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Bits and Pieces of Hardin County History

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WHO CAME WEST WITH JACOB VAN METER

by Dan Lee

In the spring of 1780 there arrived in Severns Valley a party of settlers led by Jacob Van Meter. Like an Old Testament patriarch, Van Meter had guided his followers through a savage wilderness peopled by determined enemies, bringing them safely down the Ohio River on twenty-seven flat boats to the Falls of the Ohio. They survived the legendary "Hard Winter" of 1779-80 at the Falls and came overland through the Knobs into Severns Valley the following spring.

It must have been one of the largest single migrations ever made into frontier Kentucky. The Van Meter colony consisted of one hundred men, women, and children. By comparison, the party James Harrod led to Kentucky in 1774 was made up of only forty-one men. Even Daniel Boone was responsible for only thirty men when they blazed the Wilderness Road to the Kentucky River in 1775.

Who were these one hundred of the Jacob Van Meter colony? Were there one hundred from the moment they embarked at Fort Pitt until the moment months later when they arrived in Severns Valley, or was it a shifting figure that was up to one hundred at some points during the journey west but fewer at other times? Also, when the figure one hundred is given, does it apply to those that arrived at the Falls with Van Meter or to the ones that actually came to present day Hardin County with him?

It seems certain that the figure one hundred was not a fixed one. Two travellers are said to have been killed--one by Indians, one by drowning--on the journey west. Others, notably Abraham Van Meter and family, apparently left the colony at the Falls while others joined up there. It may very well be that still others left the party on the overland trek towards Severns Valley, so that Jacob Van Meter arrived at his final home with considerably fewer than one hundred people, perhaps only half that number, most of them family members.

From various sources, both published and unpublished, the author has compiled this list of people who traveled west with Jacob Van Meter:

- (1.) Jacob Van Meter, Sr. and spouse
- (2.) Letitia Stroud Van Meter
- (3.) Abraham Van Meter and spouse
- (3.) Elizabeth Kline Van Meter
- (5.) Catherine Van Meter
- (6.) Letitia Van Meter
- (7.) Sarah Van Meter
- (8.) Rebecca Van Meter and spouse
- (9.) Edward Rawlings
- (10.)

- Elizabeth Rawlings (11.) Letitia Rawlings (12.) Ann Rawlings
 (13.) Edward Rawlings, Jr. (14.) Rebecca Rawlings
 (15.) Susan Van Meter and spouse (16.) John Garrard
 (17.) Hester Garrard (18.) Sarah Garrard (19.) Margaret Garrard
 (20.) Letitia Garrard
 (21.) Rachel Van Meter and spouse (22.) Isaac Pritchard
 (23.) Elizabeth Van Meter and spouse (24.) John Swan
 (25.) John Swan, Jr. (26.) Joel Swan (27.) Thomas Swan
 (28.) Letitia Swan (29.) Elizabeth Swan
 (30.) Mary Van Meter and spouse (31.) David Henton
 (32.) Hester Henton (33.) John C. Henton
 (34.) Isaac Van Meter
 (35.) Margaret Van Meter and spouse (36.) Samuel Haycraft
 (37.) Jacob Van Meter, Jr.
 (38.) John Van Meter
 (39.) Alcinda Van Meter
 (40.) William Van Meter
 (41.) General Braddock (slave of Abraham Van Meter)
 (42.) Mark Van Meter (slave of Jacob Van Meter, Sr.)
 (43.) Bambo Van Meter (slave of Jacob Van Meter, Sr.)
 (44.) Daniel Van Meter (slave of Jacob Van Meter, Sr.)
 (45.) John Vertrees
 (46.) John Swank and spouse (47.) Rosannah Swank
 (48.) Jacob Van Meter (nephew of the leader)
 (49.) Stephen Rawlings and spouse (50.) Abigail Stephenson Raw-
 lings
 (51.) Aaron Rawlings and spouse (52.) Nancy Rawlings

Who were the other forty-eight who traveled with Jacob Van Meter? Some of the names may be completely lost to history, but it could very well be that twenty-three of them were members of a group that splintered off from the Van Meter colony while traveling through the Knobs and settled near present day Boston, KY. The leader of this "break-away" band was Samuel Goodin.

