

THE BORDEN GRANT

The records in the Court of James Bell *v.* Borden's Exor's Court Papers, 389, Augusta County, Va.), give a brief but clear account of the manner in which the tract of land, mostly in present Rockbridge County, Va., was settled.

On February 21, 1738, Alexander Brackenridge and George, James, Robert and Adam Brackenridge, John Moore, Quantin Moore, George Henderson, James Bell (the plaintiff), John Mackellan (Bell's servant), James Wattes, William McCanness, Robert Poage, Seth Poage, Daniel McNair and John Graves, made a contract with Benjamin Borden, Sr., in which they agreed to build a small log house and make improvements upon the land, in return for which they were each to receive 200 acres of land.

This was evidently one of the first, if not the first, step taken by Benjamin Borden, Sr., to colonize the grant. And the parties named came to Augusta County in the year 1738. But some of them changed locations prior to 1745. Alexander Brackenridge was the ancestor of the distinguished family of this name, and he made his permanent home on Lewis Creek, about two miles below Staunton. Robert Poage settled on the "Pennsylvania road" or "Irish Path", as the present Valley Turnpike was then called, about three miles north of Staunton, Va. James Bell settled at the head of Long Glade, about ten miles north of Staunton; and Daniel McNair settled on Jennings' Branch in the neighborhood of present Churchville, Augusta County. Seth Poage also removed to present Augusta County, but settled in the Stone Church neighborhood.

Robert Poage and James Bell were among the first members of the county court of Augusta county, and Daniel McNair was a Captain of Militia in 1747. He married a daughter of Capt. James Allen, Sr., whose will is recorded at Staunton.

Ephraim McDowell and his family are the only settlers who are definitely known to have preceded these parties as settlers upon the Borden grant.

Virginia Valley Settlers

Contributed by Charles E. Kemper, Staunton, Va.

EMIGRANTS FROM PENNSYLVANIA

Andreas Kline, Innkeeper of the Borough and County of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, executed his bond to Frederick Seagir, of Lampeter Township, in the same county, yeoman, dated April 6th, 1765. *Seagir v. Kline*, Court Papers, 411. This shows the removal of Andreas Kline to Augusta County, Va., in or prior to 1765.

Melchior Henneberger was a resident of Lancaster Town on May 31, 1765. *Henneberger v. Kline*, Court Papers, 411. Members of the Henneberger family reside at this date, 1921, in the City of Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Virginia.

Alexander Brownlee was a resident of Donegal Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, June 9, 1739, and on that date bought 400 acres of land from John Smith, cooper, on the Great Poplar Bottom of the North River in Augusta County, Virginia. The records further show that in 1776 he was living in the County and State last named. Court Papers, 388.

George Hays was a resident of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1746, and on that date executed his bond to Wm. Nealson. Hays died and his widow, Sarah Hays, married secondly James Armstrong who removed to Augusta County, Va., prior to 1750. *Nealson v. Armstrong and Wife*, Augusta County Suit Records. See also *Nevitt v. Armstrong, Administrator*.

Thos. Nevitt was a Quaker living in Lancaster County, Pa., in 1754. Court Papers, 388.