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**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND SCANDALS  
FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS, 1793, PART 1**

**Abstracted by Steve Cotham**

Editor's note: We continue a series of abstracts from the **Knoxville Gazette** with the year 1793. Each issue is being thoroughly searched, and every item which indicates birth or death is being included in full. Since Knoxville was the capital of the Territory South of the River Ohio, many events reported are from the Mero District, present Middle Tennessee.

**Knoxville Gazette** (vol. 2, no. 9) **23 Feb. 1793** (no.35)

(p. 2, col. 2-3)

**Knoxville**, Saturday, February 23. Yesterday the Birth-Day of the illustrious **PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES**, was celebrated in this town with great joy and festivity.

The only toast drank was--**Health and long life to the President.**

**Captain Caffray** in opening a salt lick, on Cumberland, last summer, found many of the same kind of big bones that have been found in Kentucky----and, among others of an extraordinary size, a tooth, (a grinder) which has been brought to this place. It weighs four pounds, and a half, and measures nine inches in length, seven and a quarter from the top to the root, and three and three eights in width.---This lick is in latitude 36 degrees--upwards of 40 miles south of any place where such bones have heretofore been discovered.

**INDIAN NEWS.**

**A list of murders and depredations committed in Mero district, between the 16th and 23d of January.**

January 16. **Col. Hugh Tinnin** was fired on, near Clarksville, on the north side of Cumberland, and badly wounded.

January 18. **Major Evan Shelby** (brother of **Governor Shelby**) **James Harry**, and a negro belonging to **Moses Shelby**, killed, and a number of horses taken, on the north side of Cumberland, near the mouth of Red river.

January 19. Two boys of the name of **Davidson**, were fired on in a canoe, near Clarksville.

January 22. **Captain William Overall** and ---- **Burnett** killed, on the trace from Kentucky to the Dripping Spring. The flesh was cut from the bones of Overall, and carried off. Nine horses, loaded with goods and whisky, were taken at the same time.

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

January 24. A salt boat from Kentucky, and a French petticoater, was fired on at the mouth of Half Pone, on the Cumberland. In the salt boat **Melachiah Gaskins** and **David Crow** killed--**Robert Wells** and **John Melugen** wounded; the latter in five places; his life despaired of; **St. Clair Pruit** shot thro' the knee--since dead. In the French boat two were killed and one mortally wounded.

January 26. **Thomas Heaton** and **Anthony Bledsoe** (son of **Col. Anthony Bledsoe**) were fired on near Nashville, on the north side of Cumberland, and both shot through the body; they are yet living.

It is to be observed, that these murders and depredations were committed after the troops of Washington district, commanded by **Captains Christian** and **Tate** (part of **Major Sharp's** battalion) were withdrawn from the protection of Mero district.

(p.3 col. 1)

From a New York paper of January 16

A young woman of the name of **Molly Culiagh**, alias **Cooley**, who resides at Saratoga Springs, was stolen by the Indians eleven years since, in some part of the United States, where she does not know. The printers on the western frontiers will oblige the unfortunate female, by giving this a place in their papers, that her relations may know where to find her.

(p. 3, col. 3)

Five dollars reward.

Strayed or stolen from the plantation of **Moses Brooks**, near Knoxville, on the 15th of last October, a BLACK HORSE; has no brand discernable; about 14 hands high, six or seven years old, has a bright star in his forehead and snip, two or three of his feet white, trots and canters, was new shod before. Whoever delivers said horse to Mr. Brooks, or **Col. Roddye**, in Jefferson County, shall receive the above reward.

**Joseph Trotter**

1st Feb. 1793

8.3t

(p. 4, col. 3)

DESERTED

From my company, on the 17th of the present month, **WILLIAM PERCIFELD**, fifer. He is about 20 years of age, 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, brown hair, is very talkative. Any person who will secure said deserter, in any gaol, so that I can get him, shall receive EIGHT DOLLARS REWARD, and reasonable charges if brought to Knoxville.

**ROBERT KING**, Capt.

January 21, 1793

7.3t

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

**Knoxville Gazette** (vol. 2, no. 10) **9 March 1793** (no. 36)

(p.3, col. 2)

**Knoxville**, Saturday, March 9. On Tuesday, the 27th ult. arrived here, after a long and tedious march from Salisbury in North-Carolina, a company of federal troops commanded by **M: Rickard**. The order and discipline displayed by this company, affords a new proof of the military abilities of this war-worn veteran, as well as his attention to duty.

