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How Great Britain Made War in Kentucky

a Paper

by

ALFRED PIRTLE

read

Before the Unitarian Churches

June Seventeenth

1924

Rose Island

Indiana.

31x16

## How Great Britain made War in Kentucky.

Daniel Boone once said, "My wife and Daughters were in 1775, the first white women to stand upon the banks of the Kentucky River".

This is given to show that this epoch was co-temporary with the beginning of the American Revolution, tho such great distance of "flood and Field" lay between the scenes and every day brought its exciting event, so that Kentuckians were prevented, apparently from taking any interest in the national contest.

Detroit, a French City, had as recently as 1763, become English, by the great treaty, between England and France, developing thus a great point for dealings with the Indians. When war came on between the Crown and the Colonies, the English, by money and munitions of war, enlisted, in a moderate way, the Indians of the territory adjacent to the colonies. The situation ~~west~~ of the Alleghanies, was quite different. Kentucky was the ancient hunting ground of the Indians, who saw it being invaded daily, by the whites, ~~whom~~ the Indians had to drive out or relinquish to them the country as conquerors, and they feared the time might come when the whites would invade the lands where they lived, north of the Ohio river.

It was a remarkable fact, that only one permanent Indian village ~~was~~ in Kentucky and it a small one, in what is now, Clark county.

By "permanent" is meant from season to season for the Indian was nomadic, living in wigwams or huts, and not by years in one place. They had made the land that has become Kentucky, a war field, among the tribes, taking it for a hunting ground of such fury that it had an Indian name, which meant "dark and bloody ground".

The Shawnees and Wyandots were the most war-like and powerful of the Indians living north of the Ohio river, while the Cherokees had that reputation on the south of the stream. But the world knew little about tribal distinctions, yet dreaded all, as monsters of cruelty, and atrocity, and brave and insatiable in pursuit of an enemy.

History was making at a rate that showed that the Indians had good ground for their dread of the whites invading their territories, for while there was no settlement of whites on the bank of the Ohio, at the coming of George Rogers Clark and his expedition in May 1778, it was said, in 1780 - the immigrants were floating down that stream at the rate of three thousand a month, though savages made day as well as night hideous with the awful cruelties they inflicted upon the newcomers voyaging towards the Falls of the Ohio.

During the same period the other roads, back in the mountains of Virginia, and North Carolina contributed a proportionate, daily stream of settlers.

In the winter of 1779, Captain Henry Bird, of the 60th infantry, stationed near Detroit commanded 700 Indians in an expedition to Kentucky, and 150 of his regular command were added under his leadership. To make it more formidable two pieces of the regular artillery were attached to the forces.

The joining of the Indians to the whites was a very extravagant mode of warfare, for the Indians were wasteful in every way. What an Indian wasted would keep a white. Except when actually on <sup>the</sup> Warpath, they enforced no discipline, usually having considerable confusion in their camps. But because all of them were such masters of wood craft and all pertained to life in the forests, and the British used them freely.

In enduring the pains of hunger, and thirst, fatigue and loss of sleep they were invaluable. Still so inborn was their savagery that it seemed impossible to restrict them to the civilized mode of making war, hence the small massacres inflicted by the Indians, at almost every capture, before their hands were restricted by the commanding officer.

And speaking of these people; it is strange that the Indians do not seem to have expected any suffering from disease to have fallen upon their raids, as no preparations were made to combat it. In the few cases recorded of extensive sickness, they have relied upon the whites for medical attention and nursing. They had a mingling of fickleness, childishness, and insubordination, that was often most trying to their commanding officer.

In a mixed body, such as Captain Bird's, a serious condition arose more than once, but actual mutiny did not develop. It is very likely, that all the superior officers made careful study of the maps of the route of the expedition, during the winter of 1779 in the quarters not far from Detroit, in Canada.

It is said Capt. Bird discussed, with his intimates, before he left Detroit, the idea of making the Falls of the Ohio, the object of the Expedition, but had not decided the point, until they neared that river. <sup>when they</sup> They learned that the force there had been diminished considerably, by sending a portion to Fort Jefferson, near where Columbus Ky. now stands <sup>and he advised to have original plans</sup> thus removing any danger from help being sent to aid any point Bird might attack.

