



# Wells Family Association, Inc.

WELLS FAMILY NEWS

VOL. 7

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WAS SUBMITTED BY PAULA WELLS OF GREENUP, KENTUCKY. PAULA IS THE NEWLY ELECTED HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEMBER. PAULA HAS GIVEN MANY HOURS TO RESEARCHING WELLS GENOLOGY AND HELPING PLAN OUR REUNIONS YEAR AFTER YEAR.

### RICHARD WELLS IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

We are descendants of Richard Wells and Susannah Hutchinson. Richard was born in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1760 and went to live in Augusta, Ga. with his uncle, Dr. George Wells.

In the Revolutionary War, Richard was drafted into the Army in Augusta, first in January 1779 for six months and then later for three months. In January 1779, he marched from Augusta down the Savannah River and crossed the river into South Carolina and joined General Lincoln's Army about 32 miles from Savannah. After waiting here a while, he was marched back to Augusta. He was made a non-commissioned officer in his company and an orderly "Sargent" and had to make out morning reports. A few "Kings men" were in prison in Augusta awaiting trial for plundering.

In the spring of 1779, he was marched down to Charleston to follow the British Army to that town. As he recalls, cotton was being planted at that time. He was with a group of soldiers sent to dislodge a party of the enemy on Edisto River, S.C. The enemy was placed behind a fence near a house. After a brisk resistance, the Tories (Americans who fought for the British) all fled. "We took some guns," Richard Wells said, "chiefly rifles, some powder and some saddles." Also eight prisoners. The next day they marched to rejoin the main Army and were in the battle of Stone Landing, S.C. "It was a hard fought battle," he reported in his pension papers, "but the Americans suffered most and lost between one and two hundred men." He was discharged in July 1779.

In September 1779, he was again drafted in the militia in Augusta, Ga. to help take Savannah, Ga. from the British who were then in possession of it. In the attack, the Americans "did not take the place and was defeated." Several hundred men were killed in the battle. He was later sent to the "Ogechy River" in Georgia after some Tories who "having broke out there again were doing much mischief," killing and driving off livestock. After two weeks here, he marched back to Augusta, where he received his

discharge.

In 1780, he moved to Washington County, Va., and there remained. He had left Georgia because the Tories had over-run all of the state and "he with many more was compelled to flee and leave Georgia or join Lord Cornwallis." Lord Cornwallis was the British General. In May 1780, he entered the service (enlisted) for a year as an Indian spy. He spied not only in western Virginia but also over the Cumberland mountains on the Kentucky-Virginia border and into Kentucky and followed the Indians along the Kentucky and Big Sandy rivers. "The Indians had traces (pathways) from the Ohio (River), and, for many years before he served, they had come to the Clinch River, "in western Virginia to attack white settlers. The manner of "spiiing" (spying) was that groups of three and four white men would go together, living on the frontier until the cold weather of winter forced them to return to the settlements and forts until winter broke. After Christmas, Richard Wells went from the frontier to the Rye Cove and stayed until spring when he returned to the frontier and remained until his discharge in May, 1781. He reports that "some few Indians were killed."

In 1797, he married Susannah Hutchinson in Russell Co. (later Scott) Va. They had 11 children born in Virginia. Around 1820-25, they moved to Floyd Co., Ky. (now Johnson Co.) and lived on a farm on Daniels Creek. Richard died in 1838. His wife died in 1862.

(Source: Richard Wells Pension Papers, National Archives, Washington D.C.)

by Paula Wells, Greenup, Ky.

### TREASURES REPORT

BY

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Bal. July 16, 1988 .....		\$1093.61
1988 Reunion Expenses \$483.01	610.60	
Sell of 1988 Memorial Books .....	\$1,366.38	
1988 Reunion general offering .....	155.48	
Donation for Grave Markers .....	49.50	
1989 Calender project .....	61.00	
Sell of Cookbooks, Documents, Etc.	234.00	