found clothing made of tanned hides uncomfortable. Sheep and flax were raised on the farm, and these furnished materials for home-spun cloth from which better clothing was made. The cooking utensils brought from the East were supplemented by those of home manufacture, such as wooden bowls, wooden plates, and wooden knives and forks. There were no stoves, therefore all the family's food was cooked before the open fireplace. There were no friction matches, and the fire was carefully kept over the night in the ashes. If it unfortunately “went out”, a fire was started by sparks from the flint-and-steel, or by live coals brought from a neighbor's hearth.

Pioneer people married very young—sometimes before they reached the age of sixteen. A wedding was a most interesting event. The groom and his attendants rode on horseback, accompanied by some of his brothers and sisters, as well as by the preacher. After the ceremony, came the dinner. Soon the dancing commenced, sometimes continuing till the late hours of the night.

For the first few years the early settlers gave but little time and means toward the education of their children. Some of the settlers taught their own children in their homes. Sometimes a teacher was hired by a few of the settlers and the children of the neighborhood were taught together in some home or in an abandoned cabin. Schools were taught in a few of the stockade forts before the close
of the Indian peril. In all these early schools were taught only reading, spelling, writing and arithmetic. Spelling was taught before reading.

Travelers in the earlier pioneer days were obliged to go chiefly by water. This method of travel was continued for many years. But the pioneer himself usually followed the footpaths leading the nearest way. As the population increased and settlements extended farther westward from the larger streams, the settlers were forced to depend more and more upon land travel. The trails were widened into bridle paths, and the bridle paths were widened into wagon roads, which later grew into highways.

Rivers were crossed at fords whenever possible, but ferries were established on the main lines of travel. Footbridges and other bridges were built over the smaller streams.
PART FOUR—A LONG PERIOD OF PROGRESS

The Closing Years of the Old Century

Immediately following the treaty that for ever closed the Indian menace in West Virginia there began a rapid expansion of settlements all along the Virginian border. Throughout the Monongahela Valley there was a great increase in the number of settlements, and the “clearings” of former years widened gradually into farms of considerable size. The rush of pioneer immigrants to the Ohio was very strong during the years 1796 and 1797. Prior to that time there had been only a few permanent settlements made along the middle Ohio or along its principal tributaries. By 1798 permanent settlements had been made in various places on the banks of the Ohio between Wheeling and the present site of Huntington, but for several years the settlements along the Ohio were few and far between.

By the year 1800 permanent settlers were found on the waters of Sandy, Guyandotte, and Coal rivers. Among these pioneer settlers were the Chapmans, Coopers, McComases, Lucases, Fryes, Adkinses, Dingesses, Shannons, Spurlocks, Lusks, Baileys, Jarrells, Fergusons, Pauleys, Marcums, Hatfields, Workmans, Stollings, Conleys, and Strattons—chiefly from the New River Valley.

Blennerhassett Island

Blennerhassett Island, rich in historic interest, lies in the Ohio River, a short distance below Parkersburg. It originally belonged to Washington, but later to Elijah Backus. In the fall of 1797 Harman Blennerhassett, a wealthy Irishman, made his appearance in the settlement at Marietta, Ohio. He had married Margaret Agnew, whose father had been governor of the Isle of Man. In 1798 they selected the upper portion of Backus Island, as it was
then called, for their western home, for which they paid Backus $4,500.

Soon after they moved into a block-house on the island, which they occupied until their famous mansion had been completed. Here, on what has since been known as Blennerhassett Island, lived Blennerhassett and his wife in pomp and splendor until Blennerhassett embarked with his fame and fortune in the scheme of the artful Aaron Burr to establish an empire in the Southwest. In only a few years, the ground and the stacks of chimneys were all that remained as the sorrowful monuments of their former greatness.

Washington’s Lands on the Ohio and Great Kanawha Rivers

During his trip down the Ohio and up the Great Kanawha in 1770 Washington selected for himself some of the best lands bordering on the Virginia side of the Ohio and along the lower Kanawha.

In a letter dated June 16, 1794, he states that, besides his Round Bottom tract, about fifteen miles below Wheeling, his lands on the Ohio and Great Kanawha rivers amounted to 32,373 acres, valued at three dollars and a third per acre, and that they were the “cream” of the country in which they were located.

Washington’s lands on the Ohio, below the mouth of the Little Kanawha, consisted of three surveys. The first, Washington’s Bottom survey, began about four miles below the mouth of the Little Kanawha, and embraced 2,314 acres. The second, the Ravenswood tract, embraced 2,448 acres. The third, just above the Big Bend, contained 4,395 acres. His land on the Great Kanawha consisted chiefly of four tracts, amounting in all to 23,216 acres.

Several years before the Revolutionary War Washington’s agents, Colonel William Crawford and others, surveyed for him these tracts of land, and in order to make
good his claims cabins were built and some land was cleared around each. Soon after these improvements had been completed Colonel Crawford complained to Washington that squatters were moving into the cabins without asking permission.

It was not until after 1800 that much of these lands grew into cultivated farms.

The Frontier Line in 1800

We have seen that a part of the frontier line of our country had been pushed back to the upper Ohio River as early as 1775. However, if we disregard the detached settlements near the Ohio and along that stream, the frontier line was in no place far west of the Alleghanies even as late as 1790. Within the next decade it moved rapidly toward the Mississippi. In 1800 it ran through Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Louisville. Western Virginia, Eastern Ohio, and Eastern Kentucky were no longer parts of the frontier of our country.

In 1800 Congress encouraged the westward movement by making it much easier to secure a portion of the public land. Many of the pioneers of West Virginia removed to Ohio and other parts of the Old Northwest soon after 1800.

Establishment of Early Towns

November, 1762, marks the time of the creation of the earliest West Virginia towns by legislative enactment. In that year and month Romney, in Hampshire County, and Mecklenburg, now Shepherdstown, then in Frederick County, were chartered as towns by the General Assembly of Virginia.

Bath, now Berkeley Springs, then in Berkeley County, but now in Morgan County, was chartered as a town in October, 1776.

Among the towns later chartered by the General Assembly of Virginia, prior to the year 1800, were Moorefield
(1777), Martinsburg (1778), Lewisburg (1782), Clarksburg (1785), Morgantown (1785), Charlestown (1786), West Liberty (1787), Beverly (1790), Charleston (1794), Point Pleasant (1794), and Wheeling (1795).

Union in Monroe County, Newport, now Parkersburg, and Franklin, in Pendleton County, were established as towns in 1800.

Evolution of River Craft

Of the various kinds of river craft used on the western waters in early times the simplest and the most used was the canoe. The "Canoe Age" has a long history, and a most interesting one. The earliest canoes were sometimes made from the bark of trees. When suitable barks could not be secured, canoes were sometimes made by stretching hides of animals over frameworks of wood. But the canoe most used in the Ohio Valley was the dugout canoe, usually made of a yellow poplar log by hollowing it to the desired depth by the use of fire and crude implements. The pirogue was a canoe sometimes made by sawing a canoe lengthwise and splicing it.

The most useful and most popular of the river craft in later years during the great westward migration was the flatboat. In size the flatboats varied greatly to suit the requirements of those using them. It was easily floated down stream, but too heavy to be poled up stream.

The keelboat was a long narrow boat painted and decked at both ends, and could be forced up stream. During a long period it was the only practicable craft in use for up-stream traffic.

After the invention of a practical steam engine by Watt in 1760, came the steamboat. In 1787 James Ramsey, of what is now West Virginia, gave his third steamboat a trial on the Potomac. In 1790 John Fitch ran a steamboat on the Delaware River. In 1807 Robert Fulton's
steamboat, the *Clermont*, made a trip on the Hudson River from New York to Albany; and four years later, the *New Orleans*, built at Pittsburgh by Nicholas Roosevelt and others, passed down the Ohio and Mississippi to New Orleans. Within a few years there were many steamers plying up and down the Mississippi and the Ohio and their tributaries.

The National Cumberland Road

As early as 1806 Congress appropriated sums of money for the construction of a highway connecting the Ohio River with tidewater. Starting at Cumberland on the Potomac, in 1811, the National Cumberland Road slowly wound its way over four mountain ridges to Wheeling. The road proved a powerful factor in the development of the West. It lay only a few miles within the borders of what is now West Virginia, but its influence in the development of new enterprises in the northwestern part of the State was great. After the completion of the road to the Ohio, 1818, and the subsequent extension through the State of Ohio, Wheeling became an important distributing point for passengers and freight. Over this road the products of West Virginia reached the eastern markets.

Other Early Roads in West Virginia

The building of roads in West Virginia began long before plans were laid for the construction of the Cumberland National Road. As early as 1743 steps were taken toward the establishment of a road from Winchester, Virginia, to the home of Colonel Morgan Morgan, at present Bunker Hill, in Berkeley County.

In 1782 a wagon road leading westward from Warm Springs, Virginia, to Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, was opened. In the same year a wagon road was opened from Warm Springs to Old Sweet Springs. About the year 1790 the road from Warm Springs to Lewisburg was ex-
tended to the head of the navigable waters of the Great Kanawha River, and later widened for wagons and extended to the Ohio. In later years it was known as the James River and Kanawha Turnpike. It is now followed in general by the Midland Trail.

The Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike began at Staunton, Virginia, and reached the mouth of the Little Kanawha. The history of its construction runs back to 1824, but the road was not completed until 1847.

The old Northwestern Turnpike, extending from Winchester, Virginia, to Parkersburg on the Ohio, was built partly as a rival of the National Cumberland Road. It was completed in 1838. The road lay almost wholly in West Virginia.

Early Travel and Transportation on the Highways

Improved roads brought into use better vehicles of travel and transportation, which contributed greatly to the migration of settlers and the development of pioneer industries. The primitive cart and wagon gave way to the family coach, the stagecoach, and the huge Conestoga wagon. “Moving families” at first usually made their way over the improved roads in canvas-covered wagons of their own, in which they carried household goods, tools, and sometimes even a part of the family. In later times freight was usually carried in Conestoga wagons, first made and used in Conestoga Valley, west of Philadelphia. These wagons were built to carry heavy loads, and were usually drawn by four or six horses. Over the main highways stagecoaches made their regular trips, carrying passengers, the United States mail, and sometimes freight. Here and there a village sprang up and a tavern was built to accommodate travelers.
Early Newspapers of West Virginia

The first newspaper published in West Virginia was The Potomac Guardian and Berkeley Advertiser, founded at Shepherdstown, in 1789 or 1790, but later moved to Martinsburg. In 1797 The Impartial Observer was started at Shepherdstown. About two years later The Martinsburg Gazette was established.

In 1800 John Alburtis established another newspaper at Martinsburg, and within the next decade newspapers were published at Charlestown, Morgantown, and Wheeling.

The earliest newspaper at Charleston was The Spectator, established in 1818 or 1819, which was soon followed by The Kanawha Patriot, founded in 1819 by Herbert P. Gaines.

Early Academies

The schoolmasters who made their appearance in the early settlements usually taught only the elementary subjects. Many of the pioneers demanded schools of higher order. Soon after the close of the Revolutionary War the larger towns took steps toward the establishment of academies. In 1785 an academy was established at Shepherdstown. Two years later the Randolph Academy at Clarksburg was founded. In the year 1797 the Charlestown Academy was incorporated; and in the same year the Brooke Academy, at Charlestown, now Wellsburg, was incorporated. Prior to 1820 similar schools were established at Lewisburg, Romney, Wheeling, Morgantown, Charleston, and perhaps at other places in what is now West Virginia.

West Virginia Towns on the Ohio in 1810

In 1810 Wheeling, besides the usual county buildings, had about one hundred and twenty houses, eleven stores, two potteries of stoneware, and a market-house.

Charlestown, now Wellsburg, was a town of eighty dwellings and an academy.
Elizabethtown, now Moundsville, was a village of only a few dwelling houses.

Middlebourne, then in Ohio County, was a small town with log houses.

Newport, now Parkersburg, was a small town, started in 1800 with about eight log houses.

Only two houses, log cabins, stood on the present site of Ravenswood, which was started as a town as late as 1836.

Point Pleasant was a town containing about twenty families, one store, a court-house, a log jail, a pillory, and a whipping-post.

Guyandotte, now a part of Huntington, was a new town with a few log cabins. Huntington had its beginning about sixty years later.

The War of 1812

Although the western counties of Virginia were far removed from the main field of military operations, the War of 1812 created considerable enthusiasm among the citizens of these counties. In speaking of their ready response to Virginia’s appeal for men to serve in the war a noted Virginia statesman said: “There was not a mountain, a river, a valley of the West that did not respond with animation to this appeal to the patriotism of Virginia. At the very cry of invasion and danger from the East every man of the West from the summit of the Blue Ridge to the shores of the Ohio, capable of bearing arms, mounted his horse, strapped on his knapsack and turned his face from home.”

Each of the sixteen West Virginia counties then existing sent men to the war. Some served on the eastern coast, some in the Northwest, and some in Canada. Some distinguished themselves as expert riflemen at the battle of New Orleans.
New Towns Established

In the opening years of the nineteenth century there was a rapid development of pioneer industries. In every densely populated section of the counties west of the mountains were found one or more stores, mills, blacksmith shops, tanneries, and boot and shoe shops. At the most inviting trade centers villages and towns sprang up and new industries were added.

Among the new towns chartered by the General Assembly of Virginia between 1800 and 1820 were Williamsport (Pruntytown), Elizabethtown (Moundsville), Guyandotte (part of Huntington), Middlebourne, Barboursville, Bridgeport, and Buckhannon. Within the next decade Summersville, Middletown (Fairmont), Harrisville, Elizabeth, Huntersville, Suttonsville (Sutton), Lawnsville (Logan), and other towns, were chartered.

Our Forest Resources

When white men first came within the present limits of West Virginia they found a forest cover spread over the entire area, save here and there an open glade, and in some of the river valleys a few small fields where the Indians had once lived and cultivated their crops. In our primitive forests there stood mammoth trees of various kinds—pine, hemlock, walnut, poplar, hickory, chestnut, sycamore, oak, and many other kinds.

A few of these gigantic trees measured from seven to ten feet in diameter, their trunks often holding their size, with not more than normal taper, for seventy feet.

For more than two centuries there has been a gradual reduction in the acreage of our virgin forests. The farmer and the lumberman have been at work clearing the land and cutting and using for various purposes the choice timber.
Evolution of the Sawmill

Our first settlers used the broad-axe, the adz, and the frow as the only devices for the manufacture of lumber. These were the forerunners of the sash, or up-and-down water sawmill, which in turn was followed by the portable steam sawmill and the modern band sawmill.

It is probable that there were a few sawmills in the valley of the Potomac River and its tributaries in the West Virginia area as early as 1760, and by the year 1777 two were in operation west of the Alleghanies. One of these was built by John Minear, in 1776, on the site of St. George, in Tucker County. In 1810 sawmills were running in practically all the older communities. In 1835 most of the sawmills were still operated by water power. After that time portable steam sawmills multiplied rapidly. The mammoth band sawmill was not introduced here until about 1880. It practically revolutionized the lumber industry.

The Lumber Industry

The sawing of lumber and the further working of lumber into manufactured products has been one of West Virginia’s leading industries for more than one hundred years. With the rapid increase in population, beginning about 1830, came an increasing demand for lumber. The old towns took on new life and many new towns and villages sprang into existence. Much lumber was needed in building houses and establishing industries. Improvements in transportation made it possible to ship wood products to distant markets where prices were more attractive.

Between 1830 and 1850 a vast amount of timber and its products were floated down the principal rivers and their larger tributaries. The numerous sawmills were kept busy in preparing lumber for the markets. From that time forward there was a steady advance in the timber industry of the State until about 1910, when the high-water mark was reached.
Early Gristmills

Before any gristmills were erected the pioneer settlers ground corn into meal by use of a mortar and pestle, or by use of the hand-mill, and sometimes the horse-mill. In time the mill-wright appeared, even before the Revolutionary War, and began building gristmills of a description denominated "tub-mills."

At first the mills were built to grind corn only, but when the farmers began to grow wheat and rye as well as corn the mills were equipped for the manufacture of flour also. For more than half a century these early gristmills were all driven by water-power. By 1830 little gristmills were numerous throughout the farming sections, many of them having sawmill attachments.

Pioneer Steamboats upon the Great Kanawha

In 1819, the same year in which the first steamship crossed the Atlantic Ocean, and eight years after the first steamboat appeared upon the Ohio River, the Robert Thompson, the first steamboat to be launched upon the Great Kanawha River, ascended the river as far as Red House Shoals. Failing in the attempt to pass the rapids, the boat returned to the Ohio.

In 1823 the Eliza ascended the river as far as Charleston. In 1824 the Fairy Queen, built in Cincinnati for Andrew Donnally and A. M. Henderson, entered the trade upon the Great Kanawha and continued to ply thereon for several years. The second boat in the same trade was the Paul Fry, built and owned by Joel Shrewsbury and John Rodgers. She entered the trade in 1826.

The Coming of the Railroad

Short railways with cars running on wooden rails covered with strips of iron and drawn by horses were in use in England as early as 1800, and several railways of the
same type were built in the United States prior to 1830. With the perfection of the steamboat came the idea of a locomotive for drawing freight and passengers over parallel rails. This was soon made possible by George Stephenson and others.

The first long railroad in America, and the first to enter West Virginia, was the Baltimore and Ohio. Work on this railroad was begun in 1828, and in December, 1834, the road was opened to Harper's Ferry, eighty-one miles distant from Baltimore. It was opened to Cumberland, Maryland, in November, 1842, and to the Ohio River at Wheeling in January, 1853, about nine years after solid iron rails first came into use.

Berkeley Springs

Berkeley Springs, formerly in Berkeley County, but now in Morgan County, is one of the oldest towns of the Eastern Panhandle counties. The springs here were the first of the famous springs in West Virginia to come into prominence. The place was first known as Warm Springs, but in 1776 it was chartered as the town of Bath, so named because of the curative properties of the water. In 1872 it was chartered as Berkeley Springs.

Lord Fairfax, the original owner of the land, vested the title to the springs and adjacent property in the Colony of Virginia that the water might always be free to the public.

George Washington visited the vicinity in 1748, and recorded in his journal that he saw "the famed Warm Springs." Many years later he erected a summer cottage and a stable at the springs.

The town of Berkeley Springs is still a popular summer resort.

White Sulphur Springs

In Greenbrier County, high on the western slope of the Alleghanies, are the White Sulphur Springs, one of Am-
erica’s most famous health resorts of pioneer days. The medicinal properties of the water of these springs were well known by Indians and white men before the Revolutionary War. The first settlement here was made about 1774, but the first hotel was built as late as 1808. William Herndon and James Caldwell were the early promoters of the place as a health resort.

