

ment Murray family listed in the "American Almach de Gotha."

There was a time when the Murray family was one of the first families of New York. They possessed an unquestioned social position and were rich and socially powerful as far back as the days of the Revolutionary war.

At that time, the various members of the Murray clan owned great parcels of real estate, and the famous Murray farm occupied the vast tract of land now known as the Murray hill district.

During the stirring days of the Revolution the Murrays were looked upon as the richest and most socially prominent family of that era.

I have discovered no end of people who have never heard of Mrs. Robert Murray, who in the revolutionary days was not only a great social leader, but a noted beauty.

During the days of the revolution Mr. Murray and his lovely wife were said to be sympathizers with the British. They frequently entertained the British generals at their house on Murray hill.

Following a series of battles in which his troops were not only badly beaten but badly demoralized, General Washington happened to be a guest for a night in the Murray mansion.

The "Father of His Country," with his southern graciousness, completely captured the heart of his hostess—Robert Murray's wife—and a few days later she rendered him a great service.

Lord Howe had landed a number of his troops on the Murray estate at a point which is now Thirty-fourth street and the East river. Mrs. Murray was well aware of the fact that General Washington's troops were not in condition to meet the fully equipped troops of the British general and she decided to delay the English troops if possible.

Seeing the English troops advancing toward her house up what is now Murray Hill, Mrs. Murray waited at the entrance of the mansion to greet them. She fung open her famous wine cellars and as a result Lord Howe was not able to move his troops from the Murray estate for more than 48 hours.

In the meantime the Revolutionary forces were gathering in the vicinity of what is now Forty-fourth street and Broadway and the rest of the story, I am certain, is well known. The Continental troops fought and won the battle of Harlem Heights.

—By Cholly Knickerbocker.

On this Site was situated Fort Michili-Mackinac. Site became known as Old Mackinaw after removal of fort to Mackinac Island, 1781. Indian name of site was Pequot-e-nonge, meaning headland or bluff. Fort transferred to this site from spot near St. Ignace some time after 1712. Held by the French until 1760. Garrisoned by the English 1761 under Captain George Etherington. As part of the conspiracy of Pontiac against the English, June 4, 1763, the Ojibway Indians under Chief Minavavana captured the fort and massacred nearly the entire garrison. —Bronze Tablet at Old Mackinaw.

The First Newspaper in Indiana was published at Vincennes by Elihu Stout, on a wooden press obtained by him at Frankfort, Kentucky. The pioneer venture bore the name Indiana Gazette and the date July 31, 1804.

—Indiana Magazine of History.

The Seven Ages of Man

1. Milk, milk and bread.
2. Milk, eggs, bread and spinach.
3. Oatmeal, bread and butter, green apples, and all-day suckers, ice cream soda, and hot dogs.
4. Bouillon, roast duck, scalloped potatoes, creamed broccoli, fruit salad, divinity fudge, demi-tasse.
5. Pate de foie gras, weiner schnitzel, potatoes Parisienne, egg plant a l'opera, demi-tasse and Roquefort cheese.
6. Two soft-boiled eggs, toast and milk.
7. Crackers and milk. Milk.

—Rotary Spoke.

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JANUARY, 1936

The Expedition of Colonel John B. Campbell of the 19th U. S. Infantry in Nov. 1812 from Franklinton to the Mississinewa Indian Villages

Manuscript of Ashley Brown, a Descendant of Henry Brown, the Early Dayton Merchant and Contractor in War of 1812.  
 (From the Historical Collection of John H. Patterson, deceased.)

FIRST PRINTING

The gathering of the Indians in such numbers in the villages along the Mississinewa and Wabash Rivers for war dancing in the spring and summer of 1812 caused the building of block houses and picketed forts in white settlements exposed to depredations in western and northwestern Ohio, and adjoining territory of Indiana.

