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**An Unexpected Enemy
and the Turn of the Tide:
Andrew Creswell's King's¹ Mountain
Letter***

Hubert Gilliam, Kingsport, Tennessee
and

Jim Glanville, Blacksburg, Virginia

On this field, the Patriot forces attacked and totally defeated an equal force of Tories and British regular troops. The British commander, Major Patrick Ferguson, was killed and his entire force was captured after suffering heavy loss. This brilliant victory marked the turning point of the American Revolution.

Text of a commemorative plaque² at the site of the Battle of King's Mountain, fought October 7, 1780. The site is just south of the border between North and South Carolina, approximately 40 miles west of modern-day Charlotte, North Carolina.

Introduction

Concerning the Battle of King's Mountain, Thomas Jefferson wrote:

... I remember well the deep and grateful impression made on the minds of every one by that memorable victory. It was the joyful annunciation of that turn of the tide of success which terminated the Revolutionary War, with the seal of our independence.³

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Theodore Roosevelt wrote:

... at a crisis in the great struggle for liberty, at one of the darkest hours for the patriot cause, it was given to a band of western men to come to the relief of their brethren of the seaboard and to strike a telling and decisive blow for all America.⁸

Lord Charles Cornwallis said of the battle:

The event proved unfortunate A numerous and unexpected enemy came from the mountains; as they had good horses their movements were rapid.⁹

Western Virginians have more than once expressed the opinion that the significance of the Battle of King's Mountain has been underrated by eastern Virginians. For example, Arthur Campbell of Saltville

...was very dissatisfied by the lack of importance attached to Kings Mountain and he was furious when he heard that John Randolph had remarked in the [Virginia] House of Representatives that Cowpens was the most important battle fought in the South during the American Revolution.⁶

Heretofore, historians have relied almost exclusively on the Lyman C. Draper manuscripts⁷ for serious research on the battle.⁸ But this article introduces a new, never-before-known source: a letter,⁹ unknown to Draper, written by a participant in the battle. The letter was sent in 1822 from Andrew Creswell to Col. John Preston of Walnut Grove, near Abingdon.

When the two authors of this paper met during the summer of 2005, they agreed to collaborate in its publication and – because of the letter's significance for our region and to the Preston family – chose to submit it to *The Smithfield Review*. As we will show, Creswell's letter finally answers a long unanswered question¹⁰ posed by Theodore Roosevelt about the battle.

The Creswell Letter

Knowledge of the existence of the Creswell letter was retained within the Creswell family, and the published family genealogy described a letter "written by Andrew Creswell, who had served in the Revolutionary War ... about his experience in the Battle of King's

Mountain ... [that] had been framed on a woman's living room wall until the 1960s when it was sold at auction.¹¹

The letter is written in what we assume is Creswell's own handwriting and remains clear and readily legible almost 200 years after being written. The envelope (shown in Figure 1) is apparently written in the same hand. The address reads "Col. John Preston, Walnut Grove, Near Abingdon, Virginia." The return address at the upper right of the envelope appears to read "Free, [Alex?] Preston, [Pillp?], Sevier C [?] Ten." We do not understand the detailed significance of this notation, although clearly either the sender or recipient of the letter was entitled to free mail service. The concluding three lines of the letter and Creswell's signature are shown in Figure 2.

The letter reads as follows:

Sometime in September 1780, I was ordered on a Tour of duty to the South under the command of Col William Campbell of Virginia which tour I served under James Dysart¹² as my Captain. Without entering into details of the whole of the route I shall begin the day before the Battle when we eat our fresh beef in the morning without bread or salt, and then commenced our march

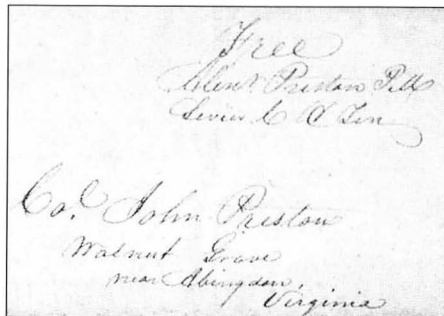


Figure 1. The envelope of the Creswell letter.