The old registers of the hotel bear the autographs of many distinguished men. Among them are Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, Rufus Choate, Millard Fillmore, and Henry Clay.

Between 1830 and 1860 White Sulphur Springs reached its social prime. About 1863 the hotel was used as a war hospital, but after the Civil War it was again patronized as a health and pleasure resort by both wealth and fashion.

**Other Famous Mineral Springs**

There are many other springs in West Virginia known for the medicinal properties found in their health-restoring waters. Some of these were well known in early pioneer days. Monroe County has several noted springs—Old Sweet Springs, Salt Sulphur Springs, and Red Sulphur Springs being the most noted. Pence Springs and Green Sulphur Springs are in Summers County. The Blue Sulphur Springs in Greenbrier County, Capon Springs in Hampshire County, Boreland Springs in Pleasants County, Mercer Healing Springs in Mercer County, and Webster Springs in Webster County have been attractive resorts.

**Slavery in the Western Counties**

When the pioneers of the western counties of Virginia came over the mountains from the older settlements where slavery was profitable a few of them brought slaves to aid in developing their farms. However, it was soon found that conditions here were not favorable to slavery. By 1840 the profits that were coming in from one cotton crop
after another caused a great demand for more slaves in the South. Between 1840 and 1860 many of the slaves here were sold to southern planters at high prices. In 1840 the twenty-nine western counties had 20,000 slaves, which was eight per cent of the total population of these counties. Jefferson, Kanawha, and Berkeley counties took the lead in number of slaves. Hampshire, Greenbrier, and Hardy each had more than 1,200 slaves. Most of the slave holders owned from one to five slaves.

The Growth of Towns

The pioneer settlers of the western counties of Virginia were engaged chiefly in farming, and comparatively few of them lived in towns. Nearly all the towns grew very slowly. Wheeling grew rapidly after the completion of the National Cumberland Road to the Ohio River in 1818. By 1835 the town contained several important industries and about 500 dwelling houses. By the same year Wellsburg had approximately 225 dwelling houses; Charleston, Lewisburg, and Clarksburg, 100 each; Moorefield, Morgantown, and Guyandotte, 40 each; Middletown (Fairmont), Romney, Franklin, Sistersville, Parkersburg, Point Pleasant, Weston, and Kingwood, 30 each; Beverly, Huntersville, and Middlebourne, 25 each; Pruntytown, Buckhannon, and Shinnston, 18 each.

Within the next two decades many industries sprang up, and these gave new life and growth to the towns.

The Early Salt Industry in West Virginia

In pioneer days salt was made for local uses in many parts of the State. The manufacture of salt became one of the most important of our early industries, the two chief seats of the industry being in the counties of Kanawha and Mason, other points being at Bulltown in Braxton County, on New River in Mercer County, and on the West Fork of the Monongahela in Harrison County.
The first manufacturer to put salt-making on a commercial basis was Elisha Brooks, who, in 1797, erected the first salt furnace in the western country. His furnace was located at Terra Salis, later called Kanawha Salines, and still later, about 1855, named Malden, in Kanawha County. This place became famous for its salt production, reaching its acme between 1842 and 1855.

The salt industry on the Ohio River, in Mason County, opened about 1854, and developed very rapidly. In time these furnaces produced more per month than the Malden salt works. Finally, competing manufacturers from the Mason County salt region “dead rented” all the Kanawha works, with one exception, and caused the industry on the Kanawha to stagnate. Thus practically ended the first great industry of the Kanawha Valley, which for three quarters of a century gave impetus to the growth of Charleston and community.

Early Coal Development in West Virginia

The presence of coal in western Pennsylvania and on the Illinois and the Wabash rivers had been known for several years before the opening of the Revolutionary War. In 1784 the mining of coal was begun near Pittsburgh. About the same time pioneer settlers of West Virginia were obtaining coal from out-crops in some of the river hills. However, but little coal was used within the present limits of the State prior to 1810, a few blacksmiths and settlers whose cabins stood near the out-crops being the only consumers.

In 1810 coal mining began near Wheeling. In 1817 the Ruffner brothers opened a mine near their salt works on the Great Kanawha above Charleston. Later in that year John P. Turner opened a mine in the same community. Soon coal took the place of wood as fuel at all the salt furnaces and at many of the town factories.

By the year 1840 the mining of coal had become an
important pioneer industry within the limits of the present counties of Ohio, Kanawha, Harrison, Monongalia, Taylor, Mason, Cabell, Logan, and Fayette.

When the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was completed to important points in the State in the forties and early fifties, the coal mining industry developed rapidly along its lines. But the greatest developments in the coal industry in West Virginia came several decades later.

Other Industries of Pioneer Days

Farming and the marketing of farm products have always been among the chief industries of West Virginia. More than one hundred years ago the cattle, sheep, and swine were driven over trails and poorly improved turnpikes to Baltimore, Philadelphia, Richmond, and other eastern markets.

Manufacturing in pioneer times was done chiefly by hand, but as the population increased machinery was introduced and mills and factories were established.

Many of the early settlers tanned leather for their home use; but by 1830 tanneries were established in all the large towns, to which the people usually took skins and hides for tanning. Since that time tanning leather has been an important industry of the State.

The iron industry started within the limits of West Virginia before the beginning of the nineteenth century. The first large plant in Wheeling was built in 1832.

The glass industry in the State opened early in the War of 1812, when a plant was erected at Charlestown, now Wellsburg, in 1813. In 1820 a plant was located at Wheeling.

Petroleum and natural gas were discovered about 1807 near Charleston when borings for salt brine were being made. Three years later, 1810, marks the beginning of the oil industry at the mouth of Hughes River. But the first true petroleum well in the State was drilled on the Little
Kanawha River, at Burning Springs, in Wirt County, in 1860.

**John Brown's Raid at Harper's Ferry**

In October, 1859, John Brown, whose hatred for slavery had finally led him to think himself divinely appointed to blot it out, led his army of eighteen or twenty men across the Potomac, seized the government arsenal at Harper's Ferry, in Virginia, to get arms for the slaves. He arrested several white citizens to be held as hostages, and freed some negro slaves. His plan was to establish a strong point in the near-by mountains from which raids could be made to rescue more slaves. Before he could escape he and his men were attacked. Nearly all his men were killed or captured. Brown was captured, tried for treason and murder, was convicted, and was speedily hanged.

**The Presidential Campaign of 1860**

By 1860 the long-continued agitation of the slavery question had greatly weakened the cords that bound the states together in one common Union. In that year was fought the last great political battle over the difficult question of slavery and states' rights. The old Democratic party split into two branches, and each branch had its own candidate. Abraham Lincoln was the candidate of the Republican party, which opposed the extension of slavery, but was silent on the subject of abolition. The campaign resulted in the election of Lincoln.

**The Secession of Seven States**

The South believed that the Republican party was bent on freeing the slaves. When, therefore, Lincoln was elected the Southern States began to withdraw from the Union. The Convention of South Carolina declared that State "a free and independent nation," in December, 1860. Before Lincoln's inauguration in March, 1861, six other states
had followed the example of South Carolina: Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas.

The Southern Confederacy

No sooner had the seven seceding states withdrawn from the old Union than they at once sent delegates to establish at Montgomery, Alabama, a new confederacy—the "Confederate States of America". The delegates met on February 4, 1861, and drew up a constitution for the government of the new republic, after which a temporary government was at once established.

The Confederacy then elected Jefferson Davis of Mississippi president and made Alexander H. Stephens of Georgia vice-president.

After hesitating for some time four more of the states chose to fight with their own section and therefore joined the Confederacy. They were Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

The Uprising West of the Mountains

The people of the eastern and western parts of Virginia were by no means united on the subject of secession. Those west of the mountains owned very few slaves and were employed in varied farming on a small scale. While the Confederacy was appealing to other slave states to leave the Union these western citizens began to anticipate the action of their own State and prepare a defense against any step toward disloyalty.

When the Virginia Convention at Richmond, in 1861, voted the State out of the Union, most of the delegates from west of the mountains returned home dissatisfied. Mass meetings were held at several places. Delegates to a mass convention at Clarksburg issued a call for a convention to be held at Wheeling May 13, 1861, "to consider and determine upon such action as the people of Northwestern Virginia should take in the present fearful emergency."
Creating a New State

In response to the call issued by the Clarksburg convention over four hundred men assembled as a “mass convention” in Washington Hall at Wheeling May 13, which was ten days before the time set by the Richmond convention for the peoples’ ratification or rejection of the Ordinance of Secession. Although the members of the convention agreed upon the necessity of separation from Virginia and the formation of a new State, they soon divided into two factions over methods of procedure. John S. Carlisle led those who favored the immediate formation of a new state. Waitman T. Willey and others urged the convention to try to accomplish its purposes by acting in conformity with the provisions of the Federal Constitution. It was finally agreed to adjourn to await the action of the voters on May 23, and leave the question and method of separation from the old State to be determined by another convention at Wheeling.

When the second Wheeling convention met, June 11, the Ordinance of Secession had been ratified by a vote of the people of Virginia. In a “Declaration of Rights” the convention repudiated the Ordinance of Secession and the action of the convention which adopted it. An ordinance for the reorganization of the State of Virginia was framed and passed without a dissenting vote. Later a Virginia State government was instituted and claimed as the rightful State government and was recognized as such by the administration at Washington. Francis H. Pierpont then became governor of the Restored Government.

After a recess from June 25 to August 6, the convention reassembled, and on August 20 passed an ordinance providing for the formation of a new State west of the Alleghanies and adjourned on August 21. A vote of the people on October 24 ratified the ordinance and at the same time elected delegates to a constitutional convention which met at Wheeling on November 26, 1861, and drew up the first
constitution of the State of West Virginia. The proposed constitution was adopted by a vote of the people, and on May 13 the legislature of the Restored Government of Virginia passed an act giving formal consent of Virginia to the erection of the new State, West Virginia.

The bill for the admission of West Virginia as a State was passed by the Senate on July 14, and by the House of Representatives on December 10. President Lincoln signed the bill December 31, 1862. The bill provided for certain changes in the Constitution, and this having been done, President Lincoln issued his proclamation on April 20, by which, on June 20, 1863, West Virginia became the thirty-fifth State of the Union.

The government of the new State was rapidly organized. Arthur I. Boreman became the first governor. The officers of the Restored Government of Virginia moved from the new State and located at Alexandria, on the Potomac River. In 1865 they removed to Richmond.

**West Virginia in the Civil War**

We have seen that Western Virginia adhered to the Union, and was ultimately formed into a separate state. The Confederates, however, occupied it in force. Colonel George A. Porter, who was assigned to the command of all the Confederate forces in Northwestern Virginia, came to the Monongahela Valley to enlist and recruit an army. General George B. McClellan, who had been assigned to the command of the Department of the Ohio, embracing West Virginia, with a force of Union troops, crossed the Ohio River; and on June 1, 1861, about 4,000 of these reached Grafton, which Colonel Porterfield had made his headquarters. In the meantime, Porterfield found it necessary to fall back to Philippi. Here, on June 3, the Confederates were defeated, and retreated up the Tygarts Valley River. On June 23 McClellan established his headquarters at Graf-
Porterfield was superseded by General Robert S. Garnett.

On July 11 the Confederates were defeated at Rich Mountain (near Beverly) and at Laurel Hill (Belington) July 12. While retreating from a battle at Corrick's Ford, in Tucker County, July 13, Garnett was killed and his army routed and driven from the State, leaving only a few Confederates west of the Alleghanies and north of the Kanawha Valley.

In June, 1861, Ex-Governor Henry A. Wise was sent to the Kanawha Valley to collect troops for the Confederacy. He secured an army of about 8,000 men with which he planned an advance against Parkersburg. A force under the command of General Jacob D. Cox, of Ohio, was sent to dislodge him at his headquarters below Charleston. In a skirmish between the two armies at the mouth of Scary Creek July 17, the Confederate forces won. But Wise was soon forced to fall back to the upper Kanawha, and finally to abandon the valley.

Soon after Wise abandoned the Kanawha Valley General John B. Floyd with a Confederate force marched into Western Virginia. He was attacked, September 10, 1861, at Carnifex Ferry, on Gauley River, by General W.S. Rosecrans. Floyd withdrew at night into Greenbrier County. In the following November Rosecrans defeated him at Gauley Bridge. The lower Kanawha Valley was now left in the hands of the Federals.

On December 13, 1861, at Camp Alleghany, the Federals were defeated with a heavy loss in killed and wounded.

After 1861 the Federals were practically in control of the trans-Alleghany region of West Virginia. But the Confederates made a number of raids through certain parts of the State. The eastern section of the State suffered the horrors of war during the entire struggle.

During the period of the war about 200 battles and skirmishes were fought within the limits of the State. Most
of them were mere skirmishes, and but few of the battles resulted in heavy losses.

West Virginia furnished approximately 8,000 men to the Confederate army and more than 36,000 to the Federal army. Besides these there were 32 companies of troops, whose duties were to scout and to protect the people against guerrillas.

Among the West Virginians who served in the Union army and reached the rank of general were Jesse Lee Reno, Benjamin F. Kelley, Thomas M. Harris, Isaac H. Duval, Joseph A. J. Lightburn, Nathan Goff, David H. Strother, William H. Powell, and Robert S. Northcott. Those attaining the same rank in the service of the Confederacy were Thomas J. Jackson, John Echols, Albert G. Jenkins, and John McCausland.
PART FIVE—DIM SIDELIGHTS ON PIONEER FAMILIES

Note. After each surname are given the particulars in the following order: Ancestry—immigrant—where he first settled—migrations of the immigrant or his descendents toward West Virginia.

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<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Ancestry</th>
<th>Immigrant</th>
<th>First Settled</th>
<th>Migration Details</th>
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<td>AYRES</td>
<td>Irish</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>Pa.</td>
<td>Md.</td>
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<td>BARRINGER</td>
<td>Ger.</td>
<td>John Paul</td>
<td>Pa., 1748</td>
<td>N. C.</td>
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<td>BEE</td>
<td>Hebrew</td>
<td>George</td>
<td>N. J.</td>
<td>W. Va.</td>
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BELL—Scot.—Robert—Va.—W. Va.
BENNETT—Scot.—Joseph—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BISHOP—Eng.—John—N. Y.—Va.—W. Va.
BLAIR—Scot.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BLAINE—Scot.—James—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BOOKER—Eng.—Richard—Va.—W. Va.
BOND—Eng.—Richard—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va., Harrison Co.
BONNETT—S. I.—Samuel, Sr.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BOONE—Eng.—George—Pa.—Va.—N. C.—Ky.—W. Va.
BOREMAN—Eng.—John—Pa.—W. Va.
BOTKIN—Scot.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BOWEN—Welsh—Moses—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BOWMAN—Ger.—George—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BOWYER—Eng.—Daniel—E. Va.—W. Va.
BOYD—Eng.—John—Va.—W. Va.
BRECKENRIDGE—Irish—Alexander—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BUFFINGTON—Welsh—Richard—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BUFORD—Scot.—Richard—E. Va.—W. Va.
BUMGARDNER—Swiss—Christian and John—Va.—W. Va.
BURDETT—French—Frederick—E. Va.—W. Va.
BURKE—Eng.—James—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BUSH—Ger.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
BUSH—Ger.—George—Norfolk, Va.—W. Va.
BUTCHER—Saxon—Samuel—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
BUTTS—Eng.—Robert—Va.—W. Va.
BYRD—Eng. and Ger.—William—Va.—W. Va.
CABELL—Eng.—William—E. Va.—W. Va.
Caldwell—Irish—James—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
CALVERT—Eng.—George—Md.—Va.—W. Va.

CAMPBELL—Scot.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.


CAPERTON—Scot.—John—Va.—W. Va.


CARTER—Eng.—Thomas—E. Va.—W. Va.

CARTER—Eng.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.

CASTO—Gaelic—George and David—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.


CHANDLER—Eng.—John and Geo.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.


CHILTON—Fr. and Eng.—Thomas—E. Va.—W. Va.

CHRISTIAN—Celtic—Israel—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.


CLEEK—Ger.—Jacob, Sr.—Va.—W. Va.

CLICK—Ger.—Christopher—Pa.—W. Va.

CLENDENIN—Scot.—Archibald, Sr.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.

COBB (Cobbs)—Eng.—Ambrose—E. Va.—W. Va.

COCHRAN—Scot.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

COCHRAN—Scot.—William—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

COFFMAN—Ger.—Adam—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

COINER (Koiner)—Ger.—Michael, Sr.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

CONRAD—Ger.—Joseph—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

CONRAD—Ger.—Frederick—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

CONLEY—Irish—Jeremiah, Sr.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.

CONLEY (Connolly)—Irish—Newton and James—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

COOPER—Eng.—William—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

COPENHAVER—Danish—Grant, Sr.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.

CORBIN—Eng.—Thomas—Va.—W. Va.

CORDER—Eng.—Joseph—Va.—W. Va.

COTTLE—Scot.—Charles William—Va.—W. Va.