The circumstantial evidence that the Goodins and the Van Meters did travel together is convincing. Both families were from Greene and Fayette Counties, the "Ten Mile Country" of southwestern Pennsylvania. The early histories contend that both families arrived at the Falls of the Ohio in 1779 and that both Van Meter's Fort and Goodin's Fort were established in 1780.

Furthermore, there is the matter of the many intermarriages between Van Meters and Goodins. Samuel Goodin married Elizabeth Kline Van Meter (number 4 above), widow of Abraham Van Meter who was killed by a poisoned Indian arrow at Squire Boone's Painted Stone Fort. Samuel Goodin, Jr. married Margaret Garrard (number 19 above), the granddaughter of Jacob Van Meter, Sr. Later, the son of Samuel Goodin, Jr. and Margaret Garrard married the granddaughter of John and Rosannah Swank, who are listed in WHO'S WHO IN HARDIN COUNTY KENTUCKY as having come into Severns Valley with Jacob Van Meter.

It is clear that the people of the Van Meter colony and the Goodin colony knew one another well. (Continued page 20.)

At a County Court held for Hardin County at the Court-house in Elizabeth Town on Tuesday the 28th day of October 1800

Present Stephen Rawlings Thomas McIntire Asa Coombes & Daniel Vitertow Gents

On the motion of Robert Hodgkin Sheriff of Hardin County protesting against the insufficiency of the Jail it was ordered to be entered of record of this Court that the said Goal is insufficient

David Morrison Esq produced a Commission from his Excellency James Garrard Governor of Kentucky appointing him Coroner of this County who thereupon took the several oaths required by Law and entered into and acknowledged bond with Jacob Vanmatre his Security conditioned as the Law directs

On the motion of Seviah Dodg widow & relict of Josiah Dodge Decd & Jacob Vanmatre Junr who made oath according to Law Administration of the Estate of Josiah Dodge Decd is granted them they having given bond with Robert Hodgkin & John Deremiah thier Securities in the penalty of three hundred & twenty pounds conditioned as the Law directs

On the motion of Samuel Goodin It is ordered to Certifie to the Auditor of publick accts that he is entitled to an audited Certificate for five pounds for one beef impressed for the late Expedition against the Wabash indians under the Command of Genl Clark dated 10th day of August 1787 he having taken the Oath required by Law

Ordered that summons ifsue directing the administrators of the Estate of Thomas Redman decd to appear here at the next County Court to render account of the said decd Estate and then & there to abide by the order of said Court

Ordered that Stephen Rawlings patrick Brown Jacob Larue and Coonrod Walters or any three of them being first sworn before a Magistrate of this County do appraise in Current money the personal Estate of Josiah Dodge decd and return the appraisement to the next Court

On the motion of Isaac Goodwin it is ordered to be Certified to the Auditor of public accounts that he is Intitled to an audited certificate for two pounds four shillings for his Services as a Soldier on the late Expedition against the Wabash indians under the command of Genl George R Clark Cert dated 10 August 1787 he having made oath according to Law

On the motion of Jacob Vanmatre it is ordered that it be certified to the auditor of public accts that he is intitled to an audited certificate for thirteen pounds thirteen shillings for Sundries imprefsed for the late Expedition agt the Wabash Indians under the Command of Genl George R Clark Cert dated 10 August 1787 he having made Oath according to Law

Ordered that John Carr near the mouth of Cedar Creek Richard Doherty Henry Ditto and John Carr on Otter Creek or any three of them first being Sworn do view the nearest best

and most Convenient way for a road to lead from the ford across the Rolling fork near the mouth of Cedar Creek to Breckinridge line on a direction to the Courthouse & report to the next Court the Conveniences and inconveniences of the Said Road being cut out

Ordered that James Williams be appointed overseer of the Road leading from Elizabeth Town to Hodgins new Mill in place of Andrew Fairleigh and that the same hands do assist him that was to assist the said Andrew Fairleigh