which lasted till Sun-set where we struck camp at the Cowpens but did not get leave to eat our beef till we took up the line of march which lasted all night, about Sunrise we crossed Broad River where we expected to fight but finding them removed from that place to Kings Mountain we pursued on till about 2 o'clock in the evening when we called a halt, when Col. Campbell came back along the lines telling us to prime our Guns afresh for we were then within two miles of the enemys camp. we started thru like in two collumns Col. Shelby at the head of the left collumn and Col. Campbell at the head of the right. with Captain Dysart in the front of the right collumn. we rushed to the foot of the mountain. left our horses without any confinement. Campbells front was ordered to push round which was done with rapidity. in the meantime Captain Dysart was wounded in the arm, his men rushed on making very little halt till we got within Gun shot of Shelby's line. I saw the smoke of their Guns and as I saw but one man further round than myself I spoke to him & told him we had better take care least we might make a mistake. I retreated about ten paces where I discharged my Gun. about that moment they began to run. I waited for nobody I ran without a halt till I ran into the center of their encampment at which moment the flag was raised for quarters. I saw Capt. Duipoister¹³ start out from amongst his dirty crew on my right hand seeing him coming a direct course toward me. I looked round to my left. I saw Col. Mr. Campbell of Virginia on my left. Duipoister came forward with his sword hilt foremost Campbell accosted him in these words I am happy to see you sir. Duipoister in answer swore by his maker he was not happy to see him under the present circumstances at the same time delivered up his sword Campbell rec^d. the sword turned it round in his hand and handed it back telling him to retire to his post which he received, rejoining these words God eternally damn the Tories to hells flames and so the score ended as to the surrender.

Dec 8th 1822

A. Creswell

The Prelude to King's Mountain

In the spring of 1780, nearly four weary years after the United States had declared their independence, Lord Cornwallis and the British launched a Southern campaign. To win that campaign, they

*which he received, rejoining these words God
eternally damn the Tories to hells flames and
so the score ended as to the surrender
Dec. 8th 1822 A. Creswell*

Figure 2. The concluding three lines of the letter and Creswell's signature.

counted on the support of Tories and loyalists who – the authorities in London believed – could be found in large numbers in the South. This strategy led to what has been called the “struggle for the South.”¹⁴

That struggle began well for the British. On May 12, 1780, Charleston, South Carolina, fell to a British force of 10,000 under the command of Sir Henry Clinton. For the United States this defeat was the worst disaster of the entire Revolutionary War. Vast quantities of supplies were lost, most of the political and military leaders of South Carolina were seized, and some 5,000 soldiers of the Continental army and militia forces were taken prisoner. Clinton departed for the northern theater soon after the victory, turning command over to Lord Cornwallis, who pushed inland. At Camden, South Carolina, on August 16, Cornwallis's forces routed patriot forces led by Major-General Horatio Gates, the hero of Saratoga but a loser in the Carolinas. Of the 7,000 men under Gates's command at Camden, fewer than 1,000 escaped northward to Hillsborough, North Carolina, and they arrived there without arms, ammunition, or food. As summer 1780 turned to fall, the patriot cause lay gasping for life.

The patriot cause was resurrected almost by accident. Ranging to the west, a force of Tories and loyalists under the command of Scottish Major Patrick Ferguson¹⁵ took advantage of the temporary British hegemony to attempt to bring under control the country to the west of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Using two paroled patriot prisoners as his messengers, Ferguson sent a message of ultimatum westward to Col. Isaac Shelby in mountainous Sullivan County (then in North Carolina, now in Tennessee). The message said that if Shelby

and his mountain men continued to oppose British control, then Ferguson would "march his army over the mountains, hang their leaders, and lay their country waste with fire and sword."¹⁶ This ultimatum coalesced the opposition of mountain leaders such as Col. Charles McDowell of Burke County, North Carolina, Col. John "Nolichucky Jack" Sevier of what is now Washington County, Tennessee, Col. William Campbell of Washington (now Smyth) County, Virginia, Col. Benjamin Cleveland of Wilkes County, North Carolina, and Major Joseph Winston of Surry County, North Carolina. Together with Shelby, each of these men agreed to raise a fighting force from their respective localities and bring them to an assembly at Sycamore Shoals on the Watauga River on the 25th of September.