Council of Indian Tribes to Consider Alliance With British

About the middle of May, a great council of war chiefs of the Wyandottes, Ottawas, Shawanese, Chippewas, Pottawottomies, Kickapoos and Winnebagoes was held on the west bank of the Mississinewa, about seven miles above the site of the present city of Marion, Ind., the purpose being to draw the Delaware warriors from the vicinity of Munseytown and Andersontown, the Miamis from the Eel river and from Kekionga (Later the site of Fort Miami on the upper Maumee) into a general war as allies of the British, to war against the American frontier. William Conner, as a spy of General Harrison, reported the proceedings of this council, stating that it was the general expression of the chiefs to continue peace with the Americans.

Harrison Sends Expedition From Versailles Against Illinois Indians

Tecumseh, however, continued his visits to the tribes, exciting the young braves to such an extent that in November, 1812, General Harrison found it expedient to send expeditions against the Illinois Indians from Vincennes, Ind., which burned village after village, impoverished the tribes, and many of the Indians were killed, wounded, or captured. Horses were run off, cattle killed, corn, grain, meat and provisions utterly destroyed, as well as utensils and movable property.

### Colonel John B. Campbell Conducts Expedition Against Mississinewa Indians

By orders of General Harrison, Lieutenant Colonel John B. Campbell of the 19th U. S. Infantry, stationed at Franklinton (now Columbus) on November 25th, 1812, started an expedition comprising 700 men from Franklinton by way of Springfield, Xenia, Dayton, New Lexington, Eaton and Greenville to the Mississinewa villages.

"The route to Greenville," said Gen. Harrison in his letter of instructions to Col. Campbell, "is to be preferred on account of being more distant from the Delaware towns, which I wish you by all means to avoid. The Delawares have been directed to leave their towns and retire to the Shawnee establishments on the Auglaize river. Their route will cross yours and there is a possibility of your falling in with them. This would be unfortunate, as the faith of the government has been pledged for their safety. It will be necessary that care be taken to avoid coming in contact with them, and to avoid all consequence should it happen to be the case. Inform yourself minutely as possible from William Conner and others, who have been to Mississinewa, as to localities of the place and the situation of the Indians."

"There are, however, some Miami chiefs who have undeviatingly exerted themselves to keep their warriors quiet, and to preserve friendly relations with us. This has been the case with reference to Chief Pechewah of the Miamis, Silver Heels and White Loon, certainly, and perhaps of Pecan, the principal chief of the Miamis, and Capt. Charley, the principal chief of the Eel river tribe. It is not my wish that you should incur any risk, and it would be extremely gratifying to me and, no doubt, to the president. The same remark also applies to the son, Goesse, brother of Little Turtle who (Little Turtle) continued to his last moments the warm friend of the United States, and who in the course of his life rendered many important services. Your own character as a soldier, and that of your troops, is a sure guarantee of the safety of the squaws and children. They will be taken, however, and conducted to the settlements."

"The utmost vigilance of your guards will not, however, afford you security. Your men must at all times be kept ready for action, by night as well as by day. When you advance into the enemy's country your men must be made to lie upon their arms, and with their accoutrements on."

"Should the Indians discover you, and leave the towns, and should you not be able to come up with them, but should by capture of a squaw or an old buck, have an opportunity of sending messages to them, you will be pleased to do so, informing them that if they will send in six of their principal chiefs as hostages, to perform such terms as the government may impose we will cease to annoy them."

"There are, probably, some white men on the Mississinewa, but I am uncertain whether they are citizens of the United States or not. The safe way will be not to kill them, if it can be avoided, or prevented. An old Canadian by the name of Godfrey has lived there several years, and has a squaw for his wife. He is, and always has been, a friend of the United States. There will be no difficulty in saving him, as his house is apart from the rest."