On the motion of Hardin Thomas it is ordered that it be certified to the Auditor of publick accts that he is intitled to an audited certificate for L2..4..0 for his Services as a Soldier on the late Expedition against the Wabash Indians under the Command of Genl George R Clark Certificate dated the 10th of August 1787 he having made Oath according to Law

Ordered that Stephen Rawlings & Asa Coombes be appointed as Judges of the ensuing Election to Elect Electors to appt a president & vice president and also to Elect a Reptve and that Charles Helm be appd Clerk

On the motion of Benjamin Wright it is ordered that the Clerk Issue his Warrant directed to John Thomas Charles Helm & Isaac Hargis or any two of them to attend him to the Beginning of a 60,000 acre entry in the name of William Greenough on the South Fork of Nolin also 1000 in the name of William May also 500 acres in said Mays name on the South side of Nolin to Establish the Beginning of said Entries or any Special Call and to do such other things as may be deemed necessary & acresable to Law

Ordered that the Clerk Issue Summs commanding a Majority of the Justices to attend the next Court to lay the County Levy

The Clerk of the Court of Quarter. Sefsions of this County and Clerk of the County Court Exhibited his account of publick Taxes by him recd on Writs deeds &c prior to the first of October 1800 and made Oath to the same according to Law and it was ordered to be certified to the Auditor of publick accts

Ordered that Court do adjourn till tomorrow morning Eight O'clock

Stephen Rawlings

Wednesday 29th October 1800 the Court met according to Adjournment Present Stephen Rawlings David Vitertow and Asa Coombes Esquires

Upon the petition of Robert Hodgins who has built a water grist Mill on his own land otherwise Claimed by him on Nolin and being desirous to have one acre of said land condemned for the benefit of said Mill. And the Coroner having returned a report pursuant to the order of this Court and on Consideration and Mature deliberation of the said Court it is ordered that the said report be recorded which is as follows

We the Jurors lawfully Summoned and Impannelled duly Sworn according to the directions according to a writ directed to the Coroner of Hardin County to Examin the value of one acre

of Land on which Robert Hodgins new Mill now Stands together with the dam and damages that any other adjoining may Suffer from the Stopage of the water and even other annoyancce & are of the unanimous opinion that none adjoining do Suffer any Damages and as to the one acre of Land ordered to be valued we do value the Same to three pounds four Shillings and Eight pence meted and bounded as followeth (to wit) Beginning at a Beech on the bank of the Creek Thence N51 W8 poles to a Stake Thence N89 W30 poles to a Stake Thence N13 poles to a Stake Thence N80 W4 poles to a Stake Thence S20 W5 poles to stake Thence S80 E6 to a Stake Thence S89 E20 to a Stake Thence 87 poles to the Creek Thence up the Creek bending thereon eighteen poles to the Beginning and also on the other Side of the Creek Begining at the End of the dam at low water mark Extending out S17 E13 poles to a Sugartree and two poles wide for the abutment In witnefs whereof we the Jurors have hereunto set our hands & seals this 16th day of September 1800 Philip Jenkins LS David Morrison LS Nicholas Roof LS Jonathan Paddock LS Thomas Williams LS Samuel Harris LS Adam Easter LS Edward Wells LS John Glenn LS John Deremiah LS John Humphreys LS Benjamin Wright LS and there being no opposition to the Jurors opinion it is ordered by the Court that the Said acre be Condemned and the right be vested in the Said Robert Hodgins according to Law

