SOLDIERS OF FINCASTLE COUNTY, VIRGINIA. 1774

COMPILED BY MARY B. KEGLEY

PREFACE

In 1774 Fincastle County, Virginia was the western frontier, and many families of Scotch-Irish and German ancestry had recently moved into the fertile valleys to establish their homesteads. Their surveys were taken up on the waters of the New, Holston and Clinch Rivers with a future eye on land over the mountains in what was to become Kentucky. The Shawnee Indians, seeing the westward expansion, sought revenge on the settlements and the summer and fall of 1774 was one of the most agonizing times for these hardy pioneers. Many had gathered in community forts which had sprung up in almost every neighborhood. From here the young men were sent out to look for Indian signs and give warning to those who were trying to continue the work on their farms.

The plans of Governor Dunmore to meet the Indians at Point Pleasant in the fall of 1774 caused the militia leaders of every community in Southwest Virginia to enroll their men, gather supplies and march towards the rendezvous. Scouts and spies continued to range among the frightened settlers in many neighborhoods, and guards were appointed for each fort. The service of these militiamen was not necessarily long or continuous, but each man was paid for the number of days he served.

The Auditor's Accounts for Dunmore's War at the Virginia State Library, Richmond, contain the records for Botetourt, Augusta and Fincastle Counties. The following pages are Fincastle County records only.

These accounts, in addition to military duty, include public service records showing the names of suppliers of beef, bacon, and provisions as well as the names of those who built canoes, worked on the forts, drove cattle and wagons and in any other way provided a service for the government in 1774.

The companies here represent the population of Southwest Virginia from Montgomery County west. Some of the men may have been living in the territory later to become the State of Tennessee.

James Harrod's men were settled in Kentucky when trouble began, but he returned to Virginia and formed his company here. His list should be compared to those found in Collins History of Kentucky, Vol. 2, page 517 and in Thwaites and Kellogg's Dunmore's War, page 420.

The spelling as used in the original document has been printed here and as in any colonial record, spelling varies with the writer. There are approximately 1,600 names in this volume which have been indexed for easier use.

I wish to thank the Virginia State Library for allowing me to use and publish these records.

Mary B. Kegley

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Name	Days	Rate	Total Paid L s s
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CAMPBELL'S COMPANY, continued

CAMPBELL's COMPAMY, continued

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CAPTAIN WALTER CROCKAT'S COMPANY

Name	Days	Rate	Total Paid L s d
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