### Arrival of Expedition at Dayton

The story of the arrival of the expedition at Dayton on a bitter cold day, the ground covered with snow, is from Henry L. Brown's notes and as told by his mother, his aunt Harriet Nisbet, and Major George Adams, in as follows:

"Early in December the column of 600 or 700 mounted troops, including a regiment of Kentucky dragoons in command of Col. Simrall, Capt. James Trotter at the head of one company; a squadron of U. S. Volunteers, dragoons in command of Major James V. Ball, a battalion of

infantry, consisting of Capt. Elliott's company of the 19th U. S. Infantry; Capt. Butler's Pittsburgh Blues, Capt. Alexander's Pennsylvania infantry, a detachment of spies and guides with Capt. Patterson Bain commanding, and William Conner among them, reached Dayton and camped on the commons, now Liberty Park, remaining several days, exchanging unfit horses for good, storing heavy baggage in government warehouses, drawing ammunition, twelve days rations for each man and a bushel of corn for each horse."

"Colonel Campbell," the commander, was related to Henry Brown through the Prestons, and had been schoolmates in Virginia. Their forbears had fought side by side at Long Island, Tennessee, at Point Pleasant, Gulf Court House, and King's Mountain. Of Colonel Campbell's call upon her husband, Mrs. Brown stated that "the Colonel and several of his staff dined with us several times, and the Colonel was pleased over report from the Virginia home made by Mr. Brown's sister, Elizabeth, then visiting us."

### Departure From Dayton For Greenville and the Mississinewa

"Breaking camp December 14th created quite a stir in town, and many citizens joined in the escort to the ford at foot of Fourth Street. The column followed the trail to Fort Nisbet on Twin Creek, a mile north of West Alexandria, thence to Eaton and Fort Greenville, the latter garrisoned by Dayton Volunteers under Colonel Jerome Holt and Major George Adams, upon whose advice great caution was exercised in the further advance, a third of the men being placed on guard outside the earthworks each night."

In his official report to General Harrison on the 25th day of December, 1812, from Greenville, Colonel Campbell says:

"The first two days (14th and 15th December), I marched forty miles. The third day I pushed the troops as much as they could bear—marched the whole night, although very cold, stopping twice to refresh and warm. Marched 40 miles."

### Four Indian Villages Destroyed

"Early in morning of 17th, I reached, undiscovered, an Indian town on the Mississinewa, inhabited by Delawares and Miamis. The troops rushed the town, killed eight warriors and took forty-two prisoners, eight of whom are warriors, the remainder being squaws and children. I ordered the town to be immediately burned, a house or two excepted, in which I confined prisoners, and the cattle and other stock to be shot. I left the infantry to guard the prisoners, and with Simrall's and Ball's dragoons, advanced to the Miami villages a few miles lower down the Mississinewa, finding them all evacuated except by a sick squaw, whom we left in her house. I burned three considerable villages, took several horses, killed many cattle, and returned to town first burned, where I left the prisoners. Camped in usual form, but covered more ground than common."

"The infantry and riflemen were in the front line, Captain Elliott's company of 19th U. S. Infantry on the right, Captain Butler's Pittsburgh Blues in the center and Captain Alexander's Pennsylvania company on the left. Major Ball's dragoons occupied the right one-half of the rear line, Col. Simrall's dragoons on the left on the other half of rear line. Between Ball's right and Simrall's left there was an interval which had not been filled up owing to the unusual extent of the ground the camp embraced, it having been laid off in my absence to the lower towns."

### Colonel Campbell Calls Conference of Field Officers

"I now began to deliberate on future movements, whether to go on further, encumbered with prisoners, the men fatigued and many frost-bitten, the horses suffering from want of forage, which was particularly

relieved by the scanty supplies of corn obtained in the towns, or return. I determined to convene field-officers and captains of detachments to consult, then take such a course as my judgment might approve."

"At four o'clock on the morning of the 18th I ordered reveille, and the officers convened at my fire a short time afterward."