Let us look at the map, to see if we can <sup>in</sup> imagination follow the enemy:

leaving Detroit on April 12, 1780. The Detroit River, carried them in to the waters of Lake Erie, which they sailed until the Miami of the Lakes opened in front of them which they followed many miles. This was what is now the Maumee river, having a large southern tributary still bearing the Pioneer name of Au Glaize, and southern fork of which, yet named as then, Lowrie River, carried them about the place now, of Piqua, where they made a <sup>short portage</sup> ~~shortage~~, into a direct branch of the Big Miami, <sup>that</sup> ~~which~~ was the beginning, of the final and long, sail down to the Ohio. It was near this date that the object of their Expedition was understood would be the center of the northern part of Kentucky, made practicable at the moment by the flood in the Licking River. The writer of this paper deeply regrets that he has not found details of the formation of the column - how many and the several kinds of canoes, how many and the calibres of artillery, and how many horses <sup>they</sup> ~~they~~ required, and how the horses were transported.

But there is authority for saying there were two pieces of light artillery, as will be seen later.

We have but little knowledge of the march of the Bird Expedition, but the Indians must have delayed it to send spies to the Falls of the Ohio, and to insist upon like information from the forts on Licking, for it was almost the middle of June, before the march up the South fork of the Licking was begun. On the evening of the 21st June they were within the sound of Ruddles Station, situated at the joining of Stoner and Hinkston creeks. By the most stringent orders silence had been kept in the camp, and at day break the quiet <sup>was</sup> broken by the discharge of a piece of artillery, and the crash of the gate of Ruddles Station, followed instantly by the war whoops, rising from the charge of the Indians were making through the entrance of the Fort, amid the shrieks of the terrified, frightened occupants. Although Capt. Bird was <sup>among</sup> the very first to enter the Fort, he could not prevent the tomahawking of one or two of the whites, notwithstanding his positive orders to the force, that such barbarity would not be permitted, on unarmed and surrendering persons. Only a very few victims fell, but the Fort was given over to the Indians for sacking.

An indescribable scene of confusion, grief and misery followed; man and wife parent and child were separated violently, in many cases never to be again united. Death was, in some cases, the finality of injuries, of the violence done by the savages in the moment of capture. By tremendous efforts Bird and his most influential subordinate restored a degree of order, enabling them to bring the Indians to understand, that no one man, woman or child was to be killed, just because they were powerless. It was seen that the

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Indians had taken the idea, that the plunder would belong to the captors who might be holding it, and hence the <sup>in a</sup> scrambling over it, <sup>prisoners</sup> many were wounded in the struggle.

In a brief time, the warriors heard of another Fort, Martins, not a mile away which, they began to demand to be lead against, but Bird refused to permit any move to that end. He talked to the army until he had gained their attention and then explained, that the column would take up the ~~regular~~ march in regular order, and that every body must obey his orders, that no one was to abuse the prisoners. Then, on arriving at Martins Station, it was regularly surrendered, but the situation was, for a moment almost as serious as it had been at Ruddle's Station but there was no massacre, yet the captives were as roughly treated. In a very brief time, it seemed to be understood that the Indians were to be allowed to carry off such prisoners and plunder, as they could manage, according to orders.

What pen can describe the terror, helplessness, and suffering that followed, because the prisoners were unarmed and completely in the power of the savages, since the whites outnumbered by the Indians, dreaded falling out with them. The Indians, gave out, that the rivers were declining fast and as they were dependent on the streams, for moving the army, they must start in the morning of the next day, and moved in accordance. Bird was agreed, and all that night the two Stations were given over to preparing to carry out this plan.

Months afterwards, a chief wrote to an authority in Canada "We captured in Virginia, ( Kentucky) 340 men, women and children, who did not all reach Detroit". He mentioned Detroit for the Indians had seized prisoners, in their trips to and from Kentucky, <sup>instead of making any return</sup> so that the practise of ransoming prisoners and delivering them back to friends in Kentucky brought large sums of money into Detroit. The deaths from captivity in this Bird Expedition were so numerous, that but few returned to Kentucky, <sup>only</sup> 31 are on the list of prisoners remaining in Detroit military prisons, May 16 1782, ten of them taken in the Bird Expedition

The morning of the 23rd of June 1780, the retreat was begun, hurriedly, as the Licking had been falling fast for hours. The women and children <sup>the</sup> and incapacitated, and horses and artillery were loaded during the night, and then pushed on, to reach the Miami and Licking <sup>in much effort</sup> in the flood which was successful, and the Expedition, was landed all together on the right bank of the Ohio river where Cincinnati now stands. A stop at this stand was made only long enough to plan the fleet, which was to return by the Gig Miami as far up that stream as the falling water would permit. Therefore, the fleet sailed with greater portion of the warriors, the rations that were remaining, horses and cannon.



