Pittsburghers as a class are greatly lacking in loyalty to their city. They do not stand up and defend her as they should, and they are entirely too modest in making known to the world the greatness of their community. This is a much more serious matter than the citizens of Pittsburgh realize and may have much to do with holding back their city from assuming the position to which she is entitled among the great cities of the country.

This condition is due in great part to the ignorance of the majority of the people of this region as to the early history of Pittsburgh and of this section of Pennsylvania; what the average citizen does not know about the glorious part his own state has taken in the development of this country would fill very many volumes.

It is with this thought in mind that this review of the important and eventful periods in the early history of Pittsburgh and this section of Pennsylvania has been prepared.

Lincoln was right when he referred to the "Grand old State of Allegheny", perhaps more than he himself had in mind at the time of making that famous remark which no doubt was political in its immediate connection; yet Lincoln must have been familiar with the important part which Allegheny County and the section in which it is located has played in the development of America.

*Paper read before the Historical Society, March 31, 1925.
The study of local history is always doubly interesting. All history is interesting to thoughtful people, and especially so when it is closely connected with the scenes and environments of their daily life. Pittsburghers are particularly fortunate in having their home located in a section where three of the mightiest rivers of our country meet; where the question as to whether or not the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys were to be dominated by the Latin or the Anglo Saxon Race was forever settled, and where in the "Dark and Bloody Ground," the brave and courageous pioneers, in search of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for themselves and their loved ones, waged unceasing warfare against the bloody savages, risking everything that was dear to them. Is not the realization of living in a region with such a history, sufficient to send the red blood coursing through the veins of every loyal American?

There are four events, or more properly, series of events, in the early history of our Country with which Pittsburgh and Southwestern Pennsylvania are very closely associated, viz:—

First: the contest between the French and English for the supremacy of the Upper Ohio Valley, with which the name of Washington is so closely connected.

Second: the Conspiracy of Pontiac, which was the final organized effort on the part of the Indians to withstand the encroachments of the English west of the Alleghenies.

Third: the Pennsylvania-Virginia Boundary Controversy, which was closely associated with Mason and Dixon's Line and which is so familiar to all students of American history.

Fourth: the Whiskey Insurrection which, owing to the principles involved, determined and settled, aided very greatly in firmly establishing the young American Government which was still in the experimental stage.

The name of Pittsburgh alone is a subject sufficient to fill a volume. "The Forks of the Ohio" passed through many thrilling experiences before it received its permanent name.

Celeron de Bienville, the French emissary sent by the Governor of Canada to warn the English out of the Ohio Valley, passed by the site of Pittsburgh, apparently without stopping, in his journey down "la Belle Riviere" (the
beautiful river) in the summer of 1749. This visit was re-
paid in kind by Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia who in 1753
sent Maj. George Washington, a youth of twenty-one, with
a similar message to the French Commandant at Fort Le
Boeuf on French Creek, near Lake Erie, warning the French
out of the same region.

Washington passed over the site of Pittsburgh on this
memorable trip, and it was on his return that the event oc-
curred which so nearly ended his earthly career, when he
fell into the Allegheny River amid the floating ice, but
managed to land on Wainwright's Island, where with his
companion, Christopher Gist, whose hands and feet were
badly frozen, he spent the night. The preservation of the
life of Washington on this occasion is a striking proof of the
guiding hand of Providence in the affairs of our country.

This incident has been lately fitly commemorated by
that magnificent monument, the Washington Crossing
Bridge, recently dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. It
is certainly gratifying that art, beauty and sentiment are
now recognized, and that the Gradgrind principle of "facts,
facts, nothing but facts" is not now the governing element
in construction heretofore considered purely utilitarian.

Washington thus describes the Forks of the Ohio in
his journal of this trip.

"I spent some time in viewing the rivers, and the land
at the Fork, which I think extremely well situated for a
Fort, as it has the absolute command of both rivers. The
land at the point is twenty or twenty-five feet above the
common surface of the water, and a considerable bottom of
flat, well timbered land all around it, very convenient for
building. The rivers are each a quarter of a mile across,
and run here very nearly at right angles; Allegheny bear-
ing Northeast and Monongahela Southeast. The former of
these two is a very rapid and swift running water, the other
deep and still, without any perceptible fall." Washington
Irving states that the Ohio Company had intended to build
a fort about two miles from this place on the Southeast side
of the river, but Washington gave the Fork the decided
preference. French engineers of experience proved the
accuracy of his military eye, by subsequently choosing it for
the site of Fort Duquesne.
The struggle between the English and the French for the possession of the Ohio Valley became inevitable, but the Pennsylvania Assembly refused to take any steps whatever towards defending from French aggression the portion of their colony which lay west of the Alleghenies.

Southwestern Pennsylvania is certainly under no obligation to either the non-combatant Quaker or the stolid German farmer who at that time controlled the colony. The Provincial Assembly never made the slightest effort to assist in winning the western portion of the state, or in settling, developing or protecting it during the period that France laid claim to it.

