

COLONEL JAMES CRAWFORD.

The paper read at the meeting of the Historical Society of Lancaster County on September 2, 1898, prepared by J. W. Sheaffer, of Illinois, contains some statements not borne out by historical data.

General Anthony Wayne's troops never encamped in Mount Joy, in Lancaster county, in December, 1777. Reference being had to the plan of Valley Forge camp ground in 1777, General Wayne's position is marked "Camp Mount Joy." All of Wayne's letters and reports are dated Mount Joy. I examined the plan of Valley Forge camp some years ago, and discovered the mistake some of our local historians made.

Colonel James Crawford did not reside in Hanover township at the breaking out of the Revolutionary war. He owned a farm and resided upon it along the Newport road, near Buyers-town. I believe that the Rev. Thomas Crawford was born there. I knew him when he resided near the Gap, sixty years ago.

At a convention of delegates from the Associated Battalions, held in Lancaster, July 4, 1776, the Fifth Battalion was represented by the following-named officers:

Colonel James Crawford, Captain James Mercer, Private Henry Slaymaker and Private John Whitehill.

Captain James Mercer resided close to Buyerstown. He came from Poughkeepsie, New York State. He married a daughter of William Hamilton, who owned several hundred acres of land along Pequea creek, north of Buyers-town. In 1777 he was Major in Col-

onel John Boyd's Battalion. He also occupied prominent positions in civil life. He was a member of the Legislature for the years 1781, 1782 and 1783, and in 1782 was Colonel commanding a battalion in this county. He married second a daughter of Samuel Paterson, who owned several hundred acres along Pequea creek, one or two miles below Buyerstown. After Mr. Paterson's death he resided upon a farm inherited by his wife from her father. Here he died in 1804. Some of his descendants reside in New York, Ohio and New Orleans.

Private Henry Slaymaker resided near where Williamstown now is, and about two miles south of Colonel Crawford. He was appointed one of the Justices of the Common Pleas Court, over which he presided in 1784. He died in 1785. All of his sons were officers or privates in the Revolutionary War. The late Hon. Amos Slaymaker, Captain John, Lieut. Matthias and Privates William and Daniel were his sons.

Private John Whitehill resided in Salisbury township. He afterwards married Ann Middleton, of Donegal township, in this county. Some of his descendants reside in Columbia, Pa.

Colonel Crawford's Fifth Battalion was called out in 1776 to serve in the field, in New Jersey. When they were encamped at Bergetown the battalion was mustered on September 4, 1776. Prior to this, when the militia were at Burlington, N. J., the "Flying Camp" was organized, and Captain Robert Buyers' company was embodied with those troops, and was in the battle of Long Island.

The following officers' names appear at the muster of September 4, 1776, all of whom resided in the neighborhood of Colonel Crawford's Fifth Battalion, Lancaster county militia:

Colonel, James Crawford; First Major, William Fullerton; Second

Major, George Stewart; John Montgomery, Standard Bearer; John Whitehill, Quartermaster; William Scott, Adjutant; J. D. Woodhull, D. D., Chaplain; James Wood, Sergeant Major; James Forsyth, Quartermaster Sergeant; Dr. Leckey Murray, Surgeon.

Major Fullerton was connected by marriage with Captain Robert Buyers. After the Revolution he located military land warrants in Virginia Valley, and moved from there to Westmoreland county, Pa. His son, William, was also an officer in the Revolutionary War. He married a daughter of James Fleming, who was a private in Captain Buyers' company. He moved to Westmoreland county, Pa. A descendant of the same name is a distinguished lawyer in Pittsburg, Pa. Mr. Irvin, of Westmoreland county, married his daughter.

Major Stewart resided on a farm on the west side of Colonel Crawford's residence. In 1777 he was Lieutenant Colonel in Colonel John Boyd's Seventh Battalion. After the war he moved to Westmoreland county.

Dr. Woodhull preached at Leacock and Lancaster. He was patriotic and loyal, and rendered most valuable aid to the patriots.

Dr. Leckey Murray married a daughter of Colonel Bertram Galbraith. The Carpenters, of Lancaster, are descendants.

Captain Buyers' company, of Colonel Crawford's Battalion, served in the "Flying Camp," and was mustered at Bergentown, September 4, 1776.

Among the privates in this company were many free holders and some of the most prominent persons in Leacock and Salisbury townships. Among them were Lieutenant David Watson, who married a Miss Hamilton, daughter of William Hamilton, mentioned above. (Second wife, Miss Paterson). He also resided on one of Mr. Paterson's farms, along Pequea. He

was afterwards Colonel and commissary of purchases. His son, Colonel Nathaniel Watson, was in command of the Lancaster county militia in the War of 1812.

The late Dr. John Watson, of Donegal Springs, was a son of Colonel David Watson. Descendants of the latter reside in Conoy and Mt. Joy townships and in Lancaster city.

Private William McCausland, son of Major and Colonel William McCausland, who resided along the Pequea, in Leacock township. His descendants moved to Virginia and the Southwest.

Private Samuel Humes was the ancestor of the Lancaster families of the name.

Private James Fleming, who died March 2, 1777, from wounds received at the battle of Long Island. One of his daughters, Isabella, married Hon. Amos Slaymaker; another, Hannah, married William Fullerton, above mentioned; another married Ethelbert Armstrong, son of General John Armstrong; another married Isaac Smith, a grandson of Jonathan Smith, President of the United States Bank. The only son of Mr. Fleming, Daniel, married a daughter of Samuel Johnson, who was a private in Captain Buyers' company, and owned a farm along the old Philadelphia and Lancaster road. Daniel Fleming and the Johnsons moved to Westmoreland county, Pa.

Privates John Caldwell, Robert Miller, William Cowen, John Watson, the Findleys and others of Buyers' Company were land owners.

After the campaign of 1776, Colonel Crawford seems to have dropped out of the military service. All of his staff and line officers were promoted and served during the war.

Captain Josiah Crawford, of Franklin county, Pa., was his brother.

The brief notices of the officers in Crawford's battalion locates them in his own neighborhood, along or near

Pequea Creek. James Crawford, of Donegal, and Lancaster, and Lampeter townships, I think, could not be the same person who commanded the Fifth Battalion. SAMUEL EVANS.

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