Battle of Blue Lick's Run Began Here.

The most of the prisoners with an ample guard, and the rest of the Expedition, marched away on the well-known trail to Piqua, an Indian old town at which town <sup>temporarily</sup> we will leave them, but with heavy losses among all (but the strong and ruddy) the men, women and children. The Fleet, pushed up the Big Miami into above where Dayton now is where they hid the heavy ~~saft~~ <sup>craft</sup>, buried the cannon and cannon balls (they had no shells then) and worried through with the canoes, following the route they had come. <sup>As for the part that had reached Piqua</sup> It must be remembered that the greater part of the prisoners who had marched North from the bank of the Ohio at the Licking, continued their journey from heretoward Detroit where they arrived finally, decidedly reduced in numbers; indeed, it was appalling the handful, only that lasted. Bird's Expedition cost many more lives than the Battle of the Blue Licks, but it makes no such prominent figure in history.

In a recent paper by Mrs. W. L. Lafferty of Lexington she assumed they were light pieces of cannon, for shafts were mentioned, by old authority, and they named six as the number.

In a letter to a corporation in Canada, some one in the same report recommends a Mr. La Due of Bird's force as an artificer and a repairer of shafts - hence we may assume all the cannons were each drawn separately by one horse. As artillery was used at Ruddile's before <sup>an other</sup> a piece was fired or one could be reloaded, we can surely assume, that more than one was ready, loaded. The people of Kentucky were greatly excited by the news of the fate of Ruddile's and Martin's Station, causing a general cry for some punishment to be at once inflicted on the perpetrators. But the situation of affairs was such that Col George Rogers Clark was not able to form an expedition for weeks; but he was impelled to take part in the punishment that must be given as early as possible. Hence it was gladly learned that he would campaign at another time in Ohio, when the season had advanced to a time when the corn crop, if it was destroyed could not be replanted. When Col Clark called on the fighting men of the state to meet him at an early date in August on the Ohio river bank opposite the mouth of the Licking, they came quickly and promptly in light marching order, each on his own horse. With saddle-bags filled with <sup>corn</sup> ~~corn~~ at home, one pocket filled with raw shelled corn for the steed and the other with parched corn for the rider also a few days rations of bacon, and a blanket for his cold nights that might be expected. There were a few pieces of light cannon and some fodder for the animals, <sup>and</sup> but so well were they mounted that the little army marched as far as 18 and 20 miles a day with skirmishing going on except on the first day.

The only decided stand was made at Piqua, where the cannon, though of small calibre, was so vastly more powerful than the small arms, which the enemy were familiar with,



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that two days such fighting was enough to demoralize, the Indians; <sup>who</sup> gave ground on all sides which Clark used to destroy such light improvements ~~that~~ constituted their towns and used fire and sword for two days, and gathering his men together, reformed and returned in perfect order to Kentucky, with the loss of fourteen to seventeen men killed and only a few wounded; the enemy was said to have lost seventeen killed. So impressive was the lesson made by this, that in 1781 the Indians did not invade Ky. though an armed band at one or two dates separately crossed the Ohio.

The Filson Historical Society

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Capt. Alexander Mc Kee to Maj. Arnet S. DePeyster

Shawnee County

Augt. 28th 1782

Sir

My letter of the 22d & 23rd July informing you of the reports brought us of the Enemy's motions at that time, which was delivered by the Chiefs of the Standing Stone Village, and confirmed by the Belts & Strings of Wampum in so earnest a manner, that could not but gain credit with us. We had upon the occasion of the greatest Body of Indians Collected to an advantageous piece of ground near the Piccawa village that have been assembled in this quarter since the commencement of the war, and perhaps may never be in higher spirits to engage the enemy, when the return of the scouts informed us that the accounts we had received were false, this disappointment notwithstanding all our endeavours to keep them together occasioned them to disperse in disgust with each other.