COUCH—Welsh—John and James—Va.—W. Va.
COWGER—Ger.—Peter and Michael—Va.—W. Va.
Cox—Eng.—Thomas—N. J.—Va.—W. Va.
CRAIG—Scot.—William—Va.—W. Va.
CRAWFORD—Scot.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
CRESAP—French—Thomas—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
Crites—Ger.—Jacob—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
CROCKETT—Danish and Norman—Robert—Va.—Ky.—W. Va.
Crow—Ger.—Jacob—Pa.—Va.—Ohio—W. Va.
CUMMINGS—Irish—George—Va.—W. Va.
CURRENTE—Irish—William—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
CURTIS—Welsh—John—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
DARNALL—Eng.—Col. Henry and John—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
Daugherty—Irish—Michael—Va.—W. Va.
DAVIDSON—Scot.—Alexander—Pa.—N. J.—Va.—W. Va.
DAVIS—Welsh—Caleb Markus—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
DICKINSON—Eng.—Adam—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
DILLARD—Eng.—George—E. Va.—W. Va.
DOAK—Irish—David, Samuel, Robert—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
DONNALLY—Irish—Andrew—Pa.—Va.—Greenbrier Co., W. Va.
DORSEY—Eng.—Edward—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
DOUGLAS—Scot.—William—New Eng.—Va.—W. Va.
DRAPER—Eng.—Richard and James—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
DUDLEY—Eng.—Thomas—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
DUFF—Ger.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
DUNBAR—Scot.—Samuel—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
DUNBAR—Scot.—Mathew, Sr.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
DUNLAP—Scot.—Alexander—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
DUNLAP—Scot.—Robert, Sr.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
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<th>Surname</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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| Duval   | French | Mareen     | Va.-W. Va.
| Fields  | Irish  | Henry      | Va.-W. Va.
| Flanagan| Irish  | Patrick    | Pa.-Va.-W. Va.
| Flesher | Ger.   | Peter      | Va.-W. Va.
| Floyd   | Welsh  | Richard    | N. Y.-Va.-W. Va.
| Fontaine| French | Peter      | Va.-W. Va.
| Gallaher| Irish  | DeWitt     | Va.-W. Va.
GAWTHROP—Eng.—James—Va.—W. Va.
GEARY—Irish—Matthew—Pa.—W. Va.
GIST—Irish—Christopher, Sr.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
GIVEN (Givens)—Irish—Samuel and William—Va.—W. Va.
GOFF—Eng.—Job’s father—N. Y.—W. Va.
GRAHAM—Scot.—John—Va.—W. Va.
GRAVELY—Eng.—Joseph—Va.—W. Va.
GREGG—S.-I.—Andrew—Mass.—Del.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
GREGORY—Scot.—James—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
GREGORY—Scot.—Richard—E. Va.—W. Va.
GRIMES—Irish—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
GROSE—Ger.—John D.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
GROSE (Gross)—Ger.—Michael—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
GUMP—Ger.—Frederick—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
GWINN—Eng.—Hugh—Va., 1639—W. Va.
HACKER—Eng.—John—Va.—W. Va.
HAGER—Ger.—Jonathan—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
HAMILTON—Scot.—James—Canada—Va.—W. Va.
HAMMOND—Eng.—John—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
HANGER—Ger.—Peter—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HANNAH—S.-I.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HANSFORD—Eng.—William—E. Va.—W. Va.
HARDMAN—Ger.—Joseph—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
HARMAN—Ger.—Heinrich Adam—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HAROLD—Danish—Michael—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
HARFOLD—Ger.—Adam, Sr.—Va.—W. Va.
HARSHBARGER—Ger.—William—Va.—W. Va.
HARTMAN—Ger.—Michael—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HARVEY—Eng.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
HAWLEY—Eng.—Jerome—E. Va.—Shen. V.—W. Va.
HAYMOND—Eng.—John—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
HEARN—Scot.—Unknown—Va.—W. Va.
HEAVNER—Ger.—Nicholas—Va.—W. Va.
HEDRICK—Ger.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HENDERSO—Danish—James—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HENRY—Scot.—John, father of Patrick—Va.—W. Va.
HENRY—Scot.—Robert—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HERSMAN—Ger.—Matthias—Pa., 1763—Va.—W. Va.
HERR—Dutch—Hans—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HETZEL—Ger.—Joshua—N. Y.—Md.—W. Va.
HICKMAN—Ger.—Adam—Va.—W. Va.
HICKLE—French—Stevault—Va.—W. Va.
HIGGINBOTHAM—Ger.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
HILDRETH—Eng.—Frazier—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HINDMAN—Irish—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HINKLE (Henkle)—Ger.—Anthony—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HINKLE—Ger.—Hans L.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HITI—Ger.—Hans Jost—N. Y., 1710—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HOBSON—Eng.—Francis—Pa.—W. Va.
HODGES—Eng.—Paul—Va., 1609—W. Va.
HOGG—Scot.—Peter, Sr.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HOLBROOK—Eng.—Thomas—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
HOGHES—Scot.—James—Va.—W. Va.
HOLLINGSWORTH—Irish—Valentine, Sr.—Del.—Pa.—Va.
W. Va.
HOLSWADE—Ger.—Christian F.—Va.—W. Va.
HUDDLESTON—Scot.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HUFF—Ger.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
HUGHES—Welsh—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.—Ohio.
HUMPHREY—Eng.—Jonas—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
HUNDLEY—Eng.—Josiah—E. Va.—W. Va.
HUNT—Ger.—Robert—E. Va.—W. Va.
HURST—Ger.—William and Henry—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
HUTTON—Welsh—Abraham—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
ICE—Ger.—Unknown—Del.—Va.—W. Va.
IDLEMAN—Ger.—Conrad—Va.—W. Va.
INGRAM (Ingrahm)—Ger.—John—Va.—W. Va.
IRVIN—Scot.—Edward—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
JACKSON—Scot.—John—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
JAMES—Eng.—Benjamin—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
JAMISON (Jameson)—Scot.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
JARRETT—French—John—New Eng.—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
JARVIS—French or Eng.—John—New Eng.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
JENKINS—Welsh—Thomas—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
JETT—Welsh—William, Sr.—Va.—W. Va.
JUDY—Ger.—Martin—Va.—W. Va.
KAUFFMAN (Coffman)—Ger.—Andrew—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
KERN—Ger.—John and James—N. J.—Pa.—W. Va.
KILE—Ger.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
KINCAID—Scot.—Samuel—Va.—W. Va.
KINCAID—S. I.—Unknown—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
KING—Eng.—Michael and William—Va.—W. Va.
KISER—Ger.—Jacob and Christopher—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
KNIGHT—Eng.—Peter—Va.—W. Va., Harrison Co.
KNIGHT—Eng.—Thomas—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
KUHN—Ger.—John—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
KYLE—S. I.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
LAIDLAW (Laidley)—Scot.—Thomas—N. Y.—Pa.—W. Va.
LANTZ—Ger.—Jacob—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
LAING—Scot.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
LAURIE—French—Isaac—Va.—W. Va.
LEA—Eng.—John—Pa., 1682—Va.—W. Va.
LEWIS—Welsh or S. I.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
LINGER—Dutch—Unknown—Va.—W. Va.
Lorentz - Ger. - Unknown - Pa. - W. Va., Upshur Co.
Mann - Ger. - Adam and Jacob - Va. - W. Va.
Massy (Massie) - Norman - Peter - E. Va. - W. Va.
McCan - Irish - Patrick, Sr. - Va. - W. Va.
McNEER—Scot.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
McCORMICK—Irish—John—Va.—W. Va.
McCOWN (McKown)—Irish—Andrew—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
McCUE—Scot.—John—Pa.—E. Va.—W. Va.
McCULLOUGH—Scot.—Benjamin—N. J.—Va.—W. Va.
Meredith—Welsh—Thomas—Md.—W. Va., Marion Co.
Meredith—Welsh—Davis—Conn.—Va.—W. Va.
Miller—Ger.—Adam—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
Milton—Eng.—Richard—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
MINEAR—Ger.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
Monroe—Eng.—Andrew—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
Montgomery—Scot.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
Morehead—Scot.—Charles—E. Va.—Ky.—W. Va.
Morgan—Welsh—Morgan, Sr.—N. J.—Del.—Pa.—W. Va.
Morris—Eng. or Scot.—William—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
MOWRY—Ger.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
Myers—Ger.—Michael—Pa.—Va.—Ohio—W. Va., Mason Co.
Neff—Swiss—John H.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va., Upshur Co.
Newcomer—Ger.—Swiss—Wolfgang—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
Noyes—Dutch or Eng.—Nicholas and James—Mass.—N. Y.—W. Va.
Ogden—Eng.—John—N. Y.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
Oldham—Saxon—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
Osborne—Saxon—Thomas—E. Va.—W. Va.
PAGE—Eng.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
PARRISH—Eng.—William—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
PARSONS—Eng.—Joseph—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
PARSONS—Eng.—Thomas—Va., 1635—W. Va.
PATTRICK—Eng.—Unknown—E. Va.—W. Va.
PATTON—Scot.—James—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
PAULINE—French—Stanliness, Jr.—Pa.—Ohio—W. Va.
PAXTON—Scot.—John and Thomas—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
PAYNE—Eng.—Josiah—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
PAYNE—Norman—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
PENCE—Ger.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
PENDLETON—Eng.—Philip—E. Va.—W. Va.
PENN—Moses—Va.—W. Va.
PEYTON—Eng.—Thomas—Va.—W. Va.
PICKENS—French—James—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
PIERCE—Eng.—George—Va.—W. Va.
PIERSON—Eng.—John and Jonathan—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
PITZER—Irish—Martin and Jacob—Pa.—W. Va.
POAGE—Irish—Robert—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
Poe—Eng.—David—Del.—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
POTTS—Eng.—Unknown—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
PRESTON—Irish—John—Va.—W. Va.
PRESLEY—Eng.—William—E. Va.—W. Va.
PRINGLE—Eng.—Samuel and John—Pa.—W. Va.
Powell—Welsh—Unknown—E. Va.—W. Va.
Proudfoot—Scot.—John—Va.—W. Va.
Quarrier—Scot.—Alexander, Sr.—N. Y.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
Radabaugh—Ger.—Adam, Sr.—Va.—W. Va.
Rader—Ger.—Adam—Pa.—Va., Rockingham Co.—W. Va.
Randolph—Eng.—Henry—Va.—W. Va.
RANDOLPH—Eng.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
RATHBONE—Eng.—John—N. Y., 1621—Va.—W. Va.
REED—Scot.—Patrick—Maine, 1730—Va.—W. Va.
REEDER—Eng.—Cornelius—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
REGER—Ger.—Jacob and John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
REGER—Ger.—Abraham, Sr.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
RENIK—Sl.—Robert—Pa.—Va.—W. Va., Greenbrier Co.
RIDDLE—Ger. or French—James—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
ROBY—Danish—Elkana—Pa.—W. Va.
ROBINSON—Eng.—Christopher—Va.—W. Va.
ROBINSON—Eng.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
ROUSH—Ger.—John Adam—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.—Ohio.
RUCKER—Eng. or Ger.—Peter—N. J.—Va.—W. Va.
RUFFNER—Ger.—Peter—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
RUTHERFORD—Scot.—Thomas—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
RYMER—Eng.—George—Va., 1763—W. Va.
SARGENT—Eng.—William—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
SCOTT—Scot.—Alexander—Va.—W. Va.
SEE (Sea)—Ger. or Dutch—George, father of Adam—N. Y.—W. Va.
SHACKELFORD—Eng.—William—New Eng.—Va.—W. Va.
SHAMBLIN—Eng.—Joseph—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
SHARP—Scot.—John, Sr.—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
SHAYER—Ger.—George—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
SHAYER—Ger.—Paul, Sr.—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
SHEETS—Ger.—Unknown—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
SHEPHERD—Ger.—Thomas—N. J.—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
SHOEMAKER—Ger.—Peter—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
SHOWALTER—Swiss—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
SHORT—Eng.—William—E. Va.—W. Va.
SHREWSBURY—Eng.—Samuel, Sr.—N. J.—Va.—W. Va.
SIMMONS—Ger.—Nicholas—Va.—W. Va.
SIMON—Ger.—Jacob—Va.—W. Va.
SINNETT—Irish—Patrick—Va.—W. Va.
SKIDMORE—Ger.—Joseph—Norfolk, Va.—W. Va.
SKIDMORE—Ger.—Andrew—E. Va.—W. Va.
SLAUGHTER—Eng.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
SNIDER (Snyder)—Ger.—John—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
SNODGRASS—Scot.—William—Va., 1700—W. Va.
SPRINGSTON—Ger.—Jacob, Sr.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
STANLEY—Eng.—John—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
STEELE—Scot.—Andrew—Va.—W. Va.
STONE—Ger.—Peter—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
STOUT—Ger. or Dutch—John—N. Y.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
STOUT—Ger. or Dutch—Richard—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
STOVER—Ger.—Hans—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
STRICKLER—Swiss—Abraham—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
SUMMERFIELD—Eng.—Nicholas—E. Va.—W. Va.
STUMP—Ger.—Thomas—Va.—W. Va.
STURM—Ger.—Jacob and Jesse—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
SWAN—Danish—John—Mass.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
SWGER—Ger.—John William—Va.—Pa.—W. Va.
TALBOT—Eng.—William—Fairfax Co., Va.—W. Va.
TEAYS—Ger.—Unknown—E. Va.—W. Va.
TEYNT—Scot.—Richard—Va.—W. Va.
TETER—Ger.—Philip—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
THACKER—Eng.—Peter—New Eng.—Va.—W. Va.
THAYER—Eng.—Richard—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
THOMASSON—Scot.—George—E. Va.—W. Va.
THORNBURG—Welsh—Thomas, Sr., of Germany—Va.—W. Va.
TOMLINSON—Irish—Joseph, Sr.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
TRIMBLE—Scot.—James—Va.—W. Va.
TUCKER—Eng.—George—E. Va.—W. Va.
UPTON—Eng.—Henry—Va.—W. Va.
VAN BIBBER—Dutch—Jacob—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
VAN BIBBER—Dutch—Hendrick—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
VAN SWARINGEN (Swearingen) —Dutch—Gerrett—Md.—W. Va.
VAUGHN—Welsh—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
VENABLE—Eng.—Abraham—E. Va.—W. Va.
VINCENT—Irish—John—Va.—W. Va.
VINEYARD—Eng.—John—Va.—W. Va.
WADE—Welsh—George—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
WAGGENER—Ger.—Andrew—Culpeper Co., Va.—W. Va.
WALLACE—Scot.—Thomas—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
WALLACE—Scot.—Nicholas—E. Va.—W. Va.
WALTON—Eng.—John—E. Va., 1620—W. Va.
WARNE—Eng.—Thomas—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
WARNER—Eng.—Unknown—Va.—W. Va.
WARTH—Eng.—George—Frederick Co., Va.—W. Va.
WARWICK—Eng.—Jacob, Sr.—E. Va.—W. Va.
WASHINGTON—Eng.—Jacob, Sr.—E. Va.—W. Va.
WATSON—Scot.—John—Va.—W. Va.
WELLS—Eng.—Thomas—New Eng.—Va.—W. Va.
WERTZ—Ger.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
WEST—Eng.—Thomas—E. Va.—W. Va.
WESTFALL—Ger.—John, Sr.—N. Y.—Va.—W. Va.
WETZEL—Ger.—John Jacob—Pa.—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
WHITE—Eng.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
WHITEHEAD (Whited)—Eng.—John—E. Va.—W. Va.
WHITHAM—Eng.—James—Pa.—Va.—W. Va., Roane Co.
WHITNEY—Eng.—John—New Eng.—N. Y.—Va.—W. Va.
WHITTAKER (Whitteker)—Eng.—Alexander—Va., 1611
—W. Va.
WILFONG—Ger.—Michael—Va.—W. Va.
WISE—Eng.—John—Va., 1650—W. Va.
WITHERS—Eng.—John—E. Va., 1690—W. Va.
WITHROW—Irish—Unknown—Va.—W. Va.
WOLFE—Ger.—George—N. J.—Pa.—Del.—Va.—W. Va.
WOODRUM—Eng.—Stephen—Va.—W. Va.
WOYSONG—Eng.—Unknown—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
YATES—Ger.—John—Mass.—Va.—W. Va.
YEAGER—Ger.—Johannes—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
YEAGER—Ger.—Nicholas—Va.—W. Va.
YOUST (Yost)—Ger.—John—N. J.—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
ZIMMERMAN—Ger.—George—Pa.—Va.—W. Va.
ZINN—Ger.—George—Md.—Va.—W. Va.
PART SIX—A BRIEF HISTORY OF EACH OF THE WEST VIRGINIA COUNTIES

Barbour County

Barbour County was created in 1843 from Randolph and parts of Harrison and Lewis counties, and named for Philip Pendleton Barbour, of Virginia. The seat of justice was fixed on a farm at a place known as Booth's Ferry. Here a town was laid out and named Philippi, from the given name of the distinguished jurist for whom the county was named. The original owner of the site of the town was William Anglin, and the place was called Anglin’s Ford as early as 1789, and later, Booth’s Ferry.

The territory within the limits of Barbour County was settled later than that of the counties adjacent. The Talbott family, from Halifax County, Virginia, settled near Philippi, about 1780. The Woodford family came about twenty years later. These two families intermarried.

By 1845 the county was thickly settled along the principal streams. Philippi was then a village of a dozen or more families. Its 1930 population was 1,767.

Berkeley County

Berkeley County was formed from the northern third of Frederick County in 1772, and received its name from Norborne Berkeley, governor of Virginia. From 1720 to 1734 its territory was a part of Spottsylvania County. From 1734 to 1738 it was a part of Orange County. It was included in Frederick County in 1738.

Berkeley is the second oldest county in West Virginia. The justices commissioned in 1772 were Ralph Wormley, Jacob Hite, Van Swearingen, Thomas Rutherford, Adam Stephen, John Neville, Thomas Swearingen, Samuel Washington, James Nourse, William Little, Robert Stephen, John Briscoe, Hugh Lyle, James Strode, William Morgan, Robert Stogdon, James Seaton, Robert Willis, and Thomas Robinson.
Among the early lawyers of the new county were Alexander White, John Magill, James Keith, George Brent, George Johnson, and Philip Pendleton.

The county was once the home of a tribe of the Tuscarora Indians. Their principal seat was the present site of Martinsburg. They moved westward across the Alleghanies just prior to the beginning of the French and Indian War.

The earliest white visitors to the Berkeley County territory were probably John Lederer and others, about 1669. John Van Meter came in 1725 as an explorer and Indian trader. Morgan Morgan came about 1726-1727 as a settler. Soon thereafter came the German settlers who founded Mecklenburg on the site of present Shepherdstown, now in Jefferson County.

Among the other pioneer families were the names Gates, Smith, Barnes, Taylor, Patterson, Lee, Miller, Shepherd, Carter, Friend, Turner, Avis, Darke, Reese, Evans, Mercer, and Lemon.

Martinsburg was laid out in 1778, and named in honor of Colonel Thomas B. Martin. It was first called Martins-town and had its beginning before 1772, when it contained about thirty houses. The founder of the town was Adam Stephenson. Its present population is about 15,000.

Boone County

Boone County, formed in 1847 from parts of Kanawha, Cabell, and Logan counties, was named for Daniel Boone. The act creating the county designated as the site for the seat of justice either the lands of the heirs of Daniel Smoot or the farm of Albert Allen, each at or near the mouth of Spruce Fork of Little Coal River. Madison, the seat of justice, was finally established on the Allen farm. Its population in 1930 was 1,156.

The justices of the peace held the first court of the county at the residence of John Hill. The first election was held at the house of Mrs. Mary Smoot.

Isaac Barker was probably the first permanent settler in
the county. His cabin stood on Big Coal River. The year 1798 marks the time of the settlement.