Thus came into being the fighting force ever more to be immortalized as the "Overmountain Men." Of course, much of that fighting force already existed, though its elements were widely scattered and had not previously been conjoined. Mountain men had for years been fighting Indians as part of the ongoing westward expansion and settlement. Indeed, even during the War of Revolution, Thomas Jefferson had been so eager to secure Virginia's claims to the Ohio country that he had tried to send part of the Virginia militia to that region during the summer of 1780.¹⁷ But the mountain men had declined, preferring to stay close to home.¹⁸

These overmountain men were skilled woodsmen, fine horsemen, and expert riflemen. They were almost all Presbyterians,¹⁹ Scots-Irish and Scots by birth or descent, most deriving from northern Ireland or the north British border country. They were thus steeped in the tactics and traditions of border wars²⁰ and had been recently further tempered by their bitter and brutal experiences of Indian fighting. Almost miraculously, they were the very men to revive the Revolutionary cause – though neither they nor George III knew beforehand that such was to be their destiny.

The Battle of King's Mountain

The story of the Battle of King's Mountain is sufficiently well known from the many standard sources²¹ to require in this section no more than a précis for the purpose of providing a context for the

Creswell letter. The reader will see that Creswell's account in his letter is fully consistent with this précis.

After assembling on September 25th at Sycamore Shoals, near modern-day Elizabethton, Tennessee, the combined militia force marched south as a united citizen army.²² As September waned and the weather turned cold and wet, the army crossed Yellow Mountain Gap, at an elevation of 4,682 feet, marched through Spruce Pine, and skirted Linville Mountain on its western flank. By October 2, the army was drying out in North Carolina near Pilot Mountain. On October 5, the army was near the North Carolina-South Carolina border, but, lacking good intelligence, was heading west, away from Ferguson's force. Early on the morning of October 6, news came of Ferguson's whereabouts. The army swung around and marched through the day to Cowpens, where the men ate a hasty evening meal, and pushed on through a rainy night towards King's Mountain – as Creswell himself describes in his letter.

The prominence called King's Mountain is a stony humpback roughly 700 yards long by 300 yards wide. Although now wooded on its broad top and on its steeply sloping sides, at the time of the battle it was crested by a narrow, grassy area (a bald) where the tents of Ferguson's force were pitched. The overmountain army advanced rapidly, with surprising speed. Professional opinions differ as to whether Ferguson was either unable²³ or unwilling²⁴ to escape eastward to rejoin Cornwallis, only 40 miles away.

But whether Ferguson was there at King's Mountain by choice, or there because the overmountain men had marched sufficiently fast to catch him, Ferguson believed his defensive position on the humpback to be impregnable, declaring that "the Almighty could not drive him from it."²⁵ He was wrong, and the history of the world turned on his error.

The plan of attack was straightforward: surround the mountain and trap its defenders in a constantly shrinking perimeter of fire as the mountain sides were scaled. Four columns of men marched abreast to a point where they separated and spread out to positions along the base of the mountain. Around 3:00 pm, from their various positions, they began more-or-less simultaneously to climb the slopes. This method of advance relied heavily on their skills as riflemen and expe-



rience as Indian fighters. They used the cover on the slopes provided by the rocks and trees and fired with withering accuracy.