We learn, that the reward offered by the President of the United States for apprehending the leader of the party who destroyed the Cherokee town of Teuchtotee, has induced some person to apprehend **David M'Closkey**, of Tugaloo, in Georgia. On his being apprehended, and until his arrival at Augusta, he considered it a trivial affair; but upon his arrival there the officers of government had him confined in strong and heavy irons, and from thence sent to Savannah, to be tried before the federal court.

**Knoxville Gazette** (vol. 2, no. 11) **23 March 1793** (no. 37)

(p.3. col. 1-2)

**Knoxville**, Saturday, March 23. On the 26th of last month the Indians stole ten head of horses from Cozby's creek, in Jefferson county, **William M'Kissack** and **Peter Every**.

On Saturday the 9th instant, **James Nelson** and **Thompson Nelson**, (brothers), were killed and scalped by Indians, on Little Pigeon, about twenty-five miles from this place. The Indians had formed an ambuscade, on a path near **Mrs. Nelson's** house. These young men were struck by eight balls; from which it is conjectured there were that number of Indians at least; and were headed by a fellow called **Towahka**, who also headed the party that killed Richardson's family. By this barbarous and bloody deed, an aged mother is bereaved of her only support, in her declining years.

On Monday the 18th instant, two young men by the name of **Clements**, were killed and scalped, about sixteen miles below this place, by nine Cherokees from the upper towns. These young men had just left their father's house, unarmed, in search of cattle.--And

On Wednesday the 20th instant, on Pigeon, in Jefferson county, 30 miles from this place, --- **Taylor** was fired on and killed, by a party of Indians, who had formed an ambuscade on a path he was travelling, near a station. The number of guns fired by the Indians, at that time, was such as to induce the people out of the station to believe it was attacked by a powerful party.

The Shawanese, mentioned in a former paper, as having passed the lower Cherokee towns, on their way to the Creeks, are still with the Lower Creeks, exciting them to war with the United States, particularly against Cumberland; and no doubt remains but that their success will equal their most sanguine wishes.

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

Daily accounts from the Indian country continue to confirm the belief, that both Creeks and Cherokees are on all occasions urged by the Spanish officers, in West-Florida, to make war on the frontier citizens of this territory.

(p.3, col. 2)

By the last post from Kentucky, who arrived at Rogersville, on Saturday last, we are informed, that on the 6th instant, on the road near the Hazle-Patch, several men, a woman, and a child, were fired on by a party of Indians, supposed to be Cherokees; the woman and one man were killed, the child taken prisoner, and two men wounded, who got back to the station.

A correspondent observes, that much has been said about the attempts and determination of **Colonel John Tipton**, to raise a body of men, regardless of law, and the orders of government, to destroy the Cherokee nation.

Only five men appeared at his rendezvous, [Jonesborough] instead of his boasted nine hundred. They paraded thro' Jonesborough, marched to a still-house a few miles below, and returned. This affords a pleasing proof of the good sense of the people.

On Sunday last, a certain **Mathias Sulfer**, an itinerant person, went to the plantation of Mr. **Alexander M'Mullen**, of Knox county, with a determination to abuse and ill treat him.--M'Mullen being apprised of his intention, with a gun and ammunition in his hand, met Sulfer in the yard, who, with a stone in his hand, chased M'Mullen two or three times round a fodder stack, when, after retiring a few steps, M'Mullen discharged his piece at Sulfer, which left him dead on the spot.

Sulfer was cropped and branded for horse-stealing in North-Carolina, and was otherwise of an infamous character, for his abuses of peaceable citizens, even to women and children, in his acts of ebriety, to which he was very subject, in one of which disgraceful acts, he lost his life.

Next day the Coroner held an inquest on his body, and the jury brought in a verdict that "M'Mullen had shot him through the body with a smooth bore gun and leaden ball, thro' a sudden head, without malice."