About the year 1800 Thomas, James, and Joseph Workman, having failed in their attempt to establish a settlement where Logan now stands, became pioneer settlers of Boone County. Within the next decade came Samuel Pauley, Daniel Pauley, John Hall, Thomas Price, and Philip Hager. Among the later pioneers were Elijah Jarrell, Simeon Jarrell, Clayborne Rucker, Jacob Welch, Obediah Bias, Amos Halstead, Esquire Pauley, Chapman Ferrell, Samuel Pack, Adam Coon, John Dolin, John Toney, Griffin Stollings, Daniel Smoot, and Henry Hopkins.

Danville, formerly called Newport, was laid out upon land formerly owned by the Prices and Ballards. Its population is 500.

Peytona, on Coal River, received its name from William M. Peyton, an early coal operator of that section of the county.

Farming, lumbering, and coal mining have been the chief industries of the county.

Braxton County

Braxton County was created in 1836 from parts of Lewis, Kanawha, and Nicholas counties, and named in honor of Carter Braxton, a Virginia statesman.

Suttonville, originally called Newville, was established as a town of Nicholas County about ten years before Braxton County was formed. It was named for its founder, John D. Sutton, Sr. The name was changed to Sutton in 1837.

The year 1784 marks the time of the first land survey in the county. At that time John Allison laid a treasury land warrant on 11,000 acres, then in the county of Monongalia.

The first white settlers were the Carpenters from Bath County, who settled at the mouth of Holly River, about 1790-1791. The family consisted of Jeremiah and Benjamin Carpenter, their wives, and Mrs. Carpenter their mother, and perhaps others of the name. These were soon joined by
Adam O'Brien, the famous Indian scout and hunter, who built his cabin on Elk River, opposite the site of Sutton, then removed to O'Brien's Fork of Salt Lick.

Benjamin Carpenter and his wife were soon killed by Indians, and the other settlers in that region made their escape to the settlements on the West Fork of the Monongahela.

Among the early pioneers who came between 1798 and 1812 were Nicholas Gibson, Colonel John Haymond, Benjamin Conrad, Asa Squires, Henry Robinson, Hedgman Triplett, George Davis, Jacob Long, Charles Rogers, John Boggs, John D. Sutton, James Boggs, Patrick Murphy, Andrew Skidmore, George Mollohan, James Frame, Thomas Frame, David Frame, Jackson Singleton, Isaac Shaver, and Nathan Prince.

The early settlers came chiefly from Pendleton, Harrison, Randolph, Greenbrier, and Pocahontas counties.

Farming and lumbering have been the principal industries of the county. In later years many other industries have sprung up. Coal, oil, and gas are produced.

Sutton, the county seat, had a population of 1,205, in 1930. Gassaway was laid out in 1904 on lands formerly owned by Israel J. Friend and James A. Boggs. It was named for Henry Gassaway Davis. Its population in 1930 was 1,618.

Burnsville, with a population of 868 in 1930, is a prosperous town on the Little Kanawha River at the mouth of Salt Lick Creek. It was named for its founder, Captain John Burns.

Bulltown, on the Little Kanawha River, was once the home of five Delaware Indian families whose chief was Captain Bull. About 1772 they were treacherously murdered by white men.

Flatwoods, Frametown, Strange Creek, and Rosedale are local trading centers.
Brooke County

Brooke County was formed in 1797 out of part of Ohio County, and named in honor of Robert Brooke, a governor of Virginia. Charlestown (now Wellsburg) became the seat of justice. The first court convened at the house of William Thorpe, in Charlestown, and was composed of the following justices: John Beck, William Griffith, John Henderson, Alexander Stephenson, John Connell, Richard Elson, Francis McGuire, Isaac Meek, George Hammond, Josiah Gamble, Robert Calwell, and James Griffith.

John Beck was the first sheriff, John Connell the first clerk of the courts, and John Relfe the first commonwealth's attorney.

It appears that Isaac Williams, a native of Pennsylvania, who had settled at Winchester, Virginia, made the first settlement in what is now Brooke County, in 1768. He built his cabin on Buffalo Creek. By 1772 other homes were established within the present boundaries of the county. In that year Henry Hervy and Richard Wells located in the county. Two years later William and Samuel Strain joined the settlers, and settled on Cross Creek. Within the next decade came William Bonar, Charles Wells and his brother, and many other home-seekers.

The early settlers suffered greatly from Indian hostilities. In times of danger many of them sought refuge within the walls of Fort Rice, which stood near the site of Bethany College.

In 1790 Wellsburg was laid out by Charles Prather, for whom it was at first named Charlestown, but changed to Wellsburg in 1816, in honor of Alexander Wells, who was a son-in-law of Charles Prather.

Bethany was laid out in 1847 by Alexander Campbell, who settled in that vicinity prior to 1820.

Among the county's early institutions of learning were Brooke Academy (at Wellsburg), Buffalo Academy (fore-runner of Bethany College), Wellsburg Female Seminary,
PIONEER WEST VIRGINIA

and Bethany College (founded by Alexander Campbell in 1841).

Cabell County

Cabell County, named in honor of William H. Cabell, a governor of Virginia, was created from Kanawha in 1809. By the act creating the county the following gentlemen were authorized to select a location for the county seat: John Shrewsbury, David Ruffner, John Reynolds, William Clendennin, and Jesse Bennett. The site selected was twenty acres of land on the Ohio, at the upper side of the Guyandotte River, a part of the Savage grant owned by Thomas Buffington. Here the town of Guyandotte (now part of Huntington) was established in 1810. The trustees were Noah Scales, Henry Brown, Richard Crump, Thomas Kilgore, Edmund Morris, and Elisha McComas.

The new county bordered on the Ohio River from Big Sandy River up to the mouth of Little Guyandotte, and embraced territory now in Wayne, Lincoln, Putnam, Logan, Boone, and other counties. The site of Logan was then in Cabell County.

The first grand jury of the county was composed of Elisha McComas, Benjamin Garrett, Thomas Buffington, David McComas, Jonathan Buffington, David Douthitt, Thomas Clap, Henry Brown, Mark Russell, Michael Holland, William Fullerton, Lerose Merritt, Joseph Hillyard, Charles Alsbury, Samuel Ferguson, Peter Loar, Charles Booth, and John Ferguson.

Several surveys and land grants were made in the western part of the county even when the territory was still a part of Fincastle County (1772-1776), and many others were made after it became a part of Montgomery County. One early grant included 28,627 acres surveyed for John Savage and others by William Crawford about 1771. It extended approximately from the Big Sandy River up the Ohio to a point above the Guyandotte, and back from the Ohio about fifteen miles. The earliest settlements in the present territory of Cabell County were made on the Savage
grant. The first permanent settlement was made in 1796 at Green Bottom by Thomas Hannon of Botetourt County. Soon thereafter Thomas Buffington of Hampshire County settled near the site of early Guyandotte, on land purchased by his father, William Buffington, Sr., from John Savage.

Among the other pioneer settlers of the county were Elisha McComas (about 1800), Edmund McGinnis (1802), Jacob Hite (1808), James Beckett (1810), William Buffington, Jr., William Hite, Dr. William Paine, Robert Adams, Jeffrey Russell, John Russell, John Laidley, Mark Russell, Nathaniel Scales, William Hampton, Henry Hampton, Henry Brown, Henry Bias, Solomon Thornburg, Elijah Seamands, and Thomas Ward (who was the first sheriff).

Barboursville, three years younger than Guyandotte, was made a town by legislative act in 1813. It was laid out on the lands of William Merritt. Edmund Morris, Elisha McComas, Edmund McGinnis, Sampson Saunders, Thomas Hatfield, and Manoah Bostwick were the trustees. The town became the county seat, where it remained until it was moved to Huntington.

Huntington was incorporated as a town in 1871, and named in honor of Collis P. Huntington, who founded it in 1870. It is now the largest city in West Virginia, its 1930 population being 75,572. It is the home of Marshall College, incorporated in 1838 as "Marshall Academy".

Barboursville, with a population of 1,508 in 1930, and Milton, 1,305, are prosperous trading centers.

Calhoun County

Calhoun County was carved out of Gilmer County in 1856, and named for John C. Calhoun, the eminent statesman of South Carolina.

The first court convened at the residence of Joseph W. Burson. It was composed of the following justices: Hiram Ferrell, Daniell Duskey, H. R. Ferrell, Joshua L. Knight, Absalom Knotts, George Lynch, and William A. Brannon. The second court met at the home of Peregrine Hays, on the West Fork.
After a few years of contention over a permanent location for the county seat, it was established at Grantsville in 1869. A court-house had been erected at Brooksville, and the basement story of another had been completed at Arnoldsburg.

The territory now included within the limits of Calhoun County had been visited by white men before 1769. The tradition making William Lowther, Jesse Hughes and Elias Hughes the earliest white explorers of this region (1772) is false.

Prospective settlers came into what is now Calhoun County prior to the Revolutionary War. They made tomahawk settlements, and some probably built cabins. Indian hostilities broke up the settlements. There were but few, if any, permanent settlements before 1810. Tradition makes Philip Starcher the first permanent settler, and gives 1810 as the date of his coming. Probably other home-seekers came earlier.

Among the other early pioneers of the county were Michael Haverty, Archibald Burris, George W. Hardman, Salathiel Riddle, Philip Stallman, Valentine Ferrell, Thomas Holbert, John B. Goff, Job Westfall, Alexander Huffman, Peter Coger, Isaac Mace, Peter McCune, Adam O'Brien, Thomas Cottrill, Barnabas Cook, and Dr. George Connolly.

Grantsville received its name from General U. S. Grant. The first settler upon the site of the town was Archibald Burris (Burrows). The land was sold to Simon P. Stump, who laid out the town in 1866. The population was 1,018 in 1930.

Arnoldsburg, on Henry’s Fork, was named for Charles Arnold, who was the original owner of the land.

Richardsonville was established as a village by Charles H. Richardson, a native of Massachusetts. He died in 1932.
Clay County

Clay County was created in 1858 out of parts of Braxton and Nicholas. It was named in honor of Henry Clay.

The act creating the county provided that the county seat should be on the McCalgin farm, opposite the mouth of Buffalo Creek, a tributary of Elk River, and be known by the name Marshall.

By the same act, the following named persons were appointed commissioners for the purpose of selecting a site for a court house, jail, and other public buildings for the new county: Marshall Triplett, Jacob Salisbury, Strother B. Grose, William Ewing, and William Schoonover. They were required to meet at the house of William Fitzwater.

In 1863 the official name of the county seat was changed from Marshall (named in honor of Marshall Triplett) to Henry (in honor of the man for whom the county was named). In 1927 the name was officially changed to Clay. However, for many years the town was usually called Clay Town or Clay Court-Courthouse (the early name of the postoffice).

Among the pioneer settlers who came between 1830 and 1845, or before that period, were William Nichols, George W. Reed, Solomon Reed, Jacob Summers, Thomas Morton, Cyrus Rogers, John Samples, Joseph Mullens, William R. King, Samuel Skidmore, William Schoonover, Jehu Summers, William Fitzwater, Andrew Friend, Norville Shannon, Jacob Salisbury, Harrison Summers, William Chapman, Marshall Triplett, and Joseph Pierson.

Samuel Fox, the earliest merchant at Clay, began business in 1858. A. J. Stephenson and Solomon Reed started a store at that place soon after the close of the Civil War.

The county's first newspaper was the Clay County Star, edited by William P. Gould, who removed to Florida, and lives at Fort Myers.

Jacob Salisbury was the first clerk of the Clay County courts. He came to Clay from Braxton County in 1848.
Farming and lumbering were the principal pioneer industries of the county.

The coming of the railroad to Clay in 1895 gave new life to the town and county. Coal mining is now an important industry of the county.

**Doddridge County**

Doddridge County was created by an act of the General Assembly passed February 4, 1845, from parts of Harrison, Tyler, Ritchie, and Lewis counties. It received its name from Philip Doddridge, a distinguished western Virginian, who spent the greater part of his life in Brooke County, West Virginia.

The act directed that the seat of justice for the new county should be at the village of West Union, and that the first court should be held at the residence of Nathan Davis, at West Union.

West Union, then in Harrison County, was established as a town under the name of Lewisport by act of the General Assembly in 1826. The town had already been laid out upon land owned by Lewis Maxwell and Samuel Chana. The names of the trustees for Lewisport were Nathan Davis, David Karshner, James Davis, Moses Rollins, William Bee, William Childers, and Joseph Davis.

The name of the village had been changed from Lewisport to West Union sometime prior to 1845.

Doddridge County is a good agricultural section, and general farming has been its principal industry. About 1890 the oil industry came as an important factor in the development of the county.

West Union is the largest town in the county. Its 1930 population was 984.

**Fayette County**

Fayette County was erected in 1831 out of parts of Greenbrier, Kanawha, Nicholas, and Logan counties, and named from Marquis de La Fayette.
It took several years to decide where the county seat should be located. The courts were held at various places—New Haven, the Falls of the Kanawha, the residence of Clement Vaughan, and Vandalia (now Fayetteville). In 1837 Vandalia became the permanent county seat.

The territory embraced within the limits of Fayette County was visited by white men long before the Revolutionary War. The earliest surveys were made soon after the close of the war. Home-seekers marked land for future settlement as early as 1770. Permanent settlements were made before the close of the Indian wars on the Virginia frontier. However, the settlements were few in number prior to 1810.

Among the pioneer families of the county were the Vandals, Blakes, Bowyers, Lykens, Taylors, Tyrees, Mansers, Johnsons, Bibbs, Sims, Millers, Huddlestons, Stocktons, Van Bibbers, Kincaids, Armstrongs, Perkins, Hills, Montgomerys, and Fleshmans.

The principal early industries of Fayette County were farming, lumbering, and coal mining. Coal mining as an industry of the county opened between 1848 and 1852. The industry grew rapidly after the coming of the railroad through the county.

The county has several prosperous towns. Fayetteville was formerly called Vandalia, named for Abraham Vandal, a Revolutionary soldier, who once owned the site of the town. Fayetteville was established as a town under its present name in 1837. Its population was 1,143 in 1930.

Other important cities and towns, with their 1930 population are Montgomery (2,906), Mount Hope (2,361), Oak Hill (2,076), Ansted (1,404), Pax (608), Thurmond (462), Powelltown (1,321), and Boomer (1,213).

Gilmer County

Gilmer County was established in 1845 from parts of Lewis and Kanawha, and takes its name from Thomas Walker Gilmer, a governor of Virginia.
The justices of the peace composing the first court were Benjamin Riddle, Michael Stump, Beniah Maze, Barnabas Cook, Samuel L. Hayes, Alexander Huffman, Salathiel Stalnaker, Currence B. Conrad, William Bennett, Philip Cox, Jr., Robert Benson, Joseph Knotts, John F. W. Holt, James Norman, and William Arnold. They held the first court at the residence of Salathiel Stalnaker in the town of De Kalb. James M. Camp was appointed clerk, and Jonathan Bennett as prosecuting attorney.

The site selected for the county seat was part of the farm of William Ball at "The Ford", where the old State road leading from Weston to Charleston crossed the Little Kanawha River. Here a town was laid out in 1845, and at first named Hartford; but when legally established in 1856, the name of the town was changed to Glenville, the name being suggested by Currence B. Conrad because of the glen or valley in which it is situated.

James Workman was probably the first man to build a cabin and clear land within the boundaries of Gilmer county. He came about 1776, or earlier, and made his improvement on the west bank of the Little Kanawha River, then later sold his claim to William Stewart.

There were but few permanent settlements in Gilmer County prior to the War of 1812. Among the pioneers, earlier or later than 1812, were Hiram Goff, John Woofter, George Bush, Paulser Bush, William Stalnaker, Joshua Smith, Michael Stump, Sr., Minter Jackson, Levi Johnson, Alexander Huffman, William Norris, Jacob Shock, Frank Vannoy, John Goff, Jacob Reger, Benjamin Riddle, Frank Woodford, and Jacob Springston.

Farming and lumbering were the chief pioneer industries of the county.

Glenville, with a population of 799 in 1830, is the county’s largest town. Layopolis and Troy are small towns.
Grant County

Grant County was created out of Hardy County in 1866, and named for General Ulysses Simpson Grant.

The county was settled about the year 1740, but Indian hostilities hindered the progress of the settlements for a period of fifteen years or more.

The pioneers of the county were mainly hunters and farmers. Lumbering was an early industry. Coal mining became a later industry.

Petersburg, the county seat, is the principal town of the county. It is located on the South Branch of the Potomac. Its population in 1930 was 1,410.

Bayard is a prosperous town in the western section of the county. Its population is about 800.

Gormania and Maysville are local trading centers.

Greenbrier County

Greenbrier County was created in 1777 out of parts of Montgomery and Botetourt counties, and received its name from its principal river. The early county courts were held at the residence of John Stuart.

The records of the courts held prior to 1780 were not preserved. The justices composing the court held in November, 1780, were Samuel Brown, John Anderson, William Hutchinson, John Henderson, and William Poage.

At the same term of the court, John Archer resigned his office as clerk, and John Stuart was elected to fill the vacancy. At that time Andrew Donnally was high sheriff.

We have already seen (pages 20-22) when settlements in the Greenbrier Valley were started, and who some of the earliest pioneers were. During the French and Indian War these settlements were broken up by Indians. Soon after the close of the war some of the settlers returned to their clearings in the Greenbrier country. In 1763 Indians killed a large number of the men and carried their families into captivity beyond the Ohio. Those who escaped abandoned
their settlements, and for the next six years the whole region was without white inhabitants.

In the year 1769 the first permanent settlers in Greenbrier County made their appearance in that region. Colonel John Stuart built his cabin where Frankford now stands. At the same time Thomas Williams settled near the site of Williamsburg. In 1770 the old Savanna Fort (later Fort Union) was erected on the site of Lewisburg. From this time forward settlements in Greenbrier County increased rapidly in both size and number.

Lewisburg, the county seat, is a town of old traditions. It was legally established in October, 1782. It has been the home of early educational institutions. Its population in 1930 was 1,293.

Williamsburg had its beginning as a town in 1833. It was named in honor of Thomas Williams, the pioneer of the settlement, he having built a cabin near the site of the town as early as 1769.

Frankford, ten miles northeast of Lewisburg, is the site of the settlement made in 1769 by Colonel John Stuart and others. It was probably the first permanent settlement in the county.

Ronceverte, laid out in 1871 by Cecil Clay, was incorporated in 1883. It is the largest municipality in the county, with a population of 2,254 in 1930.

White Sulphur Springs, a famous health resort for more than a century, had a population of 1,484 in 1930.