They were formidable and unstoppable. The action was concluded in an hour, perhaps a little more. Ferguson himself lay dead. The report²⁶ prepared two weeks later by the commanders placed Ferguson's losses as 225 killed, 163 wounded, 716 prisoners, and none escaped, a total killed, wounded, and captured of 1,104. The losses of the patriots were 28 killed and 62 wounded, a total of 90. Indeed a "brilliant victory," as recorded on the plaque at the site quoted above.

Andrew Creswell

As a low-ranking participant in the King's Mountain battle, Andrew Creswell is only a minor historical figure and as such escaped the attention of even the encyclopedic Lyman Draper,²⁷ whose extensive index passes directly from Crawford to Crider's Fort. However, in an age when popular interest in genealogy has been greatly stimulated and enhanced by the internet, it is possible to reconstruct something of his biography, relying solely on online sources.²⁸

According to the Mary Blount Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Blount County, Tennessee, Andrew Creswell was born on January 12, 1757, and died on July 16, 1838. He was married to Dorothy Evans, and is buried in Eusebia Church Cemetery²⁹ in Blount County, Tennessee, where the chapter placed a marker in 1976.³⁰

Revolutionary War soldier's pension rolls³¹ show that Andrew Creswell, a private of the Virginia Line³² from Sevier County, Tennessee, received a \$40 annual pension for three years, beginning on Oc-

Figure 3. Andrew Creswell was formerly a member of the Virginia line. Seen here recently at Yorktown Victory Center is native Pennsylvanian and former member of the U.S. Navy, Don Reinart, wearing the uniform of a sergeant of the Virginia line. Reinert observed that members of the line would not have been dressed this well by 1780, the time that King's Mountain was fought. Creswell at King's Mountain would probably have been wearing typical mountaineer's skin clothing.

— Photograph by Jim Glanville.

tober 25, 1833, when he was recorded as being 76 years old. His daughter, Nancy Creswell,³³ was born on February 5, 1776.

After the war Creswell lived in Tennessee and was the victim of an Indian attack, as attested by the following quote:³⁴

In 1792 and 1793 the Indian outrages came thick and fast. ... Andrew Creswell was a settler, living in the neighborhood of McGaughey's station. He had with him his family and two other men. One day William Cunningham, walking along a winding road through the forest, heard a shot, felt a sharp pain in his right arm, and saw behind a neighboring tree the figure of a lurking Indian. Cunningham ran with all haste to Creswell's house. He clutched the door-knob, pushed his way in, and fell breathless on the floor. Every inmate of the cabin knew at once what it meant. Doors and windows were barricaded. They waited, but no foe appeared. An agitated conference was held as to whether they should abandon the cabin and seek refuge at McGaughey's station³⁵ or not. Mrs. Creswell spoke. She said, "I would rather die than go live in the filth and confinement of the stockade."

"Then," said Creswell, "I will defend this house until it is burned over my head." Every preparation was made for defense. From the barn-door a long lever reaching into the house underneath the ground, was arranged so that it could not be opened except from the inside of the house. With this and other arrangements, Creswell calmly awaited the foe. Whether they ever came or not we do not know. Such was the courage of the settlers.

Colonel John Preston

We know a good deal about Colonel John Preston³⁶ of Walnut Grove, to whom Creswell addressed his letter. Our John Preston was the grandson of the earlier John Preston (1726-1796) of Londonderry, the progenitor of the Walnut Grove branch of the Preston family. Our John Preston was the husband of Margaret Preston and together they had fourteen children. Margaret was the twelfth child of Colonel William Preston and his wife Susanna Smith of Smithfield. Our John Preston was a captain in the War of 1812, later a colonel of the 105th Virginia Militia, and presiding Justice of Washington County from 1820 to 1852.

What we don't know are the circumstances that led Creswell to write his letter to Preston, 42 years after the battle. As noted above, Creswell fought in the Virginia Line, and that possibly is his link to Preston. Preston, in turn, perhaps had a taste for history, a common enough trait among Abingdon lawyers. But to say even this much pushes us close to the edge of outright speculation.

Conclusions

The first broad conclusion we reach is that Creswell's account squares well with the known facts of the battle. Nothing in his letter contradicts the traditional account of the events of October 7, 1780.