Upon the petition of peter Wooley for leave to build a water Grist Mill on his own land on the Beaver dam fork of Lin Camp Creek and that an acre of Land should be Condemned for the use and Seat of said Mill and the Sheriff having returned a report pursuant to the Order of this Court on Consideration & mature deliberation of the Court it is ordered that the report be recorded which is as follows We the Jurors being lawfully Summoned & Impanelled to Judge the real value of one accre of Land near the mouth of the Beaver dam fork of Lin Camp Creek and to Condemn the same to the use of a Mill we the Jurors do agree in our Verdict & say that the one acre of Land is worth nineteen shillings and ten pence & no more and that the metes & bounds are as follows Viz Beginning at an Iron Bush on the bank of the beaver dam fork of Lin Camp Creek about two poles from the mouth on the East side Thence N33 E11 poles to a Jack Oak on the bank of said fork thence down the said Creek bending on the water at low water mark to the Beginning and also on the other side of said fork Beginning at a Safsafrafs on the bank of Linn Camp Creek about two poles below the mouth of the Beaver dam fork thence W10 poles to a Stake Thence N6 poles to a Black Gum on the bank of said fork Thence down the Said Creek bending thereon at low water mark to the Beginning for the other Abutment and that no Damages can be Sustained by any person adjoining thereto by the Stagnation of the waters and in the Witnefs of the Same we have hereunto set our hands & seals this 20th day of October 1800 Aquilla Martin LS John Brunk LS John Carnehan LS John Deremiah LS William Miller LS George Highbough LS Asa Kellern LS Beryer Wright LS William Hargis LS Andrew Reed LS Caleb Hazel LS William

Elliot LS And there being no opposition to the Jurors opinion it is ordered by the Court that the said acre of Land be condemned and the right vested in the Said peter Wooly according to Law

Upon the petition of John Creamer for leave to build a water Grist Mill on his own land on the West branch of Mill Creek and that an acre of land be condemned for the use of said Mill and the Sheriff having returned a report pursuant to an order of this Court on Consideration and mature deliberation of the Court is ordered that the report be recorded which is as follows We John Berry John Williams George Bell Joseph Enlow John Weedman Reuben Camp John Overlon Elijah Allen James McColam James Thompson Isaih Watkins & William Allen Jurors being legally Summoned in Obedience to a writ Ifsued by the Worshipful Court of Hardin County at thier July Term for the purpose of Condemning one acre of Land for the Abutment of John Ccreamers Mill dam and other purposes therein mentioned being first duly sworn do make the following inquisitions that is to say having viewed the Lands proposed for said abutment we proceeded to Condemn value Locate & Circumscribe one acre of Land the property of John Creamer as follows Begining at two Elm thence South four poles to a White Oak Thence SE 20 poles to an Ironwood Thence N12 poles to a Hickory Thence SW twenty poles to the Beginning and having due regard to the Interest of both parties we do appraise and value said acre of land to thirty two pounds seven shillings & six pence and having viewed the Land above and below said Dam it is our opinion that said Lands will not be overflowed to the injury of any person or persons whatsoever and that fish of pafsage or ordinary Navigation will not be obstructed nor the health of the neighbors be in the Least injured by said dam given from under our hands and seals this 2nd day of August 1800 George Bell LS John Berry LS Elijah Allen LS William Allen LS John Overlin LS Isaih Watkins LS Joseph Enlow LS John Weedman LS James McColain LS John Williams LS Reuben Kemp LS James Thompson LS And there being no opposition made to the opinion of the Jurors it is ordered by the Court that the Said Acre of Land be Condemned and the right thereof be vested in the Said John Creamer according to Law

Ordered that it be certified to the auditor of publick Accts. that William Hardin hath paid ten pounds ten Shillings the balance of his revenue Tax for the year 1797 and arearages in full

Ordered that it be certified to the auditor of publick Accts that William Hardin hath paid his revinue Tax for the year 1797 & arearages in full

The Court proceeded to Rate the Several Tavern keepers in this County as follows (to wit)

	L	S	D
For a Warm dinner or Breakfast		1	.6
Cold dinner or Breakfast		1	.11/2
For Lodging per night		0	.6
Stableage & hay for every twelve hours		1	.6

	L	S	D
Corn or Oats per Gallon		0...	9
Pasturage per night		0...	6
Whiskey per half pint		0...	9
Rum or French brandy per half pint		2...	3
Peach Brandy per half pint		1...	11/2
Wine per quart		9...	0
Cider per quart		1...	11/2
Beer per quart		0...	6
Metheglin per quart		0...	9

The Several Tavern Keepers within this County are allowed to Sell & retail Liquors &c at the Above rates & no higher