Rainelle was founded in 1909, and named in honor of the Raine brothers—John and T. W. Raine, lumbermen.

Alderson stands partly in Greenbrier County and partly in Monroe County, on the Greenbrier River.

Hampshire County

In 1754 Hampshire County, the oldest county in West Virginia, was formed from parts of Frederick and Augusta counties, and received its name from an English shire of the same name. The new county was organized in 1757. It
included nearly all the valley of the South Branch of the Potomac. Romney became the county seat.

The delay in the organization of the county was caused by Indian hostilities during the early part of the French and Indian War. The South Branch Valley was then a frontier region protected by forts.

Romney, one of the two oldest organized towns of the State, was laid out in 1762 by Lord Fairfax, who named it after a town in England. At Romney was Fort Pearsall, erected by John Pearsall, prior to 1756.

The earliest settlers of the county came about 1735. The Coburn, Howard, Walker, and Rutledge families were the earliest.

Among the later pioneer families were the Pearsalls, the Furmans, the Parsons, the Millers, the Watsons, the Zanes, the Woodrows, the Westfalls, the Stumps, the Kygers, the Hugheses, and the Caseys.

Watsontown was established in 1787, and Springfield (at Cross Roads) was established three years later.

Hampshire County has no large town. In 1930 Romney had a population of 1,441. It is the home of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind.

Hancock County

Hancock County was carved out of Brooke County in 1848, and named for John Hancock. New Manchester (Fairview) was at first the seat of justice. The first county court met at the house of Samuel C. Allison, in New Manchester. The justices were John Pettinger, David Pugh, Andrew Henderson, John Gardner, David Wiley, William H. Grafton, and John Mayhew. John Atkinson was the first clerk of the court, and Robert Brown became the first prosecuting attorney.

Probably Joshua Baker was the earliest settler within the boundaries of the county. He came prior to 1773, and settled on the Ohio. In 1776 Holiday’s Cove settlement was made about three miles back from the Ohio. This settle-
ment has been claimed by some as the earliest. There is at present a town and postoffice there of that name.

Between 1780 and 1800 a number of the veterans of the Revolutionary War found homes in Hancock County. Among them were Richard Brown, John Edie, George Stewart, James Allison, George Chapman, James Campbell, Jacob Nessley, William Chapman, and Alexander Morrow.

New Cumberland, the county seat, was laid out in 1839 and was originally called Vernon. Its founder was John Cuppy. Its 1930 population was 2,300.

For many years agriculture was the principal industry of the county, but in time the pottery industry took the lead.

Hardy County

Hardy County was created from Hampshire in 1786, with the county seat at Moorefield, and named for Samuel Hardy of Virginia.

The early white visitors to that region found it occupied by Shawnee Indians, who retired to the country beyond the Ohio River about fifteen years after the first settlers appeared.

The earliest settlements began in 1740, and had increased greatly by 1755. The county was settled chiefly by the Dutch, German, English and Scotch-Irish. Among the pioneer families were the names Chrisman, Brannon, Miller, Claypool, Turley, Baker, Fisher, Conrad, Dyer, Parsons, Moore, Ruddell, and Wilson.

Moorefield, then in Hampshire County, was established as a town in 1777, on lands of Conrad Moore, for whom it was named. The trustees of the town were Garrett Van Meter, Abel Randall, Moses Hutton, Jacob Reed, Jonathan Heath, Daniel McNeil, and George Renick.

Hardy County established a number of good schools prior to the Civil War. The Seymour Academy, at Moorefield, was incorporated in 1832. The South Branch Academical Institute, at Moorefield, was incorporated in 1851.

Moorefield, with a population of 734 in 1930, is the largest town in the county.
Harrison County

Harrison County, formed in 1784 from Monongalia County, received its name from Benjamin Harrison, a governor of Virginia.

The act creating the county designated the house of George Jackson, on the Buckhannon River, as the place at which the first county court should convene. The justices were John P. Duvall, Benjamin Wilson, William Lowther, James Anderson, Henry Delay, Nicholas Carpenter, William Robinson, John Powers, Thomas Cheney, Jacob Westfall, Salathiel Goff, and Patrick Hamilton.

William Lowther was the first sheriff, and Benjamin Wilson the first clerk of the court.

The next meeting of the court was at the residence of Hezekiah Davidson, at Clarksburg, the present county seat.

We have seen (page 28) that about 1764-1765 John Simpson, a trapper, made his camp near the site of Clarksburg, where he remained until permanent settlements were made in that vicinity. He was the pioneer of Harrison County. Soon after permanent settlers began building their cabin homes near the trapper's camp, Simpson moved farther west.

Between 1770 and 1774 settlements within the present limits of Harrison County increased in number very rapidly. Among the pioneers of this period were Daniel Davidson, Andrew Cottrill, Samuel Cottrill, Levi Douglas, Sotha Hickman, Thomas Nutter, John Nutter, Mathew Nutter, John Powers, Benjamin Shinn, William Robinson, Jonathan Shinn, Jonas Webb, Robert Lowther, William Lowther, James Anderson, Benjamin Coplin, Jacob Richards, and John P. Duvall.

The pioneer settlers came largely from Eastern Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.

Daniel Davidson was the first to make a family settlement on the site of Clarksburg. He came in 1772. In the same year other families—Nutter, Cottrill, Beard, and Hickman, became his neighbors.
Clarksburg was established as a town in 1785. It re­ceived its name from General George Rogers Clark. Popu­lation in 1930 was 28,866.

Salem was laid out on the lands of Samuel Fitz Randolph, and was chartered in 1794. Its present population is 2,943.

Bridgeport was established as a town in 1816. Population in 1930 was 1,567.

Shinnston was laid out on the lands of Asa and Levi Shinn, and was legally established as a town in 1818.

Nutter Fort, Lumberport, and West Milford are prosperous towns.

In its history of one hundred fifty years Harrison County has made great progress in the development of its indus­tries.

Jackson County

Jackson County, created out of parts of Kanawha, Wood, and Mason, in 1831, was named for Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States.

The first court for the new county was held at the resi­dence of John Warth, near the mouth of Big Mill Creek. The following justices constituted the court: John Warth, George Casto, Barnabas Cook, George Stone, Bird Boswell, Henry Sherman, John McKown, and Tapley Beckwith.

The earliest settlements in the county were made near the banks of the Ohio. A few cabins were built between 1770 and 1775; but few, if any, permanent settlements were made within the boundaries of the county before 1796. Among those who established permanent homes between 1796 and 1800, or near that time, were Samuel McDade (1796), John Hannamon (1796), John De Witt, Abraham Staats, Benjamin Cox, Joseph Parsons, Jesse Hughes, Job Hughes, Alexander Warth, Jacob Starcher, William Parsons, Joel Buffington, Joshua Freehart (or Fleethart), John Coleman, Cornelius King, and Benjamin Wright.

Among the later pioneers were George Casto, John Casto, William Casto, William Hannamon, John Bibbee, Thomas
Simmons, Isaac Hide, Philip Buffington, Daniel Sayre, Asa Long, John Nessleroad, Robert Curry, Lawrence Lane, Eli Gandy (Gandee), Bartholomew Fleming, and Noah Robinson.

Ripley became the permanent county seat about two years after the county was organized, the courts having convened at private places prior to 1833. William Parsons was the pioneer settler here. He came in 1800. Jacob Starcher came in possession of the land and laid out the town, which was legally established in 1833. The town was named in honor of Harry Ripley, who was drowned in Big Mill Creek in 1830. Its 1930 population was 669.

The land upon which Ravenswood was built was originally a part of George Washington's 2,448-acre tract at the mouth of Big Sand Creek, selected by Washington in 1770, surveyed for him by William Crawford and others in 1771, and patented to Washington in 1772.

Washington's surveyors built one or more cabins here in 1771, but no permanent improvement was begun until 1810, when Lawrence Lane and William Bailey, two "squatters, began clearing the land, which several years later came in possession of Henrietta and Lucy Fitzhugh, whose maternal grandmother was Mrs. Ann Ashton, daughter of Augustine Washington, and niece of George Washington.

Henrietta Fitzhugh married Henry Fitzhugh, who, in 1836, laid out the town of Ravenswood. The act creating the town was passed by the Virginia Assembly in 1852. One tradition says that the town was named "Ravensworth" in honor of the old seat of the Fitzhugh family in Virginia, also in England; but by a mistake of the maker of the map the name was changed to Ravenswood. But another tradition relates that the town received its name from Lord Allen Ravenswood, a character in Sir Walter Scott's *Bride of Lammermoore*, which members of the Fitzhugh family were reading when a name for the new town was sought.
Jefferson County

Jefferson County was cut off from Berkeley in 1801, and named in honor of Thomas Jefferson. Charlestown was made the county seat.

The early justices were John Kearsley, William Little, Joseph Swearingen, Alexander White, John Briscoe, William Darke, Richard Baylor, George Hite, George North, David Collett, Abraham Davenport, Van Rutherford, John Packett, Daniel Morgan, Jacob Bedinger and Ferdinando Fairfax.

William Little was the first sheriff, and George Hite was the first clerk of the courts.

Some historians claim that Germans began the settlement later called New Mecklenburg before 1727, when Morgan Morgan settled in present Berkeley County. Others fix the date as late as 1729 or 1730.

In early Jefferson County there lived the near ancestors of numerous families now found in various parts of West Virginia—the Shepherds, the Hites, the Rutherfords, the Washingtons, the Swearingens, the Lucases, the Davenports, the Morgans, and many other prominent families.

Shepherdstown, then Mecklenburg, was laid out by Thomas Shepherd, and established as a town in 1762. It was a busy industrial town by the close of the Revolutionary War. Harper's Ferry was named for Robert Harper, a pioneer near the town as early as 1734.

Charlestown, legally established in 1786, was named in honor of Charles Washington, who once owned the site of the town. He was a brother of George Washington.

Among the early educational institutions of the county were the Academy of Shepherdstown (incorporated in 1784), the Charles Town Academy (incorporated in 1797), and the Shepherdstown Academy (incorporated in 1814).
Kanawha County

Kanawha County was created out of parts of Greenbrier and Montgomery counties by an act of the General Assembly of Virginia passed November 14, 1788, to take effect “from and after first day of October next” (1789).

The first county court convened October 5, 1789, at the house of George Clendennin, to organize the new county. The justices composing the court were Thomas Lewis, Robert Clendenin, Francis Watkins, Charles McClung, Benjamin Strother, William Clendenin, David Robinson, George Alderson, Leonard Morris, and James Van Bibber.

The new county was very large, and extended up the Ohio River from the Big Sandy River to a point near Belleville, in present Wood County.

We have already seen (pages 33-34) the names of the early white visitors and the first home-seekers in the Great Kanawha Valley.

Among the other pioneers within the present limits of the county were the Youngs, Boones, Cobbs, Teayses, Uptons, Tacketts, Clendenins, Ruffners, Alderson, Coopers, Cosdorphs, Hugheses, Newhouses, Slaughters, Van Bibbers, Harrimans, Welches, Donallys, Priors, Hudsons, Shrewsburys, Slacks, Carrolls, McClungs, Campbells, Hammacks, Hansfords, Thompkins, Arbuckles, Jarretts, and Lewis.

Farming, lumbering, and the manufacture of salt were the chief early industries of Kanawha County. Coal mining began here early in the nineteenth century, but commercial shipments were few in number prior to the opening of the Civil War. The greatest coal developments in the county came after the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad to the Ohio River.

Many new industries have been developed in the county since the year 1900, and the county’s population has increased very rapidly.

The chief cities and towns of Kanawha County, with their population in 1930, are Charleston (60,408), South
Lewis County

Lewis County, formed in 1816 from Harrison County, was named after Colonel Charles Lewis, who was killed at the battle of Point Pleasant in 1774. Besides its present territory, the new county contained nearly all of the present counties of Upshur, Gilmer, and Braxton; also parts of Barbour, Webster, Doddridge, Ritchie, and other counties.

The act creating the county directed that the first court should be held at Westfield (near Jackson's Mills), where the county government was organized March 10, 1817. Philip Reger became the first sheriff.

The commissioners appointed by the same act to locate the county seat were Edward Jackson, Elias Lowther, John McCoy, Lewis Maxwell, and Daniel Stringer. The place finally selected was the site of Weston, on lands of Daniel Stringer and Lewis Maxwell. Here, at Flesher's Station, a town was started in 1817, which became the legal town of Preston in 1818.

John Hacker was probably the first white man to establish a home within the boundaries of present Lewis County. He built his cabin on Hacker's Creek as early as 1770. He was soon joined by Edmund West, Alexander West, and others. Here Fort West was erected about 1770.

Among the other early settlers in Lewis County were Henry Flesher, David Sleeth, Patrick McCan, Jacob Bush, George Bush, John Bush, Jesse Hughes, David Stringer, William Ratcliff, John Schoolcraft, Jacob Schoolcraft, Jacob Bonnett, John Collins, John Curtis, Joseph Alkire, William Bennett, John Runyon, Jonathan Woofter, George Woofter, Edward Jackson, John Waggoner, John Smith, Paulser Butcher, Nicholas Linger, Thomas Hinzman, Henry Hinzman, Henry McWhorter, John Carpenter, and Robert Lowther.
From early settlements sprang up a few villages—Westfield, Weston, Jane Lew, Berlin, Churchville, Roanoke, Walkersville, and Jacksonville.

Weston (formerly called Flesher's Station, Preston, then later, Fleshersville) received its present name by an act of the Assembly passed December 19, 1819. The pioneer settler on the site of the town was Henry Flesher, Sr., who came prior to 1790.

By 1824 Weston had a school, a printing press, and a store. Within the next decade a newspaper was started. In 1834 the town had about thirty families. In 1852 Jonathan Bennett, the first mayor of the town, organized the first bank of the county, at Weston.

Agriculture has always been the chief industry of the county. The development of the oil and gas industry added materially to the county's wealth.

The largest towns in the county, with their 1930 population, are Weston (8,646) and Jane Lew (445).

Lincoln County

Lincoln County was created in 1867 from parts of the counties of Cabell, Putnam, Kanawha, and Boone. It was named in honor of Abraham Lincoln. Hamlin, the seat of justice, was named for Hannibal Hamlin, of Maine, Vice-President of the United States 1861-1865, and was laid out on the lands of Charles Lattin.

The first meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held, March 11, 1867, on the Curry farm near the present county seat. The members were William C. Mahone, John Scites, and William A. Holstein. William C. Mahone was made president and Benjamin F. Curry, clerk. It was ordered that the courts be held in White Hall, a church just below the county seat, until the usual county buildings could be erected.

The first Circuit Court held in the county convened April 1, 1867, Judge William L. Hindman presiding. Benjamin F. Curry was the clerk of the court.
The year 1800 found probably fewer than a score of families residing within the present limits of Lincoln County. But soon a steady stream of immigration began pouring westward over the mountains into the valleys of the Guyandotte and Mud rivers and their tributaries.

It is probable that as early as 1799 Jesse, John, David, William, Moses, and Thomas McComas built their cabins in what is now Sheridan District. Within the next decade Isaac Hatfield, John Lucas, James Hatfield, David Stephen­son, Luke Adkins, Charles Spurlock, William Lovejoy, John Tackett, Joseph Holley, James Alford, James Lively, and many others settled within the bounds of Lincoln County.

The early industries of Lincoln County were farming and lumbering. Later came the coal, oil, and gas industries.

Hamlin, the largest town in the county, had a population of 844 in 1930.

Logan County

Between 1781 and 1783 a number of surveys were made in the Guyandotte Valley, one of which was for John Breckenridge, and included the site of the city of Logan, then in Montgomery County, which extended westward to the Ohio River and included, in West Virginia, present Cabell, Wayne, Mingo, Logan, McDowell, Wyoming, Mercer, Boone, Raleigh, Lincoln, and portions of Putnam, Mason, Kanawha, Fayette, and Summers.

In 1824 Logan County was created from parts of Giles, Tazewell, Cabell, and Kanawha counties, and named for Logan, the famous Indian chief. It then embraced within its boundaries all the present counties of Boone, Fayette, Lincoln, Mercer, McDowell, Raleigh, and Wayne.

Among the early settlers on the Guyandotte River, upon or near the site of the city of Logan, were James Workman and his brothers, who came from Tazewell County about 1797, but removed to Boone County; William Dingess, in 1799, who was probably the first permanent settler at Logan; Jacob Stollings, about 1799, who built his cabin near
the site of Logan; and Joseph Gore, who came a few years later.

From 1820 to 1824 William Dingess was a member of the General Assembly from Cabell County, which then included the settlement at Logan, then known as "The Islands". It was mainly through his influence that a new county, Logan County, was formed at that time, with the seat of justice at "The Islands". The first courts of the county were held at his residence. In 1827 the name of the village was changed to Lawnsville. In 1852 it was changed to Aracoma, tradition having it that Aracoma, an Indian princess, lies buried there. It was chartered as the City of Logan in 1907, but had been known as Logan or Logan Court-House for many years.

The first county court was composed of the following "gentlemen justices": William Toney, John B. Clark, John Ferrell, William Hinchman, James Christian, James Shannon, Anthony Lawson, and Griffin Stollings.

William McComas was the only residence attorney. William Toney was the first sheriff, and Francis Pinnell the first surveyor. The first representatives sent to the General Assembly were James Bias and Benjamin Smith.

McDowell County

McDowell County was formed from Tazewell in 1858, and named in honor of James McDowell, a governor of Virginia.

A part of the present area was included within the boundaries of Logan County from 1824 to 1884, when it was restored to Tazewell County.

The earliest settlers came chiefly from Virginia, North Carolina, and Kentucky. Hunting was their chief occupation.

The act creating the county commissioned Henry D. Smith of Russell County, Charles Califee of Mercer County, and John Graham of Wythe County to select a site for the county seat. The county seat was at Peeryville (now Eng-
lish) and other points until 1892, when it was established at Welch, then a village of only a few houses.

Among those connected with the early affairs of the new county were Thomas Peery, George Payne, Samuel Lambert, Elias Harmon, Henry Peery, James Duke, John Harrison, and James Harris.

Coal mining as an industry began in the county about 1882. Since that time the county has developed rapidly, and numerous towns have sprung up.

Welch, incorporated in 1893, was named for Isaiah Welch, a geologist who examined the coal measures of the Elkhorn Valley about 1873. Its population in 1930 was 5,376.

Keystone, with a population of 1,897, is the second largest town in the county.

War, incorporated, had a population of 1,392, census of 1930.

Iaeger, Kimball, and Clark are prosperous trading centers.