The inhabitants of this country who were the most immediately interested in keeping in a body were the first that broke off, and then we advanced toward the Ohio with upwards of three hundred Hurons and Lake Indians; few of the Delawares, Shawanees or Mingoes followed us. On our arrival at the Ohio we remained still in uncertainty with respect to the Enemy's motions, and it was thought best from hence to send scouts to the Falls, and that the main Body should advance into the Enemy's country, and endeavour to lead out a party from some of their Forts by which we might be able to gain some certain intelligence. Accordingly we crossed the Ohio and arrived the 18 inst. at one of the Enemy's Settlements called Bryant's Station, but the Indians discovering their numbers prevented their coming out, and the Lake Indians finding this, rush'd up the Fort and set several out houses on fire, but at too great a distance to reach the Fort, the wind blowing the contrary way. The firing continued this day, during which time a party of about twenty of the Enemy approached a party which happened not to be guarded, and about on behalf of them reached it, the rest being drove back by a few Indians who were near the place. The next morning finding it to no purpose to keep up a fire longer upon the Fort as we were getting men

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killed and ~~having~~ <sup>being</sup> already several men wounded which were to be carried. The Indians determined to retreat, and on the 20th reached the Blue Licks, where we encamp't near an advantageous Hill & expecting the Enemy would pursue, determined here to wait for ~~tem~~, keeping spies at the Licks, who, on the morning of the twenty first discovered them and at half past seven o'clock we engaged them and totally defeated them in a short time. We were not much superior to them in numbers, they being about two hundred pick men from the Settlement of KY. commanded by Col. Todd, Trigg, Boon, and Todd with Majors Harlin and Mc Geary, most of whom fell in the action. From the best inquiry I could make upon the spot, there was upwards of one hundred and forty kill'd and taken, with near one hundred Rifles- several being thrown into the River that were not recovered. It was said by the Prisoners that a Col Logan was expected to join them with one hundred men more we waited upon the ground this day for him, but seeing there was not much probability of his coming, we set off and crossed the Ohio the second day after the action. Captain Caldwell and I arrived at this place last night with a design of sending some assistance to those who bring the Wounded People, who are fourteen in number. We had ten Indians killed with Mr. La Bute of the Indian Dept, who by sparing the life of one of the Enemy and endeavoring to ~~take~~ <sup>make</sup> him Prisoner, lost his own.

To our disappointment we find no Provisions brought forward to this place, or likelihood of any for some time, and we have entirely subsisted since we left this on what we got in the woods and took from the Enemy.

Prisoners all agree in their account that there is no talk of any Expedition from that Quarter, nor indeed are they able without assistance from the Colonies, and that the Militia of the country have been employed during the summer in building the Fort at the Falls, and what they call a Row Galley, which has made one trip up the River to the mouth of the Big Miamis, and occasioned that alarm which created us so much trouble. She carries one sixpounder, six four pounders & two 2 pounders, and rows eighty or she had at the big bone Lick one hundred men, but being chiefly draughts from the Militia, many of 'em left her on different parts of the River. One of the Prisoners mentions the arrival of Boats lately from Fort Pitt, and that Letters has pass'd between

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Copied from page 49 vol 20 Mich Pioneer & Historical Collection.

the Commanding officer of that place and Mr. Clark, intimating that preparation is making there for another Expedition in the Indian Country . We have since our arrival heard something of this matter and that the particulars have been forwarded to you- A Detachment of Rangers with a large Party of Delaware and Shawanese are gone that way, who will be able to discover the truth of this matter.

I am this day favoured with yours of the sixth of August , containing the report of Isaac Zeans concerning the cruelties of the Indians. It is true they have made sacrifices to their revenge after the Massacre of their women and children , some being known to be perpetrators of it ; but it was done in my absence or before I could reach any of the places to interfere & I can assure you Sir, that there is not a white person <sup>here</sup> wanting in their duty to represent to the Indians in the strongest terms the highest abhorrence of such conduct, as well as the bad consequences that may attend it to both them and us, being contrary to the rule of carrying on War by civilized nations; however it is not improbable that Zeans may have exaggerated matters greatly, being notoriously known for a disaffected Person, and concerned in sending Prisoners away with Intelligence to the Enemy, at the time Capt. Bird came out as we were then informed.