#### Campbell's Camp Furiously Attacked By Indians

"While in council, at a half hour before day, my camp was most furiously attacked by a large party of Indians, preceded by and accompanied with a most hideous yell. This broke up the council and every man ran to his post. The attack commenced upon that angle of the camp formed by the left of Captain Hopkins' troop and the right of Captain Garrard's troop, but in a few seconds became general from the extreme right to left of Major Ball's squadron. The enemy boldly advanced to within a few yards of the lines and seemed determined to rush in. Guards posted at different redoubts retreated to camp and dispersed among their companies, thus leaving me without a disposable force. Captain Smith, of the Kentucky light dragoons, who commanded one of the redoubts, in a handsome military manner, kept his position, although abandoned by half his guards, until ordered to fall interval in the rear line between the regiment and the squadron. The redoubt at which Captain Pierce commanded was first attacked. The Captain maintained his position until it was too late to get within the lines. He received two balls through his body, was tomahawked, died bravely, and is much lamented. The enemy took possession of Captain Pierce's redoubt and poured a tremendous fire upon the angle to the right and left of which were posted Hopkins' and Garrard's troops. The fire was as warmly returned, and not an inch of ground yielded. Every man, officer and soldier stood firm and animated and encouraged each other. The enemy's fire became warm on the left of the squadron at which Captain Markie's troop was posted, and the right of Captain Elliott's company, which, with Captain Markie's company, formed an angle of the camp, was severely annoyed by the enemy's fire."

"I had assisted in forming the infantry, composed of Captain Elliott's company of the Nineteenth United States regiment, Captain Butler's Pittsburgh Blues and Captain Alexander's Pennsylvania riflemen, and ordered them to advance to the brink of a declivity from which they could more effectually defend themselves and harass the enemy, if they should attempt an attack on that line. While I was thus engaged Major Bell rode up and observed that he was hard pressed and must be relieved. I galloped immediately to reinforce the left wing, with intention of ordering Trotter's troops to reinforce the squadron, but was there informed that the enemy was seen approaching in that direction, and believing it improper, on second thought, to detach a large body of troops from that line, which also covered an angle of the camp, I determined to give the relief from the infantry, wheeled my horse, met Major McDowell, who observed that the spies and guides under the command of Capt. Patterson Bain, consisting of ten men, were unemployed. We rode to that point together and I ordered Capt. Bain to support the squadron. Seven of them, to-wit: James Hoggis, John Ruland, James Adrian, William Conner, Silas McCullough, James Thompson and Joseph C. McClelland followed their brave leader and rendered most effectual assistance."

"I then ordered Captain Butler, with the Pittsburgh Blues, to immediately reinforce the squadron, and directed Captain Elliott and Alexander to extend to the right and left and fill the interval occasioned by the withdrawal of the Blues. Captain Butler, in a most gallant manner, and highly worthy of the name he bears, formed his men immediately, and in excellent order, and marched to the point to which he was ordered. The alacrity with which they formed and moved was never exceeded by any troops on earth. Captain Hopkins made room for them by extending his troops to the right. The Blues were scarcely at the post assigned them before I discovered the effect they produced. A well-directed fire from them and Hopkins' dragoons nearly silenced the enemy in that quarter."

"The enemy then moved in force to the left of the squadron and right of the infantry, at which point Captain Markie's and Captain Elliott's companies were posted. Here again they were warmly received. By this time daylight began to dawn. I then ordered Capt. Trotter, whose troop had been ordered by Colonel Simrall to mount for the purpose of making a charge, to proceed, and the Captain crying out to his men to follow him, they lifted off at a full gallop. Major McDowell, with a small party, rushed into the midst of the enemy and exposed himself very much. I can't say too much for the gallant veteran, Captain Markie, with about fifteen of his troop, and Lieut. Warren, also made a daring charge on the enemy. Capt. Markie avenged the death of his relation, Lieut. Walts, upon an Indian with his own sword."

"Fearing that Capt. Trotter might be too hard pressed, I ordered Capt. Johnson, of the Kentucky light dragoon, to advance with his troop to support him. I found Johnson ready, and Colonel Simrall reported to me that all his other captains,—Elmore, Young, and Smith, were anxious to join the charge, but I called for only one troop. The Colonel had the whole in excellent order. Captain Johnson did not join Capt. Trotter till the enemy was out of reach. He, however, picked up a straggler or two that Trotter had passed over."