Marion County

Marion County was created in 1842 from parts of Monongalia and Harrison, and named from Francis Marion. Middletown (now Fairmont) was made the county seat.

The earliest settlers were James Booth and John Thomas, who built their cabins on Booth's Creek in 1772, if not earlier. Among the other pioneers were Thomas Merrifield, Richard Merrifield, David Morgan, William Roby, Adam Ice, Thomas Hughes, Isaiah Prickett, Boaz Fleming, and George Martin.

A few years later came the pioneer settlers of other families—Barnes, Hall, Satterfield, Lowe, Watson, Hayes, Cunningham, Hartley, Wilson, Haymond, Linn, Parrish, Yost, Miller, Springer, Cochran, Lough, Arnette, Doolittle, Poland, Kelley, Meredith, Michael, Nuzum, and Pierpont.

Five miles below the site of Fairmont, on the Monongahela, at the mouth of Prickett's Creek, stood Fort Prickett, erected in 1774; and just across the river was the cabin home of David Morgan, the famous Indian fighter.
A settlement was made on the site of Fairmont about 1818, on the lands of Boaz Fleming and others. Here a town was started which, in 1820, was legally established under the name of Middletown. It was so named because it was located on a main highway midway between Clarksburg and Morgantown. By an act of the Assembly, passed February 4, 1843, the name of the town was changed to Fairmont.

Palatine, now a part of Fairmont, was started as a town about 1838. William Haymond, John S. Barnes, John Polsley, and Jacob Polsley settled there as early as 1793. Barnesville, Worthington, Wileytown (now Farmington), Rivesville, Boothsville, Nuzum's Mills, and Hoult Town were all in existence nearly one hundred years ago. Barnesville is now a part of Fairmont.

Marshall County

Marshall County was carved out of Ohio County in 1835 and named for John Marshall. The act creating the county made Elizabethtown (now Moundsville) the county seat. The first court was held in a school house in the town.

The following justices composed the first court: Jacob Burley, Benjamin McMechen, Zadock Masters, Samuel Howard, and Jacob Parrot.

Elbert H. Caldwell was the first prosecuting attorney, James D. Morris the first clerk of the court, and Blair Morgan the first sheriff.

The pioneers of Marshall County began building their cabins in 1769 and 1770. John Wetzel came in 1769. The Siverts and the Earlywynes came about the same time. Joseph Tomlinson, Sr., and his brother Samuel, of Maryland, built a cabin home on the Flats of Grave Creek in 1770. Among the pioneers who came within the next few years were the O'Neils, the Shepherds, the Bakers, the Parrs, the Masters, the Bonars, and the Yohos.

In 1798 Joseph Tomlinson, Sr., laid out the town that became the county seat. He named it Elizabethtown in honor
of his wife, Elizabeth. The town was incorporated as Elizabethtown in 1803. About 1832 another town was started near by, and named Moundsville. The two towns were incorporated as one town in 1876, under the name Moundsville.

Marshall County has many natural resources. Coal, oil, and gas have been developed, and important industrial towns and cities have sprung up.

Moundsville, with a population of 14,411 in 1930, is the largest city.

Among the other prosperous cities, with their population in 1930, are Benwood (3,950), Cameron (2,281), Glendale (799), and McMechen (3,710).

Mason County

Mason County was formed in 1804 from the western portion of Kanawha County, and received its name from George Mason, of Virginia.

The formal organization of the new county was effected at the residence of William Owens, at Point Pleasant, July 8, 1804. The justices of the peace who composed the court were Francis Watkins, William Clendenin, William Owens, John Roach, Maurice Reynolds, Edward McDonough, John Henderson, John McCulloch, Michael Rader, and Andrew Lewis, Jr.

The settlement of the county dates back to 1774, when a settlement was made at Point Pleasant immediately following the famous battle at that place, October 10, 1774. But the settlers abandoned the place in 1779, and Point Pleasant was left desolate until the autumn of 1784, when Andrew Lewis, Jr., Thomas Lewis, and William Lewis brought settlers and established a new settlement (see page 63).

Early surveys were made in this part of the Ohio Valley for Andrew Lewis, Hugh Mercer, George Washington, Peter Hogg, Andrew Waggener, and others. The Andrew Lewis tract included the present site of Point Pleasant.

In a list of the early pioneers of Mason County appear
the family names Lewis, Clendenin, Hannan, Fleming, Arbuckle, Van Bibber, Sea, Roush, Henderson, Robinson, Bennett, Gibbs, Johnson, Hawkins, Peck, Graham, Greenlee, Cooper, Rader, and Boone.

Point Pleasant, the county seat, is the most important center in the county. In 1811 it was a village of about twenty dwelling houses, a log court-house, a log jail, and the usual pillory and whipping post. Its population in 1930 was 3,301.

Mason City, first called Waggener’s Bottom, had about three houses in 1851. Its 1930 population was 691.

Hartford City (Hartford) was founded in 1853. Its 1930 population was 465.

New Haven, Henderson, and Leon are important trading centers.

Mercer County

The first settler in greater Mercer County was Andrew Culbertson, whose cabin was built as early as 1753, and stood in present Summers County. In 1775 Mitchell Clay and family settled on the Clover Bottom tract of land in present Mercer County. In 1780 John Goodman Davidson came from the Valley of Virginia, accompanied by Richard Bailey, and both settled on a branch of the Bluestone, in what is now Mercer County, where the Davidson-Bailey Fort was built.

Mercer County was erected in 1837 out of parts of Giles and Tazewell counties, and named in honor of General Hugh Mercer of Revolutionary War fame.

The justices of the peace who composed the first court were William Smith, C. A. Walker, Elijah Peters, John Davidson, John Brown, Robert Gore, Robert Lilly, and Robert Hall. They met at the residence of James Califee, near Princeton, to organize the new county. Moses E. Kerr was elected clerk, and William Smith became the first sheriff.

The first grand jury was composed of the following gentlemen: Robert Hall, John Martin, Christian S. Peters,

Among the early attorneys were Joseph Stras, Albert Pendleton, Thomas Boyd, A. A. Chapman, M. Chapman, A. T. Caperton, and David Hall.

Princeton, which became the county seat, was laid out as a town shortly after the county was created. It received its name from the New Jersey battlefield, on which General Mercer fell mortally wounded.

Concord Church was built on the site of Athens, from which the town took its early name, Concord. The first postoffice here was Concord Church. The town was chartered as Athens in 1906.

Bluefield, the largest city in Mercer County, was a small town as late as 1890.

Bramwell, chartered as a town in 1888, has a population of 1,574; Matoaka, approximately 1,000.

Mineral County

Mineral County, formed in 1866 from Hampshire County, received its name from the coal found there. Keyser became the county seat.

The first settlements within the borders of the county were made soon after 1735, the time the earliest pioneers of the South Branch Valley began building their cabin homes. Several forts were built before the French and Indian War opened. Fort Ohio, at Ridgeley, was erected in 1750; and Fort Ashby, at Alaska, was built in 1755.

In pioneer days farming was the only important industry. The coming of the old Northwestern Turnpike, and of the railroad in later years, gave great impetus to the industrial growth of the county. Keyser, formerly known as New Creek, is on the Potomac River. It was established after
the Civil War, largely through the energy of Henry G. Davis. Its population in 1930 was 6,248.

Piedmont is located at the foot of the Alleghany Mountains, and on the North Branch of the Potomac River. It was laid out as a town in 1855. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad reached the site of the future town in 1851. Its population in 1930 was 2,241.

Ridgeley is a growing town, with a population of 1,972 in 1930.

Mingo County

Mingo County, the youngest in the State, was formerly a part of Logan County. It was created a separate county in 1895, and received its name from a tribe of Indians of that name.

Williamson, the county seat, was incorporated as a town in 1894, and as a city in 1905. It was laid out as a town about 1891, and named in honor of Wallace J. Williamson. In 1892 the town had a population of 27. The population in 1930 was 9,410.

A great industrial development in this part of West Virginia followed the entrance of the Norfolk and Western Railway into the State and its extension westward. Williamson soon became the shipping center of an extensive coalfield.

Matewan had a population of 932 in 1930, being the second town in size in the county. Kermit, with a population of 749, comes third. Naugatuck, Dingess, and Burch as growing towns.

Monongalia County

Monongalia County, formed from part of the territory of "West Augusta" in 1776, received its name from its principal river. From its original territory have been carved, wholly or in part, eighteen or more counties in West Virginia and three in Pennsylvania.

The residence of Theophilus Phillips, near the site of the present town of Geneva, Pennsylvania, was the first county
seat of the new county. After Virginia surrendered this part of the county to Pennsylvania, the county seat was removed to the home of Zackquill Morgan, where Morgantown now stands.

The first attempt to form a settlement within the present limits of the county was made in the fall of 1758, by Thomas Decker and others. In the spring of the next year the settlement was broken up by Indians.

The year 1766 marks the beginning of permanent settlements in what is now Monongalia County. A few home-seekers came in that year.

In 1766 Zackquill Morgan and others settled upon the site of Morgantown.

By 1771 about seven hundred people were living in Monongalia County territory. Many of them were descendants of pioneers of the Shenandoah Valley.

Among the early pioneers were Zackquill Morgan, David Morgan, Bruce Worley, James Chew, Jacob Prickett, Thomas Batton, Thomas Wilson, Joseph Cox, Thomas Laidley (Laidlaw), Jonathan Cobun, Richard Harrison, Michael Kerns, Charles Martin, John Pierpont, John Statler, and John Stewart.

In 1782 the home of Zackquill Morgan, on the site of Morgantown, became the seat of justice. By an act of the Assembly, passed in October, 1785, Morgantown was established a town on fifty acres of land, the property of Zackquill Morgan, in whose honor the town was named. The trustees of the new town were Samuel Hanway, John Evans, David Scott, Michael Kerns, and James Daugherty. The act authorized the trustees to lay out the town into lots, streets, and alleys.

Morgantown is the home of the most important educational institution of the State—the West Virginia University.

The chief industries of Monongalia County have been farming, manufacturing, coal mining, and the production of oil and gas.
Monroe County

Monroe County, formed from Greenbrier County in 1799, was named in honor of James Monroe. Union became the seat of justice.

The first court convened at the residence of George King, near the present site of Union, in May, 1799. It was composed of the following justices: William Hutchinson, James Alexander, Isaac Estill, William Haynes, John Hutchinson, John Grey, John Byrnesides, William Graham, James Hanley, and William Vawter.

John Hutchinson was first clerk of the county court, and John Woodward was the first prosecuting attorney. The first sheriff was Isaac Estill, with John Arbuckle as deputy sheriff.

Among the other pioneers who assisted in establishing the government of the new county were James Graham, James Jones, George Swope, William Maddy, Charles Keenan, James Gwinn, Robert Patton, and John Harvey.

The first grand jury was composed of William Royal, Dennis Cochran, John Mathews, Samuel Todd, Hugh Caperton, Joseph Snodgrass, Isaac Snodgrass, William Howell, John Peck, Joseph Cloyd, John Lewis, William Vawter, Jacob Persinger, John Byrnesides, and James Byrnesides.

The early settlers were largely Scotch-Irish, and many of them were descendants of pioneers of the Shenandoah Valley.

Lands were surveyed for Thomas Lewis, Henry Baughman, John Madison, and others as early as 1751 and 1752. In 1754 surveys were made for John Bailey, William Bradshaw, Isaac Burns, James Byrnesides, James Campbell, Valentine Cook, John Estill, Boude Estill, James Graham, James Gwinn, William Hutchinson, David Jarrett, Mitchell Shirley, Joseph Swope, Michael Swope, James Keenan, Solomon Turpin, and others.

In 1760 James Moss settled at what is now Sweet Sulphur Springs. Soon thereafter home-seekers pushed up the Greenbrier to form settlements on Wolf Creek, in present

John Peters and Christian Peters came from Rockingham County to the New River settlements soon after 1780. Christian Peters settled upon or near the site of Peters-town, and for him the town was named.

Rev. John Alderson, a Baptist minister, was the pioneer settler where Alderson now stands. Here he organized a Baptist Church in 1781. The land here remained in possession of the Alderson family for nearly a century. The town of Alderson was laid out in 1871. The site of the town lies in both Monroe and Greenbrier counties, on the Greenbrier River.

Union was laid out as a town on land owned by James Alexander. It was legally established in the year 1800.

General farming has always been the principal industry of Monroe County.

Morgan County

Morgan County, formed in 1820 from parts of Hampshire and Berkeley counties, was named in honor of General Daniel Morgan.

The first settler came only a few years after Morgan Morgan made his settlement in Berkeley County. By the year 1745 home-seekers had found their way into many parts of Morgan County.

Berkeley Springs, in Morgan County, is one of the oldest towns of the Eastern Panhandle. Its springs were the first of the famous watering resorts of the State to come into prominence. The place was first known as Warm Springs, but in 1776 it was chartered as the town of Bath, and in 1872 as Berkeley Springs. It is the county seat, and, with a population of 1,039 in 1930, is the largest town in the county.
Paw Paw, with a population of 781 in 1930, is a prosperous town.

Nicholas County

Nicholas County, formed in 1818 from parts of Kanawha, Greenbrier, and Randolph counties, was named in honor of Wilson Cary Nicholas, a governor of Virginia.

The justices of the peace who composed the first county court were Samuel Niel, Thomas Masterson, William Sims, Samuel Hutchinson, John Hamilton, Joseph McNutt, John Campbell, Mathias Van Bibber, James Robinson, Charles William Cottle, Isaac Gregory, John Skidmore, Andrew Friend, David Frame, James Given, and John Duffield.

The first court was held at the residence of John Hamilton. John Duffield was appointed first sheriff and John Given became the first clerk of the county court.

At the first election Edward Ryan and Charles William Cottle were elected delegates to the General Assembly.

After some controversy the county seat was located on the lands of Robert Hamilton, who had recently purchased the Arbuckle survey. Here, on thirty acres of land, was laid out of town of Summersville, in 1820. The town was legally established the same year. The trustees were Robert Hamilton, Robert Kelley, William Hamilton, John Groves, Samuel Hutchinson, John G. Stephenson, James Robinson, John Campbell, and Edward Ryan.

Among the early pioneers of the county were Henry Morris, John McClung, Edward McClung, Conrad Young, William Lilly, George Fitzwater, Thomas Fitzwater, George Rader, Michael Rader, Joseph Backus, John Summers, Jonathan Dunbar, John Hess, Samuel Grose, Edward Hughes, Benjamin Hamrick, Joel Hamrick, John Boggs, James Boggs, Samuel Bell, James Frame, Benjamin Lemaster, Jeremiah O'Dell, Jesse Carpenter, and James McCoy—probably all before 1812.

Although the county was rich in natural resources, industries here did not develop rapidly until after 1890.
Richwood, on Cherry River, is a new industrial city, incorporated in 1901. It is the largest municipality in the county, and has numerous industries. Its population in 1930 was 5,720.

Ohio County

Ohio County was formed in 1776 from the "District of West Augusta", and received its name from the Ohio River. It was the first county in Virginia organized west of the Alleghany Mountains. Its first courts were held at Black's cabin on Short Creek near the site of West Liberty. The justices composing the first court were Silas Hedges, William Scott, David Shepherd, Zacharias Sprigg, Thomas Wallen, and David McClain.

The first attorneys licensed to practice in the courts were Philip Pendleton and George Brent.

West Liberty was the first county seat of the new county. It was incorporated as a town in 1787.

We have already seen (page 32) who built the earliest cabin homes on and near the site of Zanesburg (Wheeling). Other settlers soon followed. They came largely from Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. The story of the attempts of the Indians to destroy settlements makes up most of the early history of the county. Fort Henry (first called Fort Fincastle) and several other forts gave protection to the settlers.

Wheeling, which was laid out into town lots in 1793, was established as a town by legislative act in 1795. It became the county seat in 1797. About fifty houses comprised the town at that time.

Among the pioneers who settled within the present boundaries of the county soon after 1772 were Richard Boyce, John Black, John Boggs, James Campbell, Charles Dodd, John Greathouse, David McClure, Samuel McColloch, and Joseph Wilson.

In 1788, when Ohio County still occupied the whole of the Panhandle, settlements extended along the Ohio River
from the mouth of Little Beaver Creek to the mouth of Grave Creek, distance about 160 miles. The settlements grew rapidly after 1795.

Pendleton County

Pendleton County was formed in 1788, by an act of the General Assembly passed December 4, 1787, from parts of Augusta, Hardy and Rockingham counties. It received its name from that of Edmund Pendleton, of Virginia.

The act creating the new county directed that the justices of the peace should hold the first court at the residence of Zariah Stratton.

Franklin (formerly Frankford), the county seat, was established as a town in 1794, on the lands of Francis Evick.

Soon after the earliest settlers of Hampshire County had established their homes (1735-1736), other home-seekers began to push up the South Branch and the Shenandoah into what is now Pendleton County, to locate lands for future settlement. However, it appears that the first permanent settlers came about 1747, when Roger Dyer, John Patton, John Smith, William Stephenson and others established a colony on lands formerly owned by Robert Green of Culpeper County.

Within the next decade came Henry Alkire, Jeremiah Osborne, Abraham Westfall, Peter Reed, Jacob Goodman, Jacob Seybert, Michael Simmons, Leonard Simmons, Joseph Skidmore, Hans Harper, and others.

The first newspaper published in the county was the Mountain News, which appeared about 1793.

Among the early justices, commissioned in 1788, were Robert Davis, James Dyer, Emanuel Arbogast, Adam Conrad, William Dyer, Benjamin Fleisher, Adam Judy, Oliver McCoy, Moses Hinkle, James Skidmore, John Skidmore, and Thomas Wilson.

The pioneer settlers were greatly harrassed by Indian hostilities. Fort Seybert and Fort Upper Tract were famous places of refuge.
In 1840 Pendleton County had 462 slaves and 35 free colored. At that time nearly all the citizens were employed in farming. About one-fourth of the land had been cleared.

In the same year there were 40 common schools in the county. As late as 1872 more than one-half of the schools were taught in log buildings.

**Pleasants County**

Pleasants County, formed in 1851 from Wood, Tyler, and Ritchie counties, was named for James Pleasant, governor of Virginia, 1822-1825. St. Marys was made the county seat.

The earliest settlers in the county built their cabins soon after the settlement of Marietta, Ohio, was founded, 1788. About 1790 Isaac LaRue and Jacob LaRue settled at the mouth of Middle Island Creek, where a man by the name of Tygart built a cabin soon after the settlement at Wheeling was founded. Seven years later Bazil Riggs made a settlement on the Ohio, above Raven Rock narrows, within the limits of Pleasants County.