On the motion of Asa Coombes it is ordered that a Licence be granted to him to keep a Tavern at his house in Elizabeth Town in this County for one year from this Term he having given bond with John pirtle his Security for keeping the same according to Law

On the motion of Benjamin Helm Clerk of this Court John Pirtle is admitted his deputy he having taken the several Oaths required by Law

Ordered that Court do now adjourn till Court in Course
Step Rawlings

ELIZABETHTOWN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES, 1825

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Elizabeth Town at the Clerks Office on the 4th day of October 1825

Present John Morris President A. H. Churchill and Samuel Haycraft Trustees

M. C. Wright wishing to exhibit natural curiosities in this Town he is permitted to do so on paying to the Clerk of this board the sum of One Dollar per day while he exhibits

Ordered that the board adjourn

John Morris Prst

At a meeting of the Trustees of Elizabeth Town on Wednesday the 23rd day of November 1825

Present A. H. Churchill H. G. Wintersmith and Allen Singleton

A. H. Churchill is appointed President Protempore

Hiram Childs wishing to Exhibit natural curiosities in this town is permitted so to do on his paying to the Clerk of this Board the sum of one Dollar per day for the time he shall exhibit them for profit

Hiram Childs also wishing to Exhibit certain feats of activity & C for the amusement of the citizens of this town he is permitted to exhibit within the limits of this town on Friday and Saturday next on his paying to the clerk of this board the sum of three dollars for the said two days. The above two taxer to be apid in Ccommonwealth paper

James E Stone Clerk of the Board reports that he has two dollars in his hands received from C. Wright for the exhibition of natural curiosities which is to remain in his hands until the further order of the board

Dec. 1825

Ordered that the board adjourn

A. H. Churchill P. Protem

At a meeting of the trustees of Elizabeth Town on Monday the 26th day of December 1825

Present A. H. Churchill Allen Singleton H. G. Winter-smith and Sam Haycraft Esqrs. Gentlemen Trustees

On motion made and seconded The board proceeded to levy the following tax on each person residing in Town and owning or occupying by himself or tenant a lot or lots the sum of .75

On each person residing out of Town and owning a lot or lots the sum of .50

On each free white male over the age of 21 years residing in town .25

Ordered that the clerk of the Board make out a list of persons to be taxed agreeable to the above order as follows towit of all persons residing in town and owning or occupying a lot or lots A list of persons residing out of town and owning a lot or lots in Town and a list of free white males over the age of 21 years residing in Town and produce to the board at their next meeting

Jas. E. Stone Clerk of the board reports that he has five dollars in his hands received from Hiram Childs which is ordered to remain in his hands until the further order of the board

fire equip

Ordered that Armistead H. Churchill and Allen Singleton be appointed Commissioners to let to the lowest bidder the making of two ladders of sufficient length to reach from the groundd to the eves of any house in Town and dtwo ladders of twenty feet long and also the making of six fire hooks of such description as the said commissioners may deem sufficient and make report to the board

Ordered that Armistead H. Churchill be entitled to a credit for the sum of \$11.50 and Allen Singleton be allowed a credit of \$8 out of the money in their hands being the amount paid by them to the Overseer of the Streets for making side walks in the public Square which appears by his report this day returned

Sam Haycraft paid over to the Clerk of the board the sum of \$6 which is ordered to remain in his hands until the further order of the board for which sum said Haycraft is entitled to a credit out of the money in his hands

Ordered that Sam Haycraft former Clerk of the board be allowed the sum of \$4 for his services in full as such and for which he is allowed a credit out of any money in his hands

Ordered that the Board adjourn

Test Jas E Stone Clk

A. H. Churchill

WHO CAME WEST... (continued from page 13)

Ddid they meet while making their way west together? Probab-ly ao. The Goodin colony consisted of