#### Defeat of the Indians

"The cavalry returned with information of the enemy's precipitate flight. I have to lament the loss of several brave men and many wounded, among the former, Captain Pierce, of the Ohio Volunteers, and Lieut. Walz of Capt. Markie's troop."

"The warriors escaping from the first village sent the alarm by runners down the river to Chief Francois Godfrey, who quickly rallied fifty of his band, led them in a run of fifteen miles without a halt to a point in the forest where he joined the warriors from the destroyed villages. With this force Chief Godfrey advanced, easily following the trail in the snow, until his spies discovered Colonel Campbell's camp, after midnight. The Indians lay quietly, until just before dawn. They made the furious assault as described by Colonel Campbell, in which eight of his troops were killed, forty-two wounded, several dying later from wounds."

"The number of horses killed," said the Colonel, "was considerable, and I have no doubt this saved the lives of a great many men." I am persuaded that there could have been not less than three hundred of the enemy. A nephew of the great Miami chief, Little Turtle, was in the engagement. His name was Little Thunder, and he distinguished himself by efforts to inspire the Indians with courage and confidence."

Fifteen Indians were found dead on the battle-ground, and it is probable that an equal number were carried away from the field dead, or mortally wounded, before the close of the action. Nearly all the Indians taken prisoners were Miamis and were among those composing Silver Heels' band. The villages destroyed were situated on the banks of the Missiskenewa, 15 or 50 miles from its junction with the Wabash, where the principal Missiskenewa village stood, Chief Godfrey's home.

#### One Half of Army Out of Commission From Sickness, Cold and Provisions

The want of provisions, forage, loss of horses, the suffering condition of the troops, severity of the cold, and rumors of a large Indian force not great distance away under command of Tecumseh, induced Colonel Campbell to send expresses to Greenville for reinforcements. After burial of Capt. Pierce, Lieut. Walts and the eight troopers, Colonel Campbell started his march toward Greenville. Every night his camp was fortified by a great work. The command was compelled to move slowly owing to the wounded, seventeen of whom were carried on litters. The intense cold,

scarcity of provisions and their fear of killing the Indian prisoners, combined to save the retreating troops from further attack. When forty miles from Greenville the suffering troops were met and fully supplied with rations by Major George Adams, with a reinforcing detachment of ninety strong. "But 303 of the troops were fit for duty on reaching Fort Greenville, all others being wounded or disabled by frozen hands, feet or ears," says the Colonel.

Joseph Hawkins was one of the Preble county volunteers responding to Col. Campbell's call, through runners sent ahead, for relief. He was the son of Col. Samuel Hawkins, who had moved from Germantown to Eaton. Mr. Hawkins wrote: "The expedition had been delayed so long on the Missisnewa and had so many prisoners that the troops were nearly worn out and well nigh starving. Runners aroused the settlers. Light footed young men and soldiers at Fort Nisbet (one mile northwest Alexandria) took biscuits, hastily baked by the women, and went forward at full speed to find and feed their starving countrymen. They found the expedition in camp on Army Branch creek, in the western part of Jackson township, Randolph County, Indiana. It was an affecting sight, and many cried for joy. Capt. Nisbet, who was a son-in-law of Quartermaster Robert Patterson, followed with a company of older men with pack horses laden with provisions. When they reached Army Branch creek, one of the men of the relief party sold his load, and when the soldiers again reached Fort Nisbet they rode the culprit on a rail." Mrs. Elizabeth Patterson Nisbet was in the fort when the sufferers arrived. She assisted in caring for them and also supervised the burial of the deceased Sergeant."

### Colonel Campbell With His Forces Return to Dayton

"Sunday morning, December 27th, citizens of Dayton were summoned by the ringing of the courthouse bell to provide for the returning column, and quickly the entire command was billeted upon the town. Every house was converted into a hospital, men and women became willing nurses. Some families cared for as high as five of the suffering soldiers."