Among the other pioneer families of the county were the Triplets, the Maxwells, the Irvins, the Bostons, the Reynolds, the Smiths, the Williamsons, the Cochrans, the Singletons, the Robys, the Stouts, the Baileys, the Taylors, the Grahams, the Carrolls, and the Sharps.

The site of St. Marys was owned in turn by Henry Thomas, William McCleery, Stephen West, and Alexander Creel. The town was founded by Alexander Creel. It was incorporated March 31, 1851. It had formerly belonged to Wood County. It is the only incorporated town in the county, and had a population of 2,182 in 1930.

**Pocahontas County**

Pocahontas County was erected in 1821 out of parts of Bath, Pendleton, and Randolph counties, and received its name from the Indian princess of that name. Huntersville became the county seat.
The first county court convened at the residence of John Bradshaw in March, 1822. The justices present were John Jordan, William Poage, James Tallman, Robert Gray, George Poage, Benjamin Tallman, John Baxter, and George Burner. Josiah Beard was the first clerk of the court, and John Jordan became the first sheriff.

The first white men to erect a cabin within the present boundaries of the county were Jacob Marlin and Stephen Sewell. Their cabin stood on the banks of the Greenbrier River, on Marlin's Bottom, where they were living in 1751, having made the settlement in 1749. The settlement was not permanent.

Probably no other settlement was made in the county for several years. John McNeel, Peter Lightner, Moses Moore, Samuel Waugh, Robert Gay, Jacob Warwick, John Sharp, and William Sharp were among the later pioneers.

Lumbering and farming have been the chief industries of the county.

Marlinton marks the spot where Jacob Marlin and Stephen Sewell built their cabin. The place was known as Marlin's Bottom until 1887, when the town was laid out. The county seat remained at Huntersville from 1822 to 1891, when it was moved to Marlinton.

The county seat is the largest town in the county, having a population of 1,586, in 1930. Cass, Durbin, and Hillsboro are incorporated towns.

Preston County

Preston County, formed in 1818 from Monongalia County, was named in honor of James Patton Preston, a governor of Virginia. Kingwood became the seat of justice in 1818.

The first court convened at the residence of William Price at Kingwood. Among the justices composing the court were John Fairfax, Frederick Hersh, Hugh Evans, Nathaniel Metheny, Joseph Mathews, Nathan Ashby, William Sigler, Benjamin Shaw, and John Scott.

The earliest actual settlements in the county were estab-
lished in 1766. Thomas Butler was probably the first permanent settler. He was soon followed by David Frazee, Jacob Judy, Thomas Chipps, Jacob Cozad, John Scott, James Clark, Samuel Worral, Anthony Worley, and Thomas Cushman.

After 1796 settlements increased rapidly in both size and number.

Kingwood pioneers came in 1807. Conrad Sheets, Jacob Funk, and a man named Steele built their cabins upon or near the site of the town in that year. Kingwood was established as a town in 1811. It was then in greater Monongalia County. The trustees were John S. Roberts, Jacob Funk, William Price, James Brown, and Hugh Morgan.

The commissioners who selected Kingwood as the seat of justice were Thomas Byrne, Felix Scott, William Irvine, William Marteney, and John McWhorter.

The growth of the town has been slow, but steady. In 1930 its population was 1,709.

Rowlesburg (population 1,573), Terra Alta (1,474), Massontown (924), Newburg (745), and Tunnelton (595) are prosperous towns.

Putnam County

Putnam County, formed in 1848 from parts of Kanawha, Mason, and Cabell counties, was named in honor of General Israel Putnam. Winfield became the county seat at the time the county was organized.

The formal organization of the county government took place at the residence of Talleyrand P. Brown on the present site of Winfield. The justices composing the court were Matthew D. Brown, Alexander W. Handley, John C. Thomas, Sr., Mahlon S. Morris, Lawrence A. Washington, Lewis S. Boling, John Morgan, John Ruffner, William A. Alexander, and James Smith.

Matthew D. Brown was the first high sheriff, Hart C. Forbes the first county clerk, and George W. Summers the first prosecuting attorney.
The earliest permanent settlements in the county were established prior to 1800. Among the early pioneers were James Connor, Charles Connor, James Ellis, John Dudding, William Lanham, Thomas Reece, Stephen Teays, Joshua Morris, Jonathan Hill, and Richard McAllister.

Teays Valley was named in honor of Thomas Teays, a surveyor who took up large tracts of land in the valley before the Revolutionary War. His son, Stephen Teays, was a pioneer settler at St. Albans, in Kanawha County.

Hurricane Creek was so named about 1774, when surveyors saw in that section the effects of a terrible tornado that laid low many giant trees of the forest. The town took its name from the creek. It has a population of 1,293.

Buffalo, the oldest town in the county, was laid out as a town in 1834 by Benjamin Craig. It took its name from the postoffice at the mouth of Big Buffalo Creek.

The site of Winfield was originally the property of Charles Brown, who owned four hundred acres, which he gave to his two sons, Charles P. and Talleyrand P. Brown. The town had its beginning in the year 1848, and was named for General Winfield Scott.

Raymond City, at the mouth of Pocatalico River, was named for John I. Raymond. The coal mining industry opened here about 1864.

Nitro, partly in Putnam and partly in Kanawha County, was built during the World War as a smokeless powder manufacturing plant. It soon became a city of 20,000 inhabitants, but declined very rapidly after the close of the war.

Raleigh County

Raleigh County, named from Sir Walter Raleigh, was formed in 1850 out of the southern portion of Fayette County. Beckley was made the county seat.

The first court convened in the public school house in Beckley. It was composed of the following named justices of the peace: James Goodall, Robert Scott, Samuel Richmond,
Robert Warden, Cyrus Snuffer, Lucien B. Davis, John Sarrett, Benjamin Linkous, and John Stover. Most of these were pioneer settlers.


The first sheriff of Raleigh County was John T. Clay. Edward W. Bailey was the first prosecuting attorney, and Daniel Shumate was the first county clerk.

Beckley, then in Fayette County, was incorporated by the General Assembly in 1837, and named in honor of General Alfred Beckley, who came to this region in 1836, and was the first clerk of the circuit court of Raleigh County.

Between 1920 and 1930 Raleigh County’s industries gave rapid growth in population. In 1930 Beckley had a population of 9,357, having gained 5,308 in ten years.

Randolph County

Randolph County, the largest county in the State, was formed from Harrison County by an act of the General Assembly passed in October, 1786, to take effect from and after May 1, 1787. The new county was named in honor of Edmund Randolph, a governor of Virginia.

The act creating the county directed that the justices should hold the first court at the residence of Benjamin Wilson, of Tygart’s Valley.

Beverly was made the county seat. It was legally established as a town in December, 1790, on the lands of James Westfall. The trustees were John Wilson, Jacob Westfall, Sylvester Ward, Thomas Phillips, Hezekiah Rosecrouts, William Wormesley, and Valentine Stalnaker.

We have seen (page 24) that the first to attempt settlement in Randolph County area were the families of David Tygart and Robert Files, in 1754, and that the settlement was destroyed by Indians. It appears that 1772 marks the time of the beginning of permanent settlements within the
limits of the county. By that time nearly all the land in Tygart’s Valley had been taken up.

Chief among the pioneer families were the Westfalls, the Wilsons, the Connoleys, the Whitemans, the Stalnakers, the Warwicks, the Haddens, the Huttons, the Nelsons, the Riffes, the Currences, the Friends, the Weeses, and the Whites.

At the time the county was organized it included, besides its present area, half of Barbour, half of Upshur, all of Tucker, and a large part of Webster.

Under the law of that time the justices of the peace constituted the county court. Among the early justices were Jacob Westfall, Salathiel Goff (who resided at St. George), John Wilson, Cornelius Westfall, George Westfall, Henry Runnion, and Jonathan Parsons.

The first three sheriffs were Jacob Westfall (appointed in 1787), Cornelius Westfall (1789), and Uriah Gandee or Gandy (1793).

Uriah Gandee, Jr., son of the sheriff, was a pioneer of Sandyville, in Jackson County, and in 1824 founded the Gandeeville settlement in Roane County.

Elkins was laid off into lots in 1889 and named in honor of Stephen B. Elkins. It is situated on the Tygart’s Valley River, near Beverly. It became the county seat in 1898. In 1930 its population was 7,345.

Beverly, in the same year, had a population of 431. Huttonsville and Mill Creek are small towns.

Ritchie County

Ritchie County, formed in 1843 from parts of Wood, Harrison, and Lewis counties, was named in honor of a distinguished newspaper editor of Virginia, Thomas Ritchie, whose mother was a sister of Judge Spencer Roane, for whom Roane County and its seat of justice were named. The act creating the county directed that Harrisville should be the county seat.
The earliest "settlements" in this region were made prior to the Revolutionary War, between 1772 and 1775. However, these early "settlements" were mere tomahawk improvements, with sometimes a cabin and a crop of corn. Among these early pioneers were John Evans, John Logan, Henry Barnes, John Murphy, George Green, Jacob Israel, Ezekiel Boggs, Robert Taylor, James Allen, and Jacob Rice—all of whom made their improvements on the waters of Hughes River, named for Jesse Hughes.

Permanent settlers began to come soon after 1796. Among these were John Bunnell the (first to build a cabin on the site of Pennsboro), John Webster, George Husher, Laurence Maley, George Stuart, Joseph Wilkinson, Levi Wells, Patrick Sinnett, John Heaton, Robert Rogers, and James Marsh. A few years later came the Starrs, the Drakes, the Lowthers, the Dotsons, the Hardmans, the Rutherfords, and the Glovers.

Farming has been the chief industry of the county. The development of oil and gas areas began before the Civil War. Harrisville was laid out as a town by Thomas Harris. It was legally established more than one hundred years ago. In 1930 the population was 1,192.

Pennsboro, the largest town in the county, was laid out by a Mr. Penn of Baltimore. Its population in 1930 was 1,616.

Cairo, Ellensboro, Pullman, Auburn, and Smithville, are growing towns.

Roane County

Roane County was created in 1856 from parts of Kanawha, Jackson, and Gilmer counties, and received its name from Spencer Roane, a judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia.

A vote of the people decided between the Robert Looney farm (Looneyville) and New California (Spencer) as to which should be the seat of justice for the new county. The returns showed that New California had received 830 votes,
and the Robert Looney farm, 461 votes. Thus New California, now Spencer, became the county seat.

The first county court was held at the residence of M. B. Armstrong, in the town of New California, April 17, 1856. It was composed of the following justices: Lemuel Crislip, A. D. Hodam, Joseph B. Chilton, John Hively, James Hively, J. W. Cain, William Gandee, David Sergent, Elijah Weese, James Riddle, and Henry Nelson.

The territory included within the limits of Roane County was visited by white men before the Revolutionary War, and probably a few tomahawk improvements were made.

The earliest surveys and land patents date back to about 1784-1787.

No one knows who the first settler was, nor when he came. It is probable that cabins were built and spots of land cleared as early as 1809. About that time John Kelley, Ware Long, Francis Garner, and others made settlements on the banks of Big Sandy Creek, near the present line between Kanawha and Roane counties. Soon thereafter John Ashley and others came. About the year 1813 Josiah Fowler settled near the present site of Cicerone, in Harper District. About 1814 Paul Shaver built his cabin near Walton. In 1813 Jonathan Wolfe and his wife and one child took up their abode under a shelving rock where Spencer now stands. He was soon joined by Samuel Tanner, who built a cabin and became the first permanent settler on the site of Spencer, Wolfe having removed to a point farther up Spring Creek, where he spent the remainder of his life. About 1814 William Parsons, Joseph Board, Patrick Board, William Stewart, Sr., Thomas Cain, Sr., and others settled on the waters of Reedy Creek.

Prior to 1850 the pioneers living in what is now Roane County were, in part, Alex West, Martin Argabrite, Joseph Rader, Hiram Chancey, Thomas Carney, John Thomasson, Samuel Miller, Armstead Harper, William Goff, Richard Ferrell, Washington Fields, Robert Raines, Josiah Hughes, Sr., John Carpenter, Stephen Starcher, Uriah Gandee,

The site of Spencer was first called Tanner's Cross Roads, but the first village was called Cassville. The place was later called New California because Rollo Butcher gave up his plan to go to California and settled in Cassville. Soon after the new county was formed, the name of the county seat, New California, was changed to Spencer, in honor of the man for whom the county was named.

The year of the first settlement at Spencer was 1813, not 1812, as usually given. Jonathan Wolfe's first child, Mary K., was born January 30, 1813, and was six weeks old when the family came to the site of Spencer. Wolfe always claimed that he, not Samuel Tanner, made the first settlement.

Among the pioneers of the town were Alex West, Dr. Henry Nelson, John Hughes, Marcellus McWhorter, Henry McWhorter, and Elijah Runnion.

Reedy, Walton, Gandeeville, and Newton are prosperous trading centers.

Walton postoffice received its name from the mother of Samuel A. Miller, whose maiden name was Atlantic Walton, of an old Virginia family. Miller once owned large tracts of land in Walton District, and secured the postoffice.

Newton was named in honor of Enos W. Newton, a prominent Charleston newspaper editor.

Gandeeville was laid out on the old Uriah Gandee farm, settler about 1824. Part of the farm is now owned by Samuel R. Fields. On this farm is the grave of the wife of Uriah Gandee, who was a daughter of Jesse Hughes, the famous Indian fighter.
Summers County

Summers County was erected in 1871 from parts of Monroe, Mercer, Greenbrier and Fayette counties, and named in honor of George W. Summers, of Fayette County.

Hinton, the county seat, was laid out in 1873 on lands of John Hinton, at the junction of Greenbrier and New rivers, and took its name from Evan Hinton, who helped in securing the establishment of the new county. The town was incorporated in 1880.

The first county court was held in the old Greenbrier Baptist Church. The first justices of the peace were Allen Harvey, Joseph Grimmett, T. J. Jones, William Meadows, and James Farley. The first sheriff was Evan Hinton.

The first settler in Summers County was Andrew Culbertson, who, in 1753, made his home in Crump's Bottom, in greater Mercer County. Crump's Bottom plantation was later a valuable farm owned by the Harmon estate.

Only a few settlers established homes within the limits of the county prior to the Revolutionary War. Colonel James Graham founded a settlement on the Greenbrier before 1777. The Grahams, the Kellers, the Cooks, the Farleys, the Packs, the Meadows, the Grimmetts, the Hintons, the Lillys, and the Gwinns were among the pioneer families of the county.

Taylor County

Taylor County was formed in 1844 from parts of Harrison, Barbour, and Marion. The historian Howe, who wrote about the time Taylor County was created, says the county was named for Senator John Taylor of Caroline County, Virginia. Some authors have given General Zachary Taylor as the man honored.

The act creating the county fixed the county seat at Williamsport (now Pruntytown) established under the name Williamsport in 1801. It was then in Harrison county. In 1845 the name was legally changed from Williamsport to Pruntytown, in honor of David Prunty, who formerly owned
the site of the county seat. The place was first called “Cross Roads.”

Several pioneer cabins were built within the limits of the county as early as 1772, but there were not many permanent settlements until after 1795.

Among the pioneers were Jesse Rector, William Yates, Cornelius Reynolds, Stephen Powell, John Cather, James Fleming, Patrick Fleming, Remembrance Blue, William Poe, Isaac Means, James Kern, Jacob Means, John Sinsel, John Cather, James Bartlett, and Moses McDonald.

Grafton, situated on the Tygarts Valley River, was incorporated as a town in 1856. The location of the county seat was changed from Pruntytown to Grafton in the early 1880’s. In 1930 the population was 7,737.

Flemington and vicinity was the early home of James Fleming and Patrick Fleming. The town was incorporated in 1860.

**Tucker County**

Tucker County, named for St. George Tucker, an eminent Virginia jurist, was cut off from Randolph County in 1856. St. George became the county seat. It received its name from another St. George Tucker, who was clerk of the House of Delegates at that time, and was located on the lands of Enoch Minear.

This region was probably unknown to white men until about 1763. In 1766 a cabin was built where Parsons now stands. About 1773 Captain James Parsons and Thomas Parsons, from the South Branch Valley, came over to Cheat River Valley and settled at Horseshoe Bend, now in Tucker County. About the year 1774 John Minear and Jonathan Minear built their cabin homes near the present site of St. George, where Fort Minear was soon erected. In 1776 Salathiel Goff located opposite Horseshoe Bottom. John T. Goff, Jacob Springston, Sr., Joseph Hardman, and James Riddle came about that time and established homes in the county.
Tucker County was once rich in forest resources, and lumbering became an early industry of the county. Coal mining was a later industry. Most of the people have been farmers.

Parsons, the present county seat, is located on Cheat River. Its population in 1930 was 2,012.

Davis, Hambleton, Hendricks, and Thomas are prosperous towns.

Tyler County

Tyler County was formed from Ohio County in 1814, and named in honor of John Tyler, a governor of Virginia and father of President Tyler.

The justices of the peace composing the first county court were Joseph Martin, Jeremiah Williams, Presley Martin, Joseph McCoy, William Wells, Abraham Birckhead, John Nicklin, Ephraim Martin, John Whitten, and Bazil Riggs.

These justices of the peace organized the government of the new county at the residence of Charles Wells, just below the site of Sistersville (first called Ziggleton), in January, 1815. After some delay the county seat was removed to Middlebourne in 1816.

The first sheriff was Joseph Martin, and the first prosecuting attorney was Moses W. Chapline.

Middlebourne was legally established as a town in 1813, on the lands of Robert Gorrell. In 1844 the town had about fifty dwellings.

Sistersville, laid out as the county seat in 1814, was incorporated in 1839. It has long been a noted boat landing place. The pioneer settler of the town was Charles Wells, who probably made his settlement prior to 1780.

Among the other pioneer families of Tyler County were the Baileys, the Kesters, the Barkvills, the McFarlands, the Wilsons, the Harts, the Campbells, the Lamps, the Morgans, and the Shingletons (or Singletons).
Upshur County

Upshur County was formed in 1851 from parts of Randolph, Barbour, and Lewis counties, and received its name from Abel P. Upshur, a distinguished Virginian. The village of Buckhannon was made the county seat. The first court was held at the residence of Andrew Poundstone, at Buckhannon.

Among the justices of the peace who served about 1851-1852 were Jacob Lorents, David Bennett, Anthony B. See, Alva Teter, Wilson M. Haymond, Daniel D. T. Farnsworth, and Anson Young.