A second and historically important conclusion we reach is that Creswell's letter finally answers a long unanswered question posed in 1889 by Theodore Roosevelt: "...[did] Campbell or another of Shelby's brothers receive De Peyster's sword." Creswell answers thus:

Dupoister came forward with his sword hilt foremost Campbell accosted him in these words I am happy to see you sir. Dupoister in answer swore by his maker he was not happy to see him under the present circumstances at the same time delivered up his sword....

Campbell received De Peyster's sword!

A third minor conclusion involves the so called Shelby-Campbell controversy.³⁷ Thirty or forty years after the battle, allegations by Isaac Shelby and others surfaced suggesting William Campbell had shown cowardice at the battle. These allegations were at the time demonstrated to be false: probably a case of mistaken identity combined with political ambition. However, although scholars have long since conceded that Campbell's reputation was unstained, Creswell's account provides direct eyewitness testimony of Campbell's presence in the thick of the fighting and confirms that this notorious controversy has been properly and definitively settled in Campbell's favor.

Acknowledgments

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mistakes, infelicities, and embarrassments that remain are the sole responsibility of the authors.

Endnotes

1. Some authors, perhaps more punctilious in their English usage than others, write "King's Mountain" but "Kings Mountain" is more common. A Google search in July 2005 yielded 36,000 hits for the latter in conjunction with the word "battle," while only 13,300 for the former. Both usages are employed here.
2. <www.henry.descendants.us/>
3. Thomas Jefferson, Letter concerning the Battle of Kings Mountain to John Campbell, Esq. at Richmond, Monticello, Nov. 10, 1822. Online at <<http://philnorf.tripod.com/letterof.htm>> Jefferson added the following postscript: "I received at the same time with your letter one from William G. Preston on the same subject. Writing is so slow and painful to one that I must pray you to make for me my acknowledgment to him and my request that he will consider this as an answer to his as well your favor." Jefferson was writing in response to inquiries about the behavior of William Campbell at the battle, as discussed in the "Conclusions" section of this paper.
4. Theodore Roosevelt, *The Winning of the West*, vol. 2 (New York: Knickerbocker Press, 1889), Chapter IX, "King's Mountain, 1780," pp. 150-85. Hereafter cited as Roosevelt, *Winning*.
5. Quoted in "Historical Statement Concerning the Battle of Kings Mountain," Prepared by the Historical Section of the Army War College, 70th Congress, 1st Session House Document No. 328 (United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1928). On line at <<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/books/RevWar/KM-Cpns/AWC-KM-FM.htm>> Hereafter cited as "Historical Statement of the War College."
6. Hartwell L. Quinn, *Arthur Campbell: Pioneer and Patriot of the Old Southwest*. (Jefferson, North Carolina: Macfarland Publishers, 1990), pp. 121-2.
7. J. David Dameron, *King's Mountain: The Defeat of the Loyalists, October 7, 1780* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Da Capo Press, 2003), p. 123. Hereafter cited as "Dameron, *King's Mountain*." Dameron writes "Original historical records of Loyalists and Patriots who served on King's Mountain are rare, and the starting point for serious research is the Lyman C. Draper manuscripts. These records are vast, but not widely available. There is a microfilm copy (twelve rolls) available in the King's Mountain National Military Park Archives (you must request an appointment through the park director).