I flatter myself that I may by this time have an answer to the letter I had the honor of writing to the Commander in Chief in leaving Detroit . Mr Elliot is to be the bearer of this, who will be able to give you any further information necessary respecting matters here.

(signed) Alex Mc Kee

Major De Pyster

( BIO2, p 154)

Although the number of men lost at Blue Licks, was not by any means as those, <sup>large</sup> of the killed, and wounded as well as carried captive to Detroit, from Ruddles and Martin station, yet the moral effect was vastly more, because the leading military men of the whole fighting strength of the community, had been killed. <sup>Note;</sup> ~~As there were~~ <sup>only</sup> seven

prisoners on that dreadful 19th of August. four of them were taken back with their captors to be tortured and then killed, to interest the home people, yet they spared three to be regularly exchanged, or ransomed, at Detroit..

No other battle fought on Kentucky soil was as horrible <sup>in</sup> its mortality, as the Battle of the Blue Licks.

A great deal has been recorded concerning this battle, which is available at the various libraries in the state.

How fortunate for her record it was that the great, civilized nation of Great Britain, did not employ the Indians in the war against us the United States in the War of 1812.

The people of Kentucky, called on Brig. General George Rogers Clark, to move against the Indians, to let them feel the weight of the anger of the State. In accordance with this wish, Clark met them, <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ September, at the mouth of the Licking, as he did in 1780, moving at once into the field as before. The enemy, <sup>1</sup> waited not, but fled, nor made any decided stand, Detaching Col. Benjamin Logan and a suitable force, to march ahead of the main body, he devastated the abandoned country, ruthlessly, until the return of Logan's column. The main source of supplies had been utterly destroyed, so that it was never renewed, and the Army marched back to Kentucky, with, no loss of life, on either side. But the Indians, never again ~~once more~~, invaded our State in organized force.

Complete peace for Kentucky during the summer of 1781, followed the campaign of 1780 in Ohio lasting until August 1782, when the Indians in large force besieged Bryant's Station, near Lexington. Then as soon as possible, well mounted messengers were sent, on fleet horses to spread the alarm and urged sending to them armed help. In seven years the settlements had covered a large <sup>area</sup> ~~space~~, so that time would be required for the coming of assistance.

Days afterwards, when the settlers gave time to reflect the slow way things went off during the siege, made it evident that the Indians, were "playing for time", in order to give an opportunity, for the gathering as many as possible to the spot.

Without achieving any decided damage, the Indians raised the siege, on the 18th of August, going towardw the ford of the Licking river, which is as the (now) celebrated Blue Lick Springs, where the buffalo, had for an unknown time drank the highly charged water, which the settlers had from the earliest times boiled down to salt. All surplus water has ever flowed into the Licking. The woods of the primeeval forest, save a few that had been felled by the salt makers, grew all over every spot.

One of the whites, having great influence among the Indians, has left an official report of the invasion of Kentucky in 1782 of the campaign ending in the battle of the Blue Licks, which is here given in order that the British side of that dreadful event may be recorded, where Americans may read it.

Alexander Mc Kee, the writer of the report in 1782 was a middle-aged man, Canadian Deputy Indian Commissioner and otherwise an important citizen.

He was born in Pennsylvania, had been a justice of the peace for Westmoreland County in that state on 1771 and 1773; he had kept up a traitorous correspondence with the British, and finally on March 28 1778 escaped with Matthew Elliott, Simon Girty, and others, to the Indian tribes, and made his way to General Hamilton at Detroit, where he had been rewarded with a Captains commission, and had been assigned to the work of instigating the savage tribes to make war on the American settlements in Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Kentucky. He was cruel but brave.

He accompanied the Indian and British expedition which fought the Battle of the Blue Licks. His report given here is the first intimation that Indians had direct British assistance. The article corroborates the account usually given of a victorious, bloody and general massacre.