We have already seen (pages 28-29) who some of the earliest settlers in Upshur County were. Among those who came only a few years later were Samuel Oliver, Abraham Carper, Abraham Brake, Jacob Reger, John Strader, John Crites, George Bush, Samuel Turney, and William Wooden.

Buckhannon, then in Harrison County, was legally established January 15, 1816, on land owned by Robert Patton, Jr. It took its name from the Buckhannon River. The land upon which most of the town stands was owned originally by Elizabeth Cummins, who became the wife of John Jackson, and who sold the land to John Patton. Edward Jackson, in 1770, became the first settler. He was a son of John Jackson, who was the great-grandfather of "Stonewall" Jackson.

For many years Buckhannon was but little more than a thickly settled farming community. It has become a beautiful residence town with several prosperous industries.

Farming has been the chief industry of Upshur County. In pioneer days the farmers drove their live stock to Baltimore and other eastern markets.

Wayne County

White men visited the Big Sandy Valley long before the Revolutionary War. By the year 1773 land speculators were greatly interested in its rich river and creek bottom lands. The Shawnee Indians near the Ohio were hostile to-
ward any attempt of the whites to occupy their lands. This made it impossible for the settlers to gain a foothold in the lower part of the valley until after Wayne's great victory at the battle of Fallen Timbers, on the Maumee River. Meanwhile a few settlements were established in the middle and upper part of the valley between 1785 and 1790. But the settlers were driven back by Indians.

In the territory later included in Wayne County the earliest permanent settlements were made between 1796 and 1800. About the year 1797 Samuel Short reared his cabin near Cassville. Robert Tabor followed him the next year. About 1800 to the same settlement came Thomas Short, Samuel Hatton, Peter Loar, Bennett Wellman, Benjamin Sperry, William Atrip, and Josiah Marcum. On the upper waters of Twelve Pole James Bias and others built their cabins about 1802. In the same year Jesse Spurlock and Samuel Ferguson settled near where the court-house now stands.

The few pioneers who came prior to 1788 built their cabins in what was then Montgomery County. In 1788 this section of West Virginia became a part of Kanawha County, which, in 1809, gave territory for the formation of Cabell County.

Wayne County was formed in 1842 from Cabell County and named in honor of General Anthony Wayne. The first court was held at the home of Abraham Trout, Sr., at Trout's Hill, now Wayne.

The important towns of the county are Wayne, Kenova, Ceredo, and Cassville (whose postoffice is Fort Gay).

Webster County

Webster County was created in 1860 from parts of Nicholas, Braxton, and Randolph counties, and was named for Daniel Webster, the distinguished American statesman.

The act creating the new county provided that the seat of justice should be located on the farm of Addison McLaughlin at the Fork Lick on Elk River.
Samuel Given, Thomas Cogar, William Arthur, and Thomas Reynolds were appointed commissioners for the purpose of selecting a site for a court-house and other public buildings for the county.

The justices of the peace composing the first county court were required to hold their first court at the house of Thomas Cogar.

The aforesaid commissioners selected the present public square of the county, and soon thereafter a town was laid out at the Fork Lick and named Addison. Later the name was officially changed to Webster Springs.

The first land surveys made in Webster County date back to about 1783-1785. The earliest settlers came near the beginning of the next century, mainly between 1800 and 1810.

Among the pioneer families were the Hamricks, Cogars, Millers, Arthurs, Kings, Gregorys, Paynes, Skidmores, Doodrills, Givens, Baughmans, Mollohans, Dyers, McElwains, Conrads, Friends, McLaughlins, and Mortons.

Farming and lumbering were the early industries of the county. The coal with which the county is so abundantly underlaid has not been developed to any great extent.

Webster Springs, with a population of 976 in 1930, is the largest town in the county. Its mineral springs are widely known.

Cowen, population 491, and Camden-on-Gauley, population 435, are prosperous towns.

Wetzel County

Wetzel County was created in 1846 from part of Tyler County, and named from Lewis Wetzel, the famous Indian scout. Martinsville (now New Martinsville) became the county seat.

Probably the earliest settler was Edward Doolin, who built his cabin near the spring that bears his name, about 1780. He was killed and scalped at his cabin door by Indians, but his wife and children were not molested. Ten years later they removed to Kentucky.
Among the later pioneers who came after the beginning of the new century were Jeremiah Williams, Abraham Haines, Robert McEldowney, John McEldowney, Friend Cox, and Presley Martin.

Presley Martin came in possession of the land where New Martinsville stands about 1810. In 1838 he laid out the town, and in the same year it was incorporated under the name Martinsville. In 1848 the name was changed to New Martinsville.

The principal industries of the county have been farming and lumbering. For a number of years the county was one of the State's important producers of oil and gas.

New Martinsville, with a population of 2,814 in 1830, is the largest town. Brooklyn (779), Hundred (788), Littleton (648), Pine Grove (820), Smithfield (609), and Paden City (2,281) are prosperous towns.

Paden City stands partly in Tyler County.

**Wirt County**

Wirt County, formed in 1848 from parts of Wood and Jackson counties, received its name from William Wirt, a distinguished lawyer.

The first county court convened at the residence of Alfred Beauchamp in the town of Elizabeth, which became the county seat. The justices composing the court were Henry Steed, Charles Rector, William Shepherd, Thomas Boggs, John P. Thomasson, William R. Goff, Silas B. Seaman, William P. Rathbone, Daniel Wilkinson, and Alfred Bauchamp.

Daniel Wilkinson was elected clerk of the court by the justices present. John J. Jackson, Jr., became prosecuting attorney.

Although even before the Revolutionary War home-seekers had spotted land here for future settlement, no permanent home was established within the present limits of the county prior to 1796. In that year William Beauchamp, the first permanent settler in the county, built his cabin where
Elizabeth now stands. Bauchamp, a native of Delaware, was born in 1743, and died at Elizabeth in 1808.


The village from which Elizabeth sprang was once called Bauchamp's Mills. In 1817 the name was changed to Elizabeth, in honor of Elizabeth (Woodyard) Bauchamp, wife of David Bauchamp.

About 1860 the Burning Springs oil boom was started, and here a town sprang up almost over night. In August of that year there were not a dozen souls in the entire vicinity, but soon thereafter the population was several thousand.

From pioneer days to the present time agriculture has been the principal industry of the county.

Wood County

Wood County, carved out of Harrison County in 1798, was named in honor of James Wood, governor of Virginia at that time.

The county government was organized on August 12, 1799, at the house of Hugh Phelps, where Parkersburg now stands. The justices composing the first county court were Hugh Phelps, Jacob Bennett, Thomas Pribble, John Henderson, Caleb Hitchcock, Abner Lord, Joseph Spencer, Thomas Lord, and Ichabod C. Griffin.

The first clerk of the county court was John Stokely, and the first sheriff was William Lowther, who was also the first sheriff of Harrison County.

After a period of contention over the location of the seat of justice for the county, it was agreed that the court-house should be erected on the lands of John Stokely, on the north
side of the Little Kanawha, near the junction of the Ohio and the Little Kanawha rivers, at a place called “The point” or Stokelyville. It was later called Newport, and still later, Parkersburg.

Many tomahawk improvements were made within the boundaries of the county before the Revolutionary War, but no actual settlements were made until about 1786-1787. Fort Flinn at the mouth of Lee Creek was erected in 1785. The settlement at Belleville was started in the autumn of 1785 and completed in the spring of 1786. Neal’s Station (now a part of Parkersburg) was completed in 1786, but no families came until 1787. In 1787 Isaac Williams, the founder of Williamstown, settled on the Virginia side of the Ohio River, opposite the site of Marietta, Ohio.

Prominent among the early pioneers of the county were Captain James Neal, Colonel Hugh Phelps, Captain Joseph Wood, Thomas Flinn, Jacob Parchment, Issac Williams, John Stokely, Colonel William Lowther, Jacob Bennett, Joseph Spencer, Harman Blennerhassett, James G. Laidley and Thomas Lord.

When the county seat was located at “The Point” (Stokelyville), the village was composed of about six log cabins, John Stokely being one of the residents. Stokely changed the name of the village to Newport, and by that name it was known till 1810, when a town was laid out so as to include Newport, and named Parkersburg in honor of Alexander Parker, who once owned the land upon which the town was started.

Parkersburg was a slow town until the coming of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the opening of the oil industry in the Little Kanawha Valley. It is now an important manufacturing and trading center, with a population of approximately 30,000.

The principal industries of Wood County have been farming, lumbering, and manufacturing. The increase in population has been rapid within the last two decades.
Wyoming County

Wyoming County was formed in 1850 from Logan County. The origin of the name is not known.

The act creating the county required the first court to be held at the residence of John Cook. It further provided that the permanent place for holding the courts of the new county should be fixed on the lands of William Cook, Sr., on Clear Fork of Guyandotte River, where Madison Cook then lived.

Oceana was made the county seat. The town site was first settled about the year 1791 by William Cook and Reuben Roach. It remained the county seat until 1917.

Among the early settlers of the county were William Stephen, John Cook, Edward McDonald, James Shannon, Rev. James Ellison (a Baptist preacher), Alexander Hedrick, Rev. Charles Walker, Hughey Justice, and Anthony Lawson (who removed to the site of Logan about 1819).

Pineville, the present county seat, was settled by Benjamin Short about 1853. It was incorporated as a town in 1917. Earlier in the same year the county seat was removed from Oceana to Pineville.

Baileysville is an old established center. It was named for the Bailey family, pioneers of that vicinity.

Mullens, the county's largest town, had a population of 2,356 in 1930. It was incorporated in 1913.
1607. Jamestown founded.
1609. The whites attempted to establish a settlement on site of Richmond.
      Settlement made near the site of Norfolk.
      Captain John Smith returned to England.
      Government by council abandoned, and a governor appointed.
      Captain John Smith explored the coast.
1610. The "Starving Time" in Virginia began.
1611. Henrico settlement on the James River founded.
1612. The systematic culture of tobacco began in Virginia.
1613. The marriage of Rolfe and Pocahontas.
1618. The death of Chief Powhatan.
1619. The introduction of negro slavery in Virginia.
      The House of Burgesses established at Jamestown.
1622. First great Indian massacre in Virginia.
1624. Virginia became a royal province.
1632. Settlement made on the site of Williamsburg.
1634. The eight original shires or counties formed.
1639. Nansemond County created, the ninth county.
1644. The second great Indian massacre in Virginia.
1650. Colonel Abraham Wood led an exploring party westward to the falls of the Roanoke River.
1654. Colonel Wood explored upper New River Valley.
1669. La Salle discovered the Ohio River.
      John Lederer crossed the Blue Ridge near Harper's Ferry.
1671. Thomas Batts and others explored New River Valley.
1673. Virginia granted to Culpeper and Arlington.
1676. Bacon's Rebellion.
1691. Yorktown founded.
1693. William and Mary College founded.
1698. Jamestown devastated by fire—the third time.
1699. The capital of Virginia removed from Jamestown to Williamsburg.

1700. The Frontier Line in Virginia was about fifty miles east of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

1707. Virginia settlements reached the Blue Ridge.

1710. Alexander Spottswood became governor.

1716. Governor Spottswood's expedition over the Blue Ridge.

1720. Spottsylvania County formed.

1725. John Van Meter explored the South Branch Valley.

1726. Morgan Morgan settled at Bunker Hill, in present Berkeley County.

1727. German home-seekers from Pennsylvania founded New Mecklenburg (Shepherdstown).

1730. Settlements began on the Opequon. Isaac and John Van Meter came in possession of lands in the South Branch Valley.

1732. Joist Hite and others settled in the Shenandoah Valley. John Lewis founded a settlement near the site of Staunton, the first in Augusta County.

1734. Orange County formed.

1735. First settlements in the South Branch Valley.

1738. Augusta formed from Orange. Frederick County formed from Orange.

1745. Adam Harmon was living on New River, in Giles County.

1746. Fairfax Stone planted.


1748. The Draper's Meadows settlement on New River established.

1749. Jacob Marlin and Stephen Sewell settled on the Greenbrier River, in present Pocahontas County.

1750. Philip Lybrook settled on New River in present Giles County.
1751. Christopher Gist explored lands in the Ohio Valley.

1753. George Washington carried Governor Dinwiddie's message to the French commander.

1754. Governor Dinwiddie undertook to build a fort at the forks of the Ohio (Pittsburgh).
David Tygart and Robert Files settled on the upper waters of the Monongahela, in present Randolph County.
Hampshire County formed from parts of Frederick and Augusta counties.

1755. Braddock's defeat near Fort Duquesne.

1756. The Big Sandy River expedition (page 15).
War first formally declared against the French.
Settlement made on Cheat River in Preston County.

1758. Indian massacre at Fort Seybert, in Pendleton County.
The Decker settlement near the site of Morgantown destroyed by Indians.

1763. The Treaty of Paris concluded.
Settlements in the Greenbrier country destroyed by Indians.

1765. Captain Mathew Arbuckle explored the Great Kanawha Valley.

1768. Treaty at Fort Stanwix, by which the Indians agreed to withdraw to the region north of the Ohio River. Prospective settlers visited the Pringle camp on the Buckhannon River.

1769. Home-seekers built cabins and cleared land on the Buckhannon River.
Permanent settlements in the Greenbrier country started.
Botetourt County formed from Augusta County.
Elenezer Zane and others built the earliest cabin on the site of Wheeling.
1770. The Zanes and others brought families to the Ohio River and founded the Wheeling settlement. George Washington selected lands on the Ohio and the Great Kanawha. First family settlements on the Buckhannon River.

1771. Simon Kenton, John Strader, and George Yeager established a hunting camp near the site of Charleston. Adam Stroud and John Tackett settled between Elk and Gauley rivers. William Crawford surveyed lands on the Ohio for Washington and others.

1772. Fincastle County formed from Botetourt County. First settlement in Marion County, by James Booth and John Thomas.

1773. Settlements in western Virginia multiplied very rapidly. Plan made for the formation of the Province of Vandalia.

1774. Dunmore's War, caused by atrocities committed by both the whites and the redmen of the frontier. Battle of Point Pleasant (see page 39). Peace signed at Camp Charlotte, in Ohio. Settlement established at Point Pleasant, and Fort Blair erected.

1775. Outbreak of the Revolutionary War. Fort Blair at Point Pleasant abandoned and burned.

1776. Fort Randolph erected near the site of Fort Blair. Fincastle County extinguished and its territory divided into three counties—Montgomery, Washington, and Kentucky. Yohogania, Monongalia, and Ohio counties formed from the District of West Augusta (see page 23).

1777. Greenbrier County formed from Botetourt and Montgomery counties. Cornstalk murdered at Point Pleasant. Indian invasions into the Monongahela Valley.
Indians attacked Fort Henry at Wheeling. The Foreman massacre at Grave Creek Narrows (see page 47).

1778. Fort Randolph attacked by Indians.
Indians attack Fort Donnally.
- George Rogers Clark invaded the Northwest.
  General McIntosh invaded the Ohio wilderness.
  General Brodhead invaded the Indian country.

1779. Fort Randolph and the settlement at Point Pleasant, also all the settlements along the Great Kanawha, abandoned for a period of five years.
Fort Randolph burned by Indians.

1780. Indians made a raid into the Greenbrier country, killing several of the inhabitants and capturing others.

1782. Lewisburg established as a town.
Colonel William Crawford was defeated in the battle of Sandusky, captured, then burned at the stake.
Second Indian siege at Fort Henry (Wheeling).
Thomas Teays, for whom Teays Valley was named, captured by Indians, but later returned.

1783. The Treaty of Paris signed, September 3.

1784. Settlement at Point Pleasant renewed (see page 63).
Harrison County created from Monongalia County.
Indians renewed their raids on the Virginia frontier.

1785. Clarksburg established by legislative enactment.
Morgantown established as a town.
The pioneer pottery of the State established at Morgantown.
An academy established at Shepherdstown.

1786. Hardy County formed from Hampshire County.
- Daniel Boone settled at Point Pleasant.
Fort Belleville, in present Wood County, erected.

1787. Randolph County formed from Harrison County.
Lewis Tackett built Fort Tackett.
Indian hostilities caused much suffering on the frontier.
1788. Fort Clendenin (Fort Lee) erected at Charleston. Pendleton County formed from Augusta, Hardy, and Rockingham counties. Kanawha County formed from Greenbrier and Montgomery counties.

1789. First white settlement on Big Sandy River, near Louisa, Kentucky.

1790. Leonard Cooper and William Porter made the first settlement on Elk River, near Charleston.

1791. Two daughters of Henry Morris killed by Indians in present Nicholas County. Jeremiah and Benjamin Carpenter made the earliest settlement in Braxton County. Virginia enacted the separation of Kentucky.

1792. Kentucky admitted to statehood.

1793. Wheeling was laid out in town lots by Ebenezer Zane.

1794. Point Pleasant chartered as a town. Charleston was legally established. General Anthony Wayne defeated the Indians at the battle of Fallen Timbers.

1795. The Treaty of Greenville between General Wayne and the Indian chiefs, which put an end to the Indian wars on the Virginia frontier.

1797. Brooke County created from Ohio County.

1798. Moundsville laid out by Joseph Tomlinson, who named it Elizabethtown. Wood County formed from Harrison County.

1800. Newport (now Parkersburg) established as a town.

1804. Mason County formed from Kanawha County.

1809. Cabell County formed from Kanawha County.

1810. The oil industry developed, in a crude way, on Hughes River. Coal mining near Wheeling began as an industry.

1811. The New Orleans passed down the Ohio River.

1812. Second War with Great Britain opened.
1813. Beginning of the glass industry in the State.
1816. Lewis County formed from Harrison County. Wellsburg, formerly Charlestown, chartered.
1817. Mercer Academy, at Charleston, Kanawha County, founded by David Ruffner and others.
1818. Mercer Academy incorporated. The National Cumberland Road completed to Wheeling. Nicholas County formed from Greenbrier County.
1820. Middletown (now Fairmont) established as a town. Summersville chartered as a town.
1832. First large iron plant in Wheeling.
1833. Western Virginia (24 counties) had approximately seven hundred common primary schools.
1841. Bethany College founded by Alexander Campbell.
1847. The town of Bethany was laid out by Alexander Campbell. The Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike completed.
1850. The salt industry in western Virginia reached its acme.
1853. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad opened to Wheeling.
1858. Weston State Hospital authorized by Virginia.
1860. The first real oil well in the State drilled at Burning Springs, in Wirt County.
1861. Virginia joined the Confederacy. The government of Virginia reorganized at Wheeling.
1863. West Virginia admitted to the Union (see page 105).
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