To Governor Dinwiddie, of Virginia, is due the chief credit for the movement to combat the French occupation of the Upper Ohio Valley. He found it very difficult to gather a force together but finally was able to secure a nondescript company of some three hundred men. In the meantime Captain Trent had been sent forward with a small company to built a fort on the Forks of the Ohio. He reached the spot in February 1754 with forty backwoods-men who began work. Captain Trent for some unexplained reason went back to Wills Creek (Cumberland) leaving Ensign Ward in charge. Suddenly on the 17th of April a swarm of bateaux and canoes came down the river with from five hundred to one thousand men on board who landed, planted cannon and compelled Ward to surrender. The French proceeded at once to built a fort which they called Fort Duquesne in honor of the Governor General of Canada. This stood very near the point at the junction of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers.

On the 28th of May occurred the next conflict between the English and the French, which while little more than a skirmish, yet in its far-reaching results, was one of the important events of the world's history. Washington was reconnoitering with a small party, preparing to carry out Dinwiddie's instructions to attack and recover Fort Duquesne. He met a small French scouting party, which had been sent out from the fort, in command of Ensign Jumonville. In the struggle which ensued Jumonville was killed with nine of his party. The French made much of this incident, claiming that Jumonville was carrying a flag of truce.
Francis Parkman, in his introduction to that wonderful work, *Montcalm and Wolfe*, refers to this event as follows:

“The strife that armed all the civilized world began here. ‘Such was the complication of political interests,’ says Voltaire, ‘that a cannon-shot fired in America could give the signal that set Europe in a blaze.’ Not quite. It was not a cannon-shot, but a volley from the hunting pieces of a few backwoodsmen, commanded by a Virginian youth, George Washington.”

A few weeks later, on July 3rd, a French army, nine hundred strong under command of Coulon de Villiers, a brother of the slain Jumonville, attacked Washington with his force of four hundred Virginians who were almost without either ammunition or provisions, at Fort Necessity, in the Great Meadows, and compelled surrender upon the terms that Washington with his force were to be allowed to retire without molestation and colors flying.

This historic spot is very accessible from Pittsburgh, being on the National Highway beyond Uniontown, some three miles east of the Summit House. Jumonville’s grave is only a few miles away and General Braddock’s grave and monument are near by. It is interesting to follow along the road on the crest of the mountain and see the ruts actually worn by the wagons and cannon of Braddock’s army. A few years ago when I visited the place I met an old tavern keeper who told me the story told him by old settlers of a man who had been in Braddock’s army. This individual when under the influence of liquor would tell of having shot General Braddock in revenge for having struck his brother with his sword for refusing to fight the Indians in the open. It seems to be well authenticated that General Braddock was shot by one of his own men, and there may have been a measure of truth in the story.

Events followed thick and fast. The capture of the fort which the Virginians had attempted to build at the junction of the Allegheny and the Monongahela Rivers, the construction of Fort Duquesne by the French, and the defeat at Great Meadows finally woke up the English who in modern language “got busy”, and the gathering together of Braddock’s army, and the ensuing defeat of that General,
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with which Pittsburghers are so familiar, was the result. The chief object of Braddock's campaign was the capture of Fort Duquesne and the effort ended in complete disaster.

There are two outstanding characteristics of the British Nation during its entire history:

First, innate capacity for stupidity and blundering.

Second, the fact that an Englishman never has sense enough to know when he is whipped.

This last characteristic has been the salvation of the nation, for without it England would have ceased to exist centuries ago. For proof of these two propositions reference is made to the history of the last war, the greatest war of all time. The most striking exception was in the War of the American Revolution, and even then the British had to be whipped a second time in the War of 1812 before giving up.

But speaking in all seriousness where would England be today if she had been victorious in the War of the American Revolution, and there had been no United States to have saved her from destruction by Germany in 1918?

The next expedition sent by the English for the capture of Fort Duquesne was under General Forbes in 1758, which started from Philadelphia and was the first campaign in Western Pennsylvania in which Pennsylvania took any part. Forbes Road was cut through by this expedition, an undertaking which greatly delayed the progress of the army. General Forbes, although a brave and gallant soldier, was very ill throughout the campaign, and had to be carried on a litter. Col. George Washington accompanied General Forbes in this expedition. A very unfortunate affair in connection with this campaign was the so-called Battle of Grant's Hill. Maj. James Grant was sent forward with eight hundred men by Col. Bouquet, who was the second in command to General Forbes, to reconnoiter Fort Duquesne; but on arriving at the hill where the Court House is now located, Maj. Grant proceeded to send a portion of his force to attack the Fort itself. The attack was ill advised, ill timed, and resulted in a complete defeat, being another Braddock's Defeat on a small scale. This defeat, however, turned out to the advantage of the English in that a large portion of the garrison at Fort Duquesne was emboldened to leave the Fort and attack part of Forbes' army under com-
mand of Col. Bouquet encamped at Loyalhanna, only to suffer in turn an equally severe defeat. The remaining French forces at Fort Duquesne were comparatively insignificant and in no condition to withstand a siege, and on November 24, 1758, the French destroyed the fort by blowing up the magazine and abandoned the place, thus ending the French possession which had lasted only four years.