- (1.) Samuel Goodin, Sr.
- (2.) Isaac Goodin
- (3.) Thomas

- Goodin (4.) Elizabeth Goodin (5.) Samuel Goodin, Jr.
 (6.) Rebecca Goodin
 (7.) Atkinson Hill
 (8.) Abednego Carter
 (9.) Aaron Atherton, Sr.
 (10.) David Crady
 (11.) Richard Edlin
 (12.) Anthony Chambers and spouse (13.) Magdaline Chambers
 (14.) Rachel Chambers (15.) Polly Chambers (16.) Jacob Chambers
 (17.) James Chambers (18.) Ahimaaz Chambers
 (19.) Samuel Miller
 (20.) Daniel Vittitow
 (21.) Samuel Vittitow
 (22.) Stephen Vittitow
 (23.) Jonah Heaton

Adding the Goodin group to that of Jacob Van Meter raises the number to seventy-five, exactly three-fourths of that elusive one hundred. If the figure one hundred is correct, there were twenty-five more. Who were they? The people of the Van Meter party are better documented than those of Samuel Goodin's, and it is likely that there were some children and slaves among the Goodins whose names are not recorded, but probably not as many as twenty-five.

The people who migrated west with Jacob Van Meter were pioneers of the highest order, the equal of any who helped settle our nation. Decent and responsible citizens, they added their energy and talents to the Kentucky wilderness and served it in the years ahead as judges, magistrates, and militiamen; as homemakers, mid-wives, and mothers of a race. Some of them died for it. They deserve to be remembered and honored. Still, some of their names are either uncertain or entirely unknown. Who were they?

HISTORICAL SLEETCH OF GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH (Continued from Vol. XI No 4)

The work on the new building seems to have moved along very satisfactorily, and in February, 1881, the regular business meeting of the church was held in the new building. The Building Committee made a report which should be of especial interest at this time; "Cleaning brick and other work, \$35.95; laying brick, \$176.25; brick purchased, \$235; paid to Joseph Lott \$856.65; lime \$59.25; painting \$104.25; digging foundation and other work \$25; hands to wait on plasterer, rods, etc., \$32; papering, \$67.50; plastering, \$32.50; total, \$1,705.05; balance on hand, \$148.25. Carpet, chairs, divan, fixtures, stove, and coal for drying out church, \$167.75; balance due, \$19.50." Fencing Committee reported an unexpended balance in their hands which was ordered turned over to the Building Committee. Total cost of building and furnishings, \$1,792.15. At this time Elder N. G. Terry was called as pastor for another year.

The following paragraph taken from the minutes of June, 1881, is mentioned here, not so much for its historical value

as for an example which could be followed with profit by all young Christians going out from the parental roof to seek a higher education, or to enter the business world. "Letters from Buffalo Church inform this church that Mollie Overall, Alice Bland, and W. H. Stark have put themselves under their watch care, and commending their Christian deportment while there attending school." Little wonder that Gilead Church could come through all her trials and vicissitudes triumphantly, when composed of men and women who reared their children in such a way as to merit and receive the commendation of God's people with whom they came in contact.

It appears that sextons were as scarce in 1881 as in 1924. In February, 1881, the following arrangements were made to take care of the church; In March, Clay Overall; April, Hiram Overall; May, S. H. Bland; June, M. R. Gardner; July, Bailey Price; August, J. M. Miller; September, Bailey Price, to be paid by Charles Greenwell; October, William Miller; November, John Pickrill; December, James Jenkins. Elder N. G. Terry continued as pastor until October, 1884. In January, 1885, Elder W. H. Williams became pastor and the church agreed to have preaching on the second and fourth Sundays in each month. In June, 1886, Elder Williams resigned as pastor, and in August, Elder Granville Dockery was called and remained as pastor until June, 1888. In January, 1889, Elder D. L. Bronson became pastor and continued until May, 1891. In July, 1891, Elder J. B. Moody became pastor, with the understanding that he could only serve a few months. In June, 1892, Elder John D. Jordan accepted the call as pastor for two Sundays each month with a guaranteed salary of \$400 per year and as much additional as the church could raise.