8. Lyman C. Draper, *King's Mountain and Its Heroes: History of the Battle of King's Mountain and the Events Which Led to It* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, Co., 1983, and various other facsimile reprints. Originally published Cincinnati, 1881). Hereafter cited as "Draper, *King's Mountain*." The name of Creswell does not appear in Draper's lengthy index, so the Creswell letter escaped Draper's evidentiary vacuum cleaner. Concerning Draper's book the unnamed authors of the 1928 Historical Section of the Army War College Report on the battle wrote: "Collection of material for this history covered a period of 40 years. The book contains much source material of varying worth."
9. Letter from Andrew Creswell of Sevier County, Tennessee, to Colonel John Preston of Walnut Grove, near Abingdon, Virginia, dated December 8, 1822. Original copy in the collection of Hubert Gilliam of Kingsport, Tennessee.
10. Roosevelt, *Winning*, p. 185. "But it is a fair question as to whether Campbell or another of Shelby's brothers received De Peyster's sword," is the concluding sentence of Teddy Roosevelt's long chapter about King's Mountain.
11. Ian Creswell, Post of August 22, 2003, at the Creswell Family Genealogy Forum describing the Creswell Family History and Genealogy (Published in 1967). On line at <<http://genforum.genealogy.com/creswell/messages/283.html>>
12. James Dysart was an Irishman born in Donegal around 1744. He entered the United States at Philadelphia in 1761 and, like so many others of his Scots-Irish kin, migrated southwest down the Appalachian chain, finally settling in Washington County, Virginia, some time before 1770. He was badly wounded in the left hand at the battle (Draper, *King's Mountain*, p. 404). He died in Kentucky in 1818 after a long and useful civic life in Washington County. See: Lewis Preston Summers, *History of Southwest Virginia, 1746-1786*. Washington County, 1777-1870 (Johnson City, Tennessee: Overmountain Press, 1989). Originally published 1903.
13. Abraham DePeyster was second in command of the loyalist forces at King's Mountain. Born in New York in 1753, he served as a Captain in the New York Volunteers and saw action at the siege of Charleston and with Ferguson during the summer of 1780. After the war he became a militia colonel.
14. Bruce Lancaster and J. H. Plumb, *The American Heritage Book of the Revolution* (New York: American Heritage Publishing Company, 1958).
15. Patrick Ferguson was a major at the time of the battle, although the order promoting him to colonel had already been issued. A Scot from Aberdeen, the son of a nobleman, and a single man with a good reputation among the ladies, he was 35 years old at the time of the battle and had been a successful soldier for 20 years, seeing service in Europe and the Caribbean. An ordnance specialist, he was skilled at the use of weapons and was the inventor of a patented breech-loading rifle (named after him) that had the potential to change the tactics of war as then constituted. By all accounts he was well suited to the task of organizing the Tory and loyalist forces in the South.
16. General Joseph Graham, "The Battle of Kings Mountain, with anecdotes," *The Southern Literary Messenger*, September 30, 1845. Published on line at the "New River Notes" web site at <www.lsn.net/~newriver/misc/kingsmt1.htm>
17. Annotation to letter of Thomas Jefferson to the Lieutenant of Berkeley Co. Dated October 22, 1780. On line at <www.gilderlehrman.org/search/display_results.php?id=GLC0636> The letter is titled "Concerning the arrival of British troops & mobilizing militia."
18. No more than two months after King's Mountain, many of the overmountain men were once again in the field, this time fighting against the Cherokees. Perhaps incited by Cornwallis in retaliation for the British defeat at King's Mountain, the Cherokees rose up and attacked the western mountain settle-