It must have been an exciting moment when a force under Col. Armstrong ran up the banner of St. George and, amid the acclamations of the exulting, triumphant soldiers, General Forbes named the ruins *Pittsburgh*. This is the important date for Pittsburghers to remember, its birthday on November 25, 1758.

A small fort was at once built, but General Stanwix arrived in the summer of 1759 and began the erection of a permanent structure which, to quote from a contemporary letter was "a most formidable fortification, such a one as will to latest posterity secure the British possessions on the Ohio."

This must have been an imposing fortress for those days. It was large enough to accommodate a garrison of one thousand men. Judge Brackenridge, in a communication to the *Pittsburgh Gazette* in 1786, states that it had cost the British Government sixty thousand pounds, say upwards of three hundred thousand dollars, a very large sum at that time.

Within thirteen years, however, Gen. Gage, the commanding officer of the British forces in America, issued orders to abandon Fort Pitt and the material in it was sold for fifty pounds. It was not destroyed at that time as it was occupied by Dr. Connolly, the representative of Lord Dunmore during the Virginia occupation of this section, and also constantly used during the Revolutionary War.

After the close of the Revolution the fort apparently fell into disuse. In 1784 the ground upon which it was located was sold to Maj. Isaac Craig and Col. Stephen Bayard. In 1791 Maj. Craig, in a letter to the Secretary of War, states that Messrs. Turnbull and Marmie continue to pull down and sell the materials of the fort.

According to Neville B. Craig in 1800 the ramparts of Fort Pitt were still standing, as well as a portion of the officer's quarters. The probability is that the fort was used
as a quarry from which materials were taken to erect the houses in early Pittsburgh. A few years ago I was told by a contractor who had sunk exploratory shafts in locating the foundations for the Pennsylvania Warehouses in the Point District, that at some sixty feet under ground he had found a very fine piece of masonry consisting of a wall six feet thick, which had apparently formed part of the foundation of Fort Pitt.

What would it have meant for Pittsburgh of today if the City Fathers of one hundred and forty years ago had had sufficient foresight and vision to reserve the point as public ground for the use of the people, the same as the parks of the North Side, and also to have preserved Fort Pitt intact as one of the historic spots of the nation. It would have been one of the show places of America. A few years ago I visited Crown Point, Fort Ticonderoga and Fort William Henry, all at least partially preserved, and attracting thousands of visitors every year. Many Pittburghers have seen Fort Mackinac, the best preserved of any of the fortifications connected with the early history of our country.

Of course this is merely an idle dream. In the first place there were no City Fathers for many years after the naming of Pittsburgh. It was not incorporated as a borough until 1794, and did not become a city until 1816. The early settlers of Pittsburgh had a hard struggle to keep soul and body together, raise their families, and build up their community, and had little money or energy left for sentiment outside of religion, patriotism and desire to educate their children.

We now come to the second period in the history of this section, in which Pittsburgh is vitally interested, the Indian uprising under Pontiac. The conquest of Fort Duquesne and the naming of Pittsburgh did not by any means end the troubles of the future metropolis of the upper Ohio Valley. The fall of Quebec in 1759 ended the French power in America. The French, however, had always been more successful than the English in winning the attachment and support of the Indians, who had learned from sad experience that they could not continue in possession of their hunting grounds and their tribal existence and allow the English to continue to advance into their coun-
The discontent of the Indians after the fall of Quebec became a vital matter. This resulted in the conspiracy of Pontiac so vividly portrayed by Francis Parkman in his volume bearing that title. Pontiac was a Chief of the Ottawas, shrewd, eloquent and brave. He planned to attack suddenly all of the English posts on the border. The blow fell without warning and in the early summer of 1763 all fell except Detroit, Fort Pitt and Niagara.

Captain Ecuyer was in command at Fort Pitt and well it was for the Province that such a man was in charge at such an important post. He became suspicious of the actions of the Indians in the vicinity of the fort and kept a close watch. Soon outrages and murder began to occur and all the settlers near Pittsburgh were brought inside the fort. The Indians increased in numbers and boldness. Provisions became very scarce inside the fort. Capt. Ecuyer seems to have been in advance of his time, and used some of the methods employed in the late World War, for he tells of giving two Indians, who came in to persuade him to surrender, two blankets and a handkerchief out of the smallpox hospital which he hoped would have the desired effect.