Mrs. Catherine Patterson-Brown, was the wife of Henry Brown, and Colonel Campbell, a kinsman of Mr. Brown, was entertained at their home. From the papers of Mr. Brown: "Col. Campbell and staff were again our guests. A number of the more seriously disabled remained in town some time, several dying and were given military burial." The "Centinel," a newspaper published in Dayton related in its columns a complete story of the expedition, with general orders, list of the killed and wounded, commands taking part in the expedition, a copy of which publication is in possession of the Dayton Public Library, in file presented to the library by Benjamin VanCleave.

Major George Adams, who commanded a battalion of Montgomery county soldiers in the War of 1812, wrote the following note on December 27th from Greenville, where he was in command of the Fort:

"The Indians taken in battle on the Missisnewa were left at this place, and yesterday were sent to Upper Piqua, guarded by 25 of my men. Last evening the messengers sent by Col. Campbell to the Delaware towns arrived here, stating that all the Delawares will be here within six days."

### Indian Chiefs and Warriors Held at Dayton As Hostages

Thirty-nine of the chiefs and warriors captured by Colonel Campbell were held all winter in a pen in Dayton as hostages.

The main body of the Indians from the region around the Wabash and Missisnewa came to Upper Piqua, as requested by Col. Campbell, and placed themselves under the protection of Colonel John Johnson, the Indian Agent. The remaining few Indians at Muncie and Anderson, under Chief Anderson, lingered along the White river, but took no part in the war.

## Why Were the Principal Land Operations of the War of 1812 Along the South Shore of Lake Erie?

Remarks at the Unveiling of the Government Marker at the Giddings Memorial Plot, Marblehead, Ohio—September 21, 1935  
by Walter J. Sherman

The story of the skirmishes on September 30 and October 1, 1812, between the Ohio Militia and the Ottawa Indians has been told so often that I'm sure you are all perfectly familiar with it.

I have chosen, therefore, for the subject of my brief remarks today a topic which I have never heard discussed.

I undertake it rather reluctantly because I do not feel well equipped to discuss it intelligently.

Nevertheless it may be that even a layman can suggest a line of historic research which will prove of fascinating interest to the lover of history and at the same time enable such student to contribute something substantial to the pioneer history of the Ohio country and the old Northwest, so I will discuss for a few moments the question: Why were the principal land operations of the War of 1812 laid along the South Shore of Lake Erie?

### Conditions in the Ohio Country in 1812

This Ohio country was sparsely settled in 1812. There were no cities nor even towns large enough to be called such in the vast empire of the Old Northwest. Why, therefore, did the British military forces seek conquest in the unoccupied prairies of the midwest instead of the comparatively thickly settled Atlantic front of the old thirteen colonies?

The causes, I believe, can be traced back to a period much earlier than the memorable 18th day of June 1812 when Congress declared war on Great Britain.

### The French Occupation and the British Claims

For 150 years prior to 1760 when Great Britain conquered Canada, the French had possession of all of Canada and in addition all of the Old Northwest Territory. By possession I will not say that French had undisputed possession, for she did not. For Britain from the arrival of the Pilgrim fathers always contended that the country west of the Alleghenies was British territory even as far as the Pacific. Did not King Charles on May 1, 1662, make bold to grant a charter to the Colony of Connecticut extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific? However, the King of France quite unmindful of the extravagant claims of the King of England went right along planting fortified trading posts throughout the Old Northwest wherever he found it to his advantage so to do.

In possession of the St. Lawrence and the old French towns of Quebec, Three Rivers and Montreal, France had a decided advantage over Great Britain and her Allegheny Mountain barriers. Her facilities for carrying on an exchange of Indian products with those of Europe were quite superior to Britain. Recognizing these advantages possessed by France, Great Britain was quite inclined to permit France to continue to reap her harvest until a more opportune time arrived for openly contesting the same. True, some English Colonials, hardy pioneers, seeking better and cheaper land or trade with the Indians ventured over the mountains and into the fabled Eldorado of Ohio.

To check the invasion of the English, Governor Gallisssoniere in 1748 advocated the settlement of 10,000 Frenchmen in the Ohio Valley, but the French Government thought this unnecessary and rejected the project.