How Great Britian made War in Kentucky

A

Paper by Alfred Pirtle,

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Before the Unitarian Churches,

June, 17, 1924,

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History was making at a rate that showed that the Indians had good grounds for their dread of the whites invading their territories. <sup>for while then</sup> There was no settlement of whites on the banks of the Ohio, at the coming of George Rogers Clark and his expedition in May, 1778, <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>in</sup> 1780, it was said the immigrants were floating down that stream at the rate of 3000 a month, though the savages made day as well as night hideous <sup>S</sup> with the awful cruelties <sup>they</sup> inflicted upon the new comers <sup>voyaging</sup> ~~floating~~ to wards the Fall of the Ohio. <sup>during the same period</sup> ~~And~~ the other roads, back in the mountains of Virginia, and North Carolina contributed, a proportionate, daily stream of settlers. <sup>the winter</sup>

In the <sup>winter</sup> ~~winter~~ of 1779, Cap. Henry Bird, of the 60th Infantry, stationed near Detroit, <sup>commanded</sup> ~~enlisted~~, 700 Indians in an expedition to Kentucky, and 150 of his <sup>regular</sup> ~~command~~ <sup>and</sup> were ~~to be~~ added under his leadership. To make it more formidable, two pieces of the regular Artillery were <sup>attached</sup> ~~added~~ to the force.

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considerably, by sending a portion to Fort Jefferson, near where Columbus, Ky now stands, thus removing any danger from help being sent to aid any point they might attack.

let us look at the map, to see if we can in imagination follow the army, leaving Detroit, on April. 12th, 1780, the Detroit river, bore them into the waters of Lake Erie, which they sailed until the Miami of the Lakes, opened in front of them, while they followed many miles. This was what is now the Maumee river, having a large southern tributary, bearing the Pioneer name of Au Glaize now, a southern fork of which, still named as then Lowrie River, bore them about the place now of Piqua where they made a short portage, into a direct branch of the Big Miami, which was the beginning of

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An indescribable scene of confusion, grief and misery followed. man and wife, parent and child, were separated violently in many cases never to be again united. <sup>Death</sup> ~~data~~ was, in some cases, the finality of injuries, of the violence done by the savages in the moment of capture. By tremendous efforts, Bird and his most influential subordinates restored a degree of order, enabling ~~him~~ them to bring the Indians to understand, that no one, ~~no~~ man, woman or child was to be killed, just because they were powerless. It was seen that the Indians had taken the idea that the plunder would be long to the captors, who might be holding it, and hence the scrambling <sup>over it, many were wounded.</sup> ~~for it~~, when many were wounded.

In a brief time, the warriors heard of another fort, not a mile distant, which they began to demand to be lead against, but Bird refused to permit any move to that end. he talked to the army until he had gained their attention and then explained that

the column would take up the march in regular order, and that every body ~~must~~ <sup>d</sup> must obey his orders <sup>that</sup> and no one was to abuse the prisoners. Then, on arriving at Martin station, it was regularly surrendered, but the situation was for a moment almost as ~~he~~ as it had been at Ruddles station, but there was no massacre, yet the captives were as roughly treated. In a very brief time, it seemed to be understood that, the Indians were to be allowed to carry off such prisoners and plunder as they could carry away. <sup>manuscript according to the orders</sup>

What pen can describe the terror, helplessness, and suffering that followed, <sup>since</sup> ~~for~~ the prisoners were unarmed and completely in the power of the savages, <sup>the</sup> ~~for the~~ <sup>whites</sup> Indians outnumbered by the Indians, dreaded falling out with them. The Indians, gave out that the rivers were falling fast and as there were dependent on the streams for moving the army, they must start in the morning of the next day, and moved in accordance. Bird was agreed, and all that night the two stations were given over to the plan. <sup>to prepare to carry out this</sup>

Months afterwards, a chief, wrote to an authority in Canada, " We captured in Virginia (Kentucky) 340 men women and children, who did not all reach Detroit. " He mentioned Detroit, for the Indians had <sup>seized</sup> ~~brought~~ prisoners, in their trips to and from Kentucky, so that the ransoming of prisoners, and delivering them back to friends in Kentucky, brought large sums of money into Detroit. The deaths from captivity in this Bird expedition were so numerous, that but few returned to Kentucky. About 31 prisoners are shown up on a list of prisoners of remaining in Detroit military prisoners, May, 16 1792, ten of the taken prisoners in Bird's expedition, <sup>the</sup> ~~in the list~~.