A relief force was on the way, an army having been assembled at Carlisle under Col. Bouquet. This force was suddenly attacked at Bushy Run, some twenty-two miles east of Pittsburgh. Altho the battle that ensued was not so important from the number involved, yet the decisive result of the encounter made it one of the most important battles in the history of the country, ranking with Great Meadows and Braddock's Defeat, for it virtually ended Pontiac's War. It was one of the most determined and bloody battles ever fought by unaided Indians against the Whites. For a day it seemed as if the tragedy of Braddock's Field was to be repeated. If this had occurred Fort Pitt would have fallen and all of the settlements west of Carlisle would have been destroyed. But Col Bouquet was not Gen. Braddock, and his soldiers were allowed to use their own methods in repulsing the Indians. Finally when the second day's fighting was well along Col. Bouquet arranged a feigned retreat and ambushed the pursuing Indians, who, true to their nature, were thrown into a panic.
and the battle was won. Fort Pitt, Detroit and Niagara were saved and Pontiac's War was ended.

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania spent a memorable day some years ago on this battlefield. A map of the battlefield was furnished, made from a copy in the British Museum filed with a report of the battle. Bullets are still plowed up in the neighborhood and the spring to which the brave frontiersman crawled at night through the lines of the Indians to fill his hat with water for the wounded soldiers is still doing good service.

Yet how many children in the schools of Allegheny County have ever heard of the Battle of Bushy Run? They know all about Saratoga, Bunker Hill, Lexington, Concord, Yorktown; why should they not also learn something of the equally important battles which were fought near their own homes?

From Bushy Run Col. Bouquet marched to Fort Pitt with his victorious army and saved the people in the fort from starvation and massacre. He strengthened the fort, built the block house which bears his name, Pittsburgh's sole relic of its pre-colonial history, and in the following year marched into Ohio and penetrated into the heart of the Indian country and compelled the submission of all the Indian tribes. One very interesting result of this campaign was the forced surrender by the Indians of all the white prisoners in their possession. Many pathetic incidents are told in connection with this action. Many of the white prisoners had been captured when children and were very reluctant to leave their Indian friends. It is to the credit of the American Indians that as a rule if they did not at once torture and kill their prisoners they usually adopted them into their tribes and treated them kindly according to Indian standards.

The third important series of events to be considered is that period in the history of Pittsburgh when it was not Pittsburgh, neither was it in Pennsylvania. It was called Fort Duquesne and was in Virginia. It is a long story and intensely interesting. Much has been written concerning it. The following is a brief account of the main facts connected with it.

This very peculiar situation was due to the Pennsyl-
vania-Virginia boundary controversy which had lasted for many years.

At the present time it is difficult to realize the important part which boundary disputes have played in the history of Pennsylvania. If the Penn family had meekly submitted to the claims made by Maryland, Connecticut and Virginia, all the part of Pennsylvania lying south of the northerly line of the fortieth degree of north latitude would have been given to Maryland as far as its western border; all the territory north of the northerly line of the forty-first degree of north latitude would have gone to Connecticut; everything west and south of Laurel Ridge, Kiskiminitas Creek, and the Ohio and Allegheny rivers would have become part of Virginia, and a large portion of our state lying west of the Allegheny and north of the Ohio would in all probability have been eventually included within the limits of what is now the state of Ohio. There would have been left to Pennsylvania merely a strip of land not over seventy miles in width, and extending west from Delaware river about three hundred miles. The greater part of what is now Philadelphia would have been located in Maryland and the greater part of what is now Pittsburgh would have been located in Virginia.

The title set up by Virginia to the disputed territory was founded upon the grant to the London Company in 1606 which was revoked in 1624. The later grants to Lord Baltimore for the province of Maryland in 1632, and to William Penn for the province of Pennsylvania in 1681 were specifically described and there should have been little room for argument as to their priority over the forfeited grant to Virginia. The fact that Virginia made such a determined and strenuous claim to this portion of Pennsylvania is due, however, probably more to physical and geographic reasons than political. For many years the mountain ranges of central Pennsylvania created a formidable barrier between the eastern and western portions of our state. The topography of Southwestern Pennsylvania seemed to naturally connect it with Maryland and Virginia.

The early opening of the Ohio Company’s Path, which afterwards became Braddock’s Road, gave an easy access to Southwestern Pennsylvania from the region lying southeast, while the wilderness separating it from the settled
eastern portion of the state remained as impenetrable as ever. For this reason the majority of the very early settlers of southwestern Pennsylvania came from Virginia and Maryland.

The principle of title by conquest and settlement, with utter disregard of all other considerations and rights was very early ingrained into the people of that period. It is, therefore, not at all strange that Virginia soon laid claim to a region which, to anyone possessing any ordinary gift of foresight, seemed destined to occupy an important and strategic position in the history of the nation. In doing this as already stated, Virginia wilfully ignored the prior title of the Penns.