- ments. Led by John Sevier and William Campbell's brother Arthur, of Royal Oak (modern-day Marion) and Saltaville, the overmountain men burned many native towns, wreaked havoc, and broke the uprising. See Patricia Johnson Givens, *William Preston and the Allegheny Patriots* (Blacksburg, Virginia: Walpa Publishing, 1976), pp. 272-4.
19. In his book, *How the Scots Invented the Modern World: The True Story of How Western Europe's Poorest Nation Created Our World & Everything in It* (New York: Crown Publishing Group, 2001), at the top of chapter nine, titled "That Great Design: Scots in America," Arthur Herman places the following epigraph: "Call this war by whatever name you may, only call it not an American rebellion; it is nothing more or less than a Scotch Irish Presbyterian rebellion. — Anonymous Hessian Officer, 1778."
20. Historian David Hackett Fischer, writing in *Albion's Seed: Four British Folkways in America* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1989), uses the phrase "from the borderlands to the back country" to characterize the transatlantic movement of people of Scots and Scots-Irish stock who formed the founding European population of the middle Appalachians. In Virginia, the Prestons and Campbells were typical of this tough, hard-bitten breed.
21. Historical Statement of the War College. Draper, *King's Mountain*; Dameron, *King's Mountain*; William Campbell, Isaac Shelby, and Benjamin Cleveland, "The official report of the Battle of Kings Mountain to Major General Horatio Gates" in Draper, *King's Mountain*, pp. 522-524 and titled "A Statement of the proceedings of the Western Army, from the 25th of September, 1780, to the reduction of Major Ferguson, and the army under his command." The statement is not dated, but was probably written in late October 1780, two to three weeks after the battle. Hank Messick, *King's Mountain: The Epic of the Blue Ridge "Mountain Men" in the American Revolution* (Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1976); Pat Alderman, *One Heroic Hour at King's Mountain* (Johnson City, Tennessee: The Overmountain Press, 1968; reprinted 1990 with added index). Locally written accounts of the battle can be found in "Memorial Addresses on the Battle of Kings Mountain" (Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia, Bulletin, 1938) which includes the addresses of Francis Preston in 1810 and Lewis Preston Summers in 1938.
22. The route of march, as well as the routes taken by other units that joined late in the march, have been collectively designated by the U.S. Park Service as the "Overmountain Victory Trail." The Park Service has published an excellent (undated) brochure and map with that name in cooperation with the Overmountain Victory Trail Association. See www.nps.gov/ovvt
23. Ensign Robert Campbell concluded that Ferguson waited for the attack on his chosen ground because he "must inevitably be overtaken" by the rapid pursuit. See pp. 537-8 in the appendix to Draper, *King's Mountain*.
24. The staff of the War College concluded that Ferguson "acted with deliberation and with full intent to engage in battle" by taking up a defensive position and "remaining there for 24 hours before the enemy came in sight." *Historical Statement of the War College*, pp. 23-4.
25. Quoted by Isaac Shelby, p. 543 in the appendix to Draper, *King's Mountain*.
26. Draper, *King's Mountain*, pp. 522-4.
27. Draper, *King's Mountain*.
28. Other than what is available on line, the authors have been unable to find any traditional library resources that refer to Creswell.
29. Blount County, where Creswell is buried, and Sevier County, where he made his home, lie just north of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in southeastern present-day Tennessee.
30. <http://iscnma.org/dar/Mary/Eusebia.htm>
31. Tennessee Pension Roll of 1835. Copied and indexed by William R. Navey, Holly Ridge, NC 28445. Available on line at <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/tn/military/pen1835.txt>
32. A different online source citing the "DAR Patriot Index Cent. Ed. Page 706" states that Andrew Creswell was in South Carolina Service. See <http://www.sevierlibrary.org/genalogy/militalist/revwar.htm>
33. <http://rpevans.home.att.net/und-ch7.pdf>
34. Augustus Lynch Mason, Chapter XIX, "The Troubles of the Tennesseans" in *The Romance and Tragedy of Pioneer Life: A popular account of the heroes and adventurers who, by their valor and war-craft, beat back the savages from the borders of civilization and gave the American forests to the plow and the sickle* (Cincinnati: Jones Brothers and Co., 1883). On line at <http://www.usgenet.org/usa/topic/colonial/pioneer/chap19.html>
35. A settlers' fort on Boyd's Creek in Sevier County.
36. John Frederick Dorman, *The Prestons of Smithfield and Greenfield in Virginia* (Louisville: The Filson Club, 1982), pp. 72-4.
37. For a discussion of this long and convoluted story see Mason G. Robertson and June N. Stubbs, "The Strange Campbell/Shelby Controversy and the Role of John Broady at the Battle of Kings Mountain," *The Smithfield Review*, vol. 7 (2003), pp. 27-47. See also Draper, *King's Mountain*, pp. 559-91.