The morning of the 23rd of June, 1780, the retreat was begun, hurriedly, as thLicking had ~~been~~<sup>been</sup> falling fast for hours. The women and children and incapacitated, <sup>and</sup> horses and artillery, were loaded during the night, and then pushed on, to reach the <sup>main</sup> Licking on the flood, which <sup>plan</sup> was successful, and the expedition, was landed alive toget<sup>er</sup> on the right bank of the Ohio river, where Cincinnati now stands. <sup>at</sup> stop at this camp was made, only long enough, to plan the fleet which was to return by the Big Miami as far up tant stream as the falling waters would permit. Therefore, the fleet sailed with the greater portion of the warriors, the ration <sup>st</sup>ant were remaining,, horses and cannon.

The prisoners, with an ample guard, and the rest of the expedition, marched away on the well known trail to Piqua, at which town we will leave them but with heavy losses among all (but the strong and ruddy of) the men, women and children. The Fleet, pushed up

the Big Miam, <sup>at</sup> Above where Dayton now is, where they hid the heavy craft, buried the cannon and cannon balls (they had no shells then) and worried through with the canoes.

It must be remembered, that the <sup>greater</sup> part of the prisoners, who had marched North from the bank of the Ohio at the Licking, continued their journey towards Detroit, where they

they arrived finally, decidedly reduced in numbers; indeed it was appalling the handful, only, that lasted. Bird's Expedition cost many more lives than The Battle of the Blue Licks, but it makes no such prominent figure in history.

.In a recent paper by Mrs. W.L. Lafferty of Lexington she assumed they were light pieces of cannon, for shafts were mentioned, by old authority and they named six as the number. In a letter to a correspondent in Canada; some one recommends a Mr. La Due of Bird's force as an artificer and a repairer of shafts - hence we may assume all the cannons were each drawn separately by one horse. As artillery was used at Ruddle's before a piece was fired or one could be reloaded, we can surely assume, that more than one was ready, loaded.

The people of Kentucky were greatly excited by the news of the fate of Ruddle, s and Martin, s stations, causing a general cry for some punishment to be at once inflicted on the perpetrators. But the situation of affairs ~~was~~ was ~~so~~ such that Col. George Rogers Clark was not able to form an expedition for weeks, ~~he~~ he announced, he was bound to take a part in the punishment that must be given the as early as possible. Hence it was gladly learned that he would campaign again in Ohio, when the season had advanced to a time when the corn crop, if it was destroyed could not be replanted. When Col. Clark, called on the fighting men of the

Of the stateto meet him on an early date in August on the Ohio River bank opposite the Mouth of Licking, they came quickly and promptly, in light marching order, each on his own horse, With saddle bags filled with corn at home, one pocket filled with raw shelled corn for the steed and the other with parched corn for the rider; <sup>only</sup> ~~a~~ a few days ration of bacon, and a blanket for his cold nights ~~th~~ at might be expected. There were a few pieces of light cannon and some fodder for the animals, but so well mounted were they that, the little Army marched as far as 18 and 20 miles a day, with skirmishing going on, except on the first day. The only decided stand was made at Piqua, where the Cannon, though of small calibre, was so vastly more powerful than the small arms, which the enemy were familiar with, <sup>that</sup> two days such fighting was enough to demoralise the indians gave ground on all sides, which Clark used to destroy such light improvements that constituted their towns, and used fire and sword grandly for two days, and gathering his men returned in perfect order to Kentucky, with the loss of fourteen to seventeen men killed and only a few wounded: the enemy were said to have lost seventeen killed. The lesson was so impressive that, 1781, the indians did not invade Kentucky: <sup>of one arm at a time</sup> ~~an~~ armed bands <sup>in one or two dates,</sup> crossed the Ohio.

The British were not idle the year following Bird's Expedition, as was shown the next Spring <sup>pending fight in autumn, forcing the expedition</sup> by scouts from Kentucky. The condition of affairs, will be seen from the report of a prominent Canadian <sup>the</sup> made in August. 1782.

(Paragraph)

As we have used the British sources, we have taken an official British report of the Battle of the Blue Licks, as giving the enemy's view..