Lord Dunmore's War is closely connected with this attempt of Virginia to extend her borders. The change of the name of Fort Pitt by Virginia to Fort Dunmore, which became the headquarters of the local Virginia authority, while the Penns maintained a rival seat of government at Hannastown, marks the climax of the struggle.

Mason and Dixon's line plays an important part in this story, for while it is the line between Pennsylvania and Maryland, yet the line between Pennsylvania and Virginia as finally agreed upon is merely a prolongation of Mason and Dixon's line.

An association, known as the Ohio Company, was formed in 1748 in Virginia under a royal grant. The primary object of the formation of the Ohio Company was to direct the trade from this region to the Potomac route and to people this section with Virginians. This company was granted 500,000 acres of land west of the mountains to be chiefly on the south side of the Ohio river, between the Monongahela and the Kanawha rivers, but with the privilege to take part of the land north of the Ohio. General Washington's brothers, Lawrence and John Augustine, were largely interested in the Ohio Company. Christopher Gist was its agent to select the lands and conciliate the Indians.

It was this Ohio Company which originally built the fort at the Forks of the Ohio, soon captured by the French and christened Fort Duquesne, but later recaptured by the British and renamed Fort Pitt.
The stirring battle of Great Meadows and its accompanying events so important in the history of our country were participated in almost exclusively by Virginians, as far as the English were concerned. The Pennsylvania Assembly had refused at that time to give any aid to this portion of its own state.

While Braddock's army included two regiments of regular British soldiers; yet the majority of his provincial troops were from Virginia.

I consider therefore that while we are justified in holding that Virginia had no legal claim to this portion of Pennsylvania, yet we should take into account the people which Virginia had been sending into this section, the money spent by her citizens in developing it, and the military forces furnished by Virginia to drive out the French and subdue the Indians. The cowardly, niggardly and parsimonious policy of the Pennsylvania provincial government in refusing to do anything or spend anything for the relief, benefit or development of this portion of the state stands out in very strong contrast from this standpoint. Is it any wonder then that the Virginians easily persuaded themselves to believe that they were honestly and justly entitled to southwestern Pennsylvania?

The boundary dispute may be said to begin with the founding of the Ohio Company; it lasted for thirty-two years, or until Virginia reluctantly ratified the agreement of the Boundary Commissioners in 1780.

The situation did not become acute until the Penns, after the Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1768 and the purchase by them at the time from the Indians of the lands west of the Susquehanna, offered these lands for sale in 1769 at five pounds per hundred acres. In 1771 Bedford County was erected which extended over this country the government of the Penns.

John Murray, Earl of Dunmore, was appointed Governor of Virginia in 1772. Lord Dunmore was unscrupulous, arbitrary and cruel. One of his first acts as Governor was to press the claims of Virginia to southwestern Pennsylvania. He found a willing tool and a man to his liking in one Dr. John Connolly, who, strange to say, was a Pennsylvanian, being a native of Lancaster County.

George Washington, writing in his Journal of his visit
to Fort Pitt in 1770, tells of meeting at Semple's Tavern, Dr. John Connolly, "Nephew of Col. Croghan, a very sensible and intelligent man, who had travelled over a good part of this western country, both by land and water."

Dr. Connolly came to Pittsburgh as the representative of Lord Dunmore in 1773, and erected a small stockade in the ruins of Fort Pitt, calling it Fort Dunmore, and issued a formal proclamation in the name of the Governor of Virginia. Arthur St. Clair, representing the Penns, had Connolly arrested and thrown into jail at Hannastown, but he was released on bail. At the next session of court at Hannastown Connolly reported with one hundred and fifty armed men and arrested the three Justices, sending them under guard to Staunton, Virginia. In a letter from Governor Penn to Lord Dunmore, protesting against Connolly's actions, Penn states that Pittsburgh is *six miles Eastward* of the western extent of his province. Virginia claimed everything west of Laurel Ridge, the present boundary line between Somerset and Westmoreland counties, but her claims do not appear to have extended north of the Kis-kiminitas and Allegheny and the Ohio.

John Penn, as against the pretensions of Virginia, maintained that the southerly line of Pennsylvania was on the line of the fortieth degree of north latitude. He, however, conceded that the westerly line of Pennsylvania must be parallel with the line of the Delaware River at a distance of five degrees of longitude westerly therefrom. The Penns in 1774 offered to compromise with Virginia by extending Mason and Dixon's line to the Monongahela River and then following that river to the Ohio. Virginia rejected this offer as it gave Pittsburgh to Pennsylvania.

If Virginia had accepted this proposition, Pennsylvania would have lost the whole of Green and Washington Counties, all of Allegheny County west and south of the Monongahela and Ohio, practically all of Beaver, Lawrence and Mercer Counties, and portions of Venango, Crawford and Erie Counties. The portions lost to the state north of the Ohio would not have gone to Virginia, but would have passed to the Federal government and in all probability have later become a part of Ohio.