Not historical, but very interesting, is the following: The committee appointed to raise funds for the purchase of song books reported they had done nothing. Professor Elrod *method* made a proposition to exhibit scenes of the World's Fair and let the proceeds go toward the purchase of song books. The proposition was accepted, but on objection from James L. Sprigg, Hiram Overall, and F. C. Parepoint that they were opposed to raising money for the church by entertainments, the vote accepting the proposition was reconsidered. The result was that the committee appointed to raise the fund to purchase the song books reported the purchase of sixty-one Baptist Hymnals for \$50 and a balance on hand of \$3.10. In October, 1894, Elder Jordan resigned as pastor and in March, 1895, Elder Williams was recalled to the pastorate and remained there until his death in December, 1897. In May, 1898, the church called Elder J. T. Barrow as pastor and he served until his sudden death by accident, July 10, 1899. In June, 1899, the church sent a committee to Rhudes Creek Church to discuss the advisability of dividing Salem Association. In September, 1899, the church called for a letter of dismissal from the Salem Association. (To be completed in the next issue.)

ARTS AND PIECES
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ARGUMENT In support of the Claim of JACOB VANMETRE'S
ADMINISTRATOR (Continued from Vol. XII No. 1)

On motion, the Board came to the following resolutions. That all Officers and Soldiers who marched and continued in service till the reduction of the British posts on the North West side of the Ohio, that all who engaged and enlisted in the Illinois Regiment afterwards and served during the war or three years, are entitled to a share of the Grant under the Resolution and act of Assembly: that all those soldiers who have enlisted in said Regiment since the 2nd day of January, [1781] for three years or during the war are not entitled, as there seems to be no provision made under the Resolution for those who should thereafter be incorporated in the said Regiment. That the Officers of the Regiment are entitled to a share of the land, in proportion to the Commission they respectively held on the said 2nd day of January, 1781, and not in proportion to the commission they have since held in consequence of promotions, and that therefore, Officers Commissioned since that period are not entitled at all, and that those Soldiers who enlisted to serve 12 months after their arrival at Kaskaskias, agreeably to an act of Assembly of the Fall session 1778, for the protection and defence of the Illinois Country, who did not reenlist in the Regiment are not included in said Resolution. That those Officers who were commissioned under said act and resigned before the expiration of the 12 months are not entitled. Last, that those who continued during the year and then retired not having a command, are entitled. Adjourned.

Aug. 4th. The same members as yesterday. The following claims were taken up and allowed and disallowed, as they are marked, to wit:

[Here follows a list of the claims allowed and disallowed, and among those allowed, is the name of "JACOB VANMETRE ENSIGN."]

Having completed said list, the Board "directed certificates to issue in the following mode, to wit;

Sandy
"To a Brig. Genl. 7,500, to a Lt. Col. 4,500, to a Major 4,000, to a Capt. 3,000, to a subaltern 2,000, to a sergt. 200, and to a private 100 acres of land."

[After dividing the lands according to said apportionment, a surplus was left for further division, Vanmetre's share of which was 156 acres; making the whole amount assigned to him in the Illinois Grant, 2,156 acres.]

I claim that this record, (in connexion with a "deed" which I shall refer to hereafter) conclusively proves, that Jacob Vanmetre was an Ensign in the Illinois Regiment, and held his commission in that rank, as late, at least, as the 2nd day of January, 1781. The commissioners present, at the meeting of the Board which made this allowance, were all, with one exception, distinguished officers of the Illinois Regiment. Gen'l Geo. Rogers Clarke, and Col. John Montgomery, were among the number. Of course they knew perfectly well, in 1784, who had served as officers in said

regiment, and who held commissions therein on the 2nd day of January, 1781. Before proceeding to award the lands to the different claimants, the Board first determines what classes of persons are entitled. And they determine that "the officers of the Regiment are entitled to a share of the land, in proportion to the commission they respectively held on the said 2nd day of January, 1781." Now, does not the allowance, by this Board, of land to Jacob Vanmetre, as Ensign of said Regiment, conclusively prove that he held a commission in said rank, on the said 2d day of January, 1781? It will be observed that the allowance was made to him on the next day after the principles upon which the allowances were to be made, had been determined as aforesaid.
(To be continued in the next issue.)

HARDIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P O BOX 381
ELIZABETHTOWN, KY 42702

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