On the other hand, the Virginia Legislature in 1776 passed a resolution providing that the boundary line be-
tween Pennsylvania and Virginia would be the westerly line of Maryland, extended north until it intersected the fortieth degree of north latitude, and running thence westerly along the same to a line five degrees of longitude distant from the Delaware, and thence from said point five degrees from the meanderings of the Delaware.

Thus it will be seen that both Governor Penn and Lord Dunmore at times offered the other more than the other claimed, so little did either know as to the correct location of their boundary lines.

The Virginia courts for the District of West Augusta were held in Pittsburgh, then called Fort Dunmore, during 1775 and 1776. The district was divided into three counties called Ohio, Yohogania and Monongahela. Pittsburgh was in Yohogania county which included the greater part of the present Allegheny and Washington counties. In these days, when women’s rights are kept so prominently in the foreground, it is somewhat startling to read in the old court records of West Augusta District the following court order made Feb. 22, 1775 “Ordered that the Sheriff employ a workman to build a ducking stool at the confluence of the Ohio and Monongahela.” What would the oppressed, down-trodden women of one hundred and fifty years ago, who were threatened with the ducking stool for merely exercising their right of free speech, have thought of their sisters of the present day who now accompany their fathers, husbands and sons to the polls vested with equal rights and privileges?

The courts of Yohogania county were held at the farm of Andrew Heath, a mile or so above West Elizabeth, but within the present lines of Allegheny county, until August 28th, 1780, when the boundary agreement between Pennsylvania and Virginia went into effect. Washington County was erected on March 21, 1781, and the records of Yohogania County, Virginia, became part of the records of Washington County, Pennsylvania.

Lord Dunmore and Dr. Connolly not only stirred up the struggle between Pennsylvania and Virginia, but also, by their continued cruelty and treachery in their dealings with the Indians, brought on the noted Dunmore’s War. The history of this war contains some of the most shameful incidents in the history of our nation. During this
struggle the celebrated speech of Logan, the noted Indian chief, was supposed to have been delivered. I am aware that the iconoclast denies that Logan was the author of this speech, claiming that it was written by Thomas Jefferson. Some descendant of this iconoclast will no doubt endeavor to prove that Logan never existed and that Dunmore's War was a creation of the disordered imagination of the early historians of our country.

The War of the Revolution, however, was close at hand. Lord Dunmore had to flee and Dr. Connolly, being a prominent Tory, was arrested for treason but soon released. He reported to Gen. Gage at Boston, received a commission as Lieutenant Colonel to raise a regiment among the Indians. He was captured at Hagerstown, Maryland, on his way west, and was held prisoner until exchanged in 1781. Virginia continued, however, to maintain her claims for several years after Lord Dunmore and Dr. Connolly had disappeared as actors in this play.

Capt. John Neville arrived in Pittsburgh in August 1775 with a company of one hundred men and took possession of Fort Pitt. Captain, afterwards General Neville, was a true patriot and thoroughly loyal to the Colonies. The Boundary Dispute was dropped temporarily during the struggle with the mother country, and in 1779 both Pennsylvania and Virginia agreed to a joint commission to settle the matter. The line which was agreed upon was an extension of Mason and Dixon's Line which was located nineteen miles south of the fortieth degree of north Latitude, extended five degrees west from the Delaware river, and a meridian due north as the westerly line of the state. This was finally confirmed by the Legislature of both Virginia and Pennsylvania in 1780.

The story of the running of the permanent boundary upon the ground is quite interesting. The commission appointed for this purpose in 1783 consisted, on the part of Virginia, of the Right Rev. James Madison, Bishop of Virginia, Rev. Robert Andrews, John Page and Thomas Lewis. The Pennsylvania commissioners were John Lukens, Surveyor General; Rev. John Ewing, D. D., David Rittenhouse and Thomas Hutchins. The corner was located by astronomical observations, an observatory was erected at Wilmington, Delaware, near the eastern end of the line, and
a similar one near the supposed location of the western end. During the six weeks preceding the autumnal equinox of 1784, continued observations were made to determine the respective meridians and latitude. A representative of each party meeting, they found a difference of twenty minutes, one and one eighth seconds. The original grant of the Penns called for five degrees of longitude. They then calculated that twenty minutes of time were equal to five degrees of longitude, and made allowance for the one and one eighth seconds, and shortened the line to twenty minutes from the Delaware, and thus permanently located the southwest corner of Pennsylvania.

It is very interesting and instructive at this stage of the world's history and progress, especially when at times one hears some pessimist groaning over the degeneracy of the period, to read that notwithstanding the fact that there were two clergymen among the representatives from Virginia and one from Pennsylvania on the boundary commission, during the six weeks' service of these estimable gentlemen there were consumed, or at least furnished for consumption, sixty gallons of spirits, twenty gallons of brandy, forty gallons of madeira wine, two hundred pounds of loaf sugar and a keg of lime juice.

Had Pittsburgh remained in Virginia, it would have been in a slave state. In 1780 Pennsylvania passed an act for the gradual abolition of slavery, while in Virginia slavery remained an institution for eighty-five years longer. It has been said that Gen. Washington was so displeased with this action in Pennsylvania that he regarded it as a personal affront, and disposed of all his real and personal property in Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

It is also tradition that a large portion of the Virginians and Marylanders who had settled with their slaves west of Laurel Hill in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, became so angry at the passage of the measure and the location of the boundary line which placed them in Pennsylvania, that they sold out their holdings and moved with their slaves to Kentucky, to which section there was a very heavy emigration soon after the year 1780.

We hear comparatively little of Pittsburgh during the Revolutionary War, as it was located far from the scenes of action. However, a year before the Declaration of Inde-
The Place of Pittsburgh in History

Independence a convention of Westmoreland people was held at Hannastown, in what is now Westmoreland County, and a series of resolutions was adopted, from which we quote the following paragraph: “That should our country be invaded by a foreign enemy, or should troops be sent from Great Britain to enforce the late arbitrary acts of its Parliament, we will cheerfully submit to military discipline, and to the utmost of our power resist them and oppose them, or either of them, and will coincide with any plan which may be formed for the defence of America in general or of Pennsylvania in particular.” This was the most direct and the boldest notice which had been served on the British government up to this time.

Generals Hand and Laughlin McIntosh, Col. Brodhead and General Irvine were successively in command at Fort Pitt during the period of the Revolution. During this time Alexander McKee, Matthew Elliott and Simon Girty became traitors to the cause of the colonies, and like all renegades, particularly the last named, became most notorious for acts of cruelty. In 1782 occurred the blackest incident in the history of the colonies, the murder of the Christian Indians at Gnaddenhutten by local militia. Yet it must be remembered that the settlers had become exasperated beyond endurance by the continued Indian outrages in which many of their own loved ones had been cruelly massacred, and to them no Indian was a good Indian except a dead one. It is not wise to discuss this occurrence in Washington County even today after one hundred and forty-three years have elapsed, as many of the descendants of those concerned are still living in this section. Capt. Williamson, who led the band responsible for the massacre of the Indians, was afterwards elected Sheriff of Washington County.

Soon after this event occurred Col. William Crawford’s campaign against the Indians which failed so miserably, Col. Crawford being himself captured and put to a horrible death by torture at the stake. Hannastown, the county seat of Westmoreland County, was captured and burnt the following summer and never recovered from the blow.

The Indian outrages continued; the Congress ordered that an army of three thousand men be raised to stop
them. This force was placed in charge of General Arthur St. Clair, a brave soldier of the Revolutionary War. His army met with a terrible defeat by the Indians on the head waters of the Wabash near the line dividing Ohio and Indiana, and in the heart of the Indian country. Half of the army were destroyed. General Richard Butler was killed and scalped. Gen. St. Clair was blamed for the defeat and a few years later died in poverty and disgrace near Ligonier, and is buried at Greensburg.

Another army was raised and placed in command of Gen. Anthony Wayne, which spent the winter of 1794 at Legionville, just below Economy, and the ensuing year followed the Indians to their homes in Ohio and Indiana and defeated them in a series of battles which resulted in the Treaty of Greenville in 1795, which ended organized Indian warfare for all time for this section.

The last of the four important series of events is the story of a period of which we should most properly be ashamed, yet I greatly fear that down in the depths of our hearts we are very much inclined to be more or less proud of the noted Whiskey Insurrection.

This is the case not because it was a movement brought on in defense of the right to make whiskey, but because those responsible for it sincerely believed that the same principles of liberty were at stake for which they had fought only a few years before, the attempt to enforce unjust taxation. With them an underlying principle of economic freedom was also involved, the right to convert one of their chief farm products, rye, into whiskey, a condensed form which could be readily marketed.

The General Excise Law was passed in 1791 levying a tax on spirituous liquors. It bore particularly hard upon the people of Western Pennsylvania. Large quantities of grain were raised in the Monongahela Valley. The only means of transportation was by packhorse, and one horse could only carry four bushels of rye, while by converting it into whiskey one horse could carry the equivalent of twenty-four bushels of rye. A large number of small distilleries had sprung up. The people here were for the greater part of Scotch or Scotch-Irish ancestry and liberty loving to the extreme and exceedingly jealous of what they considered their rights. The colonies had stood shoulder
to shoulder through the Revolution, but it required many years to develop unity of action and loyalty to the Nation. In fact, it required the War of the Rebellion to weld the United States into a real nation.

Another element entered into the feelings of the people at this time. The French Revolution was in full headway, and our people sympathized with the revolt against the aristocracy and the despotism of the royal government of France. Our people had come to feel that all personal restraint by the government was an infringement of personal rights and liberties.

The Whiskey Insurrection was headed by prominent citizens of very high character, such as Albert Gallatin, Hugh Henry Brackenridge, General John Gibson and George Wallace. After the movement had passed into the control of the mob led by unprincipled demagogues, these men tried to stop it, but it was then too late, a terrible example of the importance of obedience to and respect for the law of the land. Our city had a second lesson in the Railroad Riots of 1877. Pittsburgh as the chief town in the disaffected region became the center of the insurrection.

General John Neville, a leading citizen of this section, was appointed Inspector of Excise for the District, and his home at Bower Hill was burned to show the public disapproval of his acceptance of the office. The barn of Major Kirkpatrick, a friend of the Washington Government, was also burned. The tax collectors were chased away. One, John Holcroft, known as "Tom the Tinker," was the leader of the rebel forces. Sometime when you pass Old Mingo Church on your way to Monongahela City, stop off and in the old church yard you will find the grave of James Macfarlane, formerly a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary Army who was killed in the attack on General Neville's home. The stone over their grave has a very interesting inscription eulogizing Macfarlane and anathematizing those who were responsible for his death. You will find a copy of his inscription in the Latimers written by Dr. McCook a number of years ago which gives a graphic account of events connected with the Whiskey Insurrection, and which I am told caused bitter comments from some of the descendants of local people connected with the struggle.
The uprising became so serious that the general government was obliged to take steps to put it down, as the very foundations of the new Republic were at stake. An army of fifteen thousand men was sent to the scene of action under General Lee. President Washington accompanied it as far as Bedford. As soon as the army neared Pittsburgh the insurgents wisely scattered and a committee was appointed representing them, which met a Commission from the government, and terms of peace were agreed upon and by the spring of 1795 peace was fully restored. The wise, intelligent, patriotic and firm hand of Washington was never more needed and used than in the settlement of this difficult and dangerous condition.

It is strange how history repeats itself. Our country is now experiencing another Whiskey Insurrection. But those who so defiantly oppose the Eighteenth Amendment and the laws provided for its enforcement can derive no comfort from the Whiskey Insurrection of 1794. It was wrong and acknowledged to be wrong, and completely failed as the present insurrection will fail if our government is to stand.

But enough on this subject. If you desire to read both sides of the Whiskey Insurrection, read Brackenridge's history of it which gives the standpoint of a sympathiser with the movement, and Neville B. Craig's History of Pittsburgh, written from the viewpoint of a supporter of the government. There was a very bitter personal feeling between the Brackenridge and Neville families which crops out very strongly in these writings.

Is it not worth while to urge the study of the history of our city upon our young people? Is it not their duty to known more about it, especially its relation to and connection with the history of our country in general?

Sometimes the remark is heard, particularly among young students, "Oh, history is so dry, there is nothing about it." It all depends upon the attitude in studying or reading it. Is it treated as a reality, as the story of the struggles, victories and failures of those whose efforts and experiences have won for us what we have in life that is worth living for? If it were not for what they accomplished we would be back today just where they were in their
Dry chronicles and musty records may seem like dry bones, but the Creator has endowed all of us with the wonderful power of imagination, with the ability of clothing those dry bones with flesh and life and of living over again with those whose lives have meant so much and brought so much into our lives of today. The power of realizing their experiences, trials, privations, hardships and sufferings, glorying in their victories, profiting by their mistakes and condoning their shortcomings is the real reward of the student of history.

The study of history is broadening. No one can be a pessimist who is really interested in history. I am always amused when I hear anyone longing for the good old days of the past. I always say to myself, poor ignorant soul, you are only showing how little you know of the past.

Talk about interesting, fascinating literature, there is nothing which will equal in real interest our great histories. They far excel any modern bookstore thriller which is never heard of after a few months have passed by. But, you say, "What do these very general remarks have to do with Pittsburgh?" Nothing directly, much indirectly. It does mean much to Pittsburgh, even from a material point of view, that the study of local history in our educational institutions be encouraged, and that the children of its citizens learn more about their own section, and what it has meant in the history of our country. The average school child in Pittsburgh knows all about the Boston Tea Party, but what do they know about the mass meeting of the citizens of Pittsburgh which forcibly prevented the shipping of artillery and ammunition from Pittsburgh down the Ohio River to the South by the Confederate sympathizer Floyd, President Buchanan’s Secretary of War, just before the outbreak of the Civil War? They know about Barbara Fritchie, but what do they know about Massey Harbison and her capture by and thrilling escape from the Indians, just across the Allegheny River? There are numerous incidents in our local history just as interesting.

Should not local history be given a more prominent place in all of our educational institutions, not only in the higher institutions of learning, but also in our high schools and public grade schools, as well as in private schools. It is true that we have several local historical organizations
which are doing excellent work, but they can never take the place of the schools, for the really important work is that accomplished with the younger generation.

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