(p. 3, col. 3)

Ten Dollars Reward

**DESERTED**, on the 19th instant, from the 12th company of the 3d sub legion of the United States, **FRANCIS HOLMES**, a soldier--He is an Irishman, 40 years of age, brown complexion, walks much on his heels, looks very sharp and surly. Whoever will apprehend said defendant, and confine him in any gaol, or bring him to

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

my encampment, so that he may be brought to justice, shall receive the above reward, and all necessary charges paid by

**WILLIAM RICKARD**

Commanding Officer

Camp, (New Boston) near  
Knoxville, March 23, 1793

**Knoxville Gazette** (vol. 2, no. 12) **6 April 1793** (no. 38)

(p.2, col. 3)

**Knoxville**, April 6. On Wednesday last, **Daniel Smith**, Esquire, Secretary of this Territory, arrived in town from Cumberland.

The Chickasaws, on the 13th of February, after holding a council of four days, unanimously determined for war against the Creeks; and on the 2d of April, three Runners from that nation arrived at this place, on business with the governor. The object of their mission is yet unknown.

On the 6th March, fourteen head of horses were stolen from settlements on Flat Creek, sixteen miles from this place.

On the 21st of last month, **Thomas Ross** (postrider) and two other men on their way from Hawkins court house, in this territory, to Kentucky, were fired on, near Laurel river, by a party of Indians, supposed to be Cherokees, and a white man. Ross was killed, the other two men were wounded but made their escape.--These wretches carried their brutality so far as to cut off his head and the flesh from his bones.

On Tuesday, the 19th ult. ---- **Nolan** was killed by Indians, on the waters of Little Harper, ten miles from Nashville.

From the lower towns of the Cherokees we are informed, that two parties of Creeks have lately passed from Cumberland with the scalps of three white people, two negroes, one negro prisoner, (belonging to Mr. **Parker** of Cumberland) and several valuable horses.

A list of murders committed by Indians, from the 1st of February to the 12th of March 1793, in the District of Mero.

February 17.--Two negroes belonging to **James Clendennen**, were killed in his field, within an hundred yards of his house.

The same day, **Thomas Bledsoe**, son of the late **Colonel Anthony Bledsoe**, was fired on and wounded. The Indians pursued him within fifty yards of the stockade, at Greenfield.

February 22.--Two boys, sons of **Col. Lauenders**, were fired on, and scalped; one of whom fell an immediate sacrifice to savage barbarity; the other survived several days.

February 24.--**Capt. Samuel Hays** was killed within three hundred steps of **John Donelson's** house.

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

(p.3, col. 1)

On Monday the first instant, the two following described horses were taken from a certain **William Robertson** and **Love Snowden**, on Bull Run, in Knox county, which horses, from the best evidence that could be had on their examination, appear to be stolen, viz. A likely sorrel gelding, 14 hands and an half high, two hind feet white up to the hams, branded on the near buttock S. his tail appears lately to be cut square, a narrow blaze in his face, trots and canters and is well blooded.

A black gelding, 14 hands and an half high, 8 or 9 years old, a large star and small snip in his face, trots and paces, much shaved with the gears, as if worked in a waggon with a breech band, branded on the off shoulder J.S. a long switch tail, and curling main. The owner or owners of the above described horses, are desired to come and prove their right and title to the same, and pay charges. The persons in whose possession they were found, are in custody in this county. Applications may be made to **Col. James White**, in Knoxville, or to the subscriber, living on Flat Creek.

**JOHN BEARD**

Knoxville, April 5, 1793

12ts

(p. 3, col. 2)

### **NOTICE to UNDERTAKERS**

To be let to the bidder who plays lowest sox,  
And by him to be raised from the stump,  
A house that will hold all the justices of Knox,  
And the cash will be paid by the lump.  
Not to high nor too low, but a neat little box,  
To hold quarter sessions and pleas;  
And, to punish the rogues, both a prison and stocks,  
For then we may sleep at our ease.  
The plan may be seen in the Ville of Knox,  
On Monday the first day of court,  
Where those who love fun may meet D---l W---l C-x,  
And thus attend business and sport,  
M'Culloch presides, and the sign is three knocks,  
When the building is taken in care,  
But the bond must secure both the keys and the locks,  
To **M'Nutt, Cozby, Greer, and Adair.**  
Knoxville, March, 1793.

(p.3, col. 3)

**RANAWAY** from the subscriber, living in Powell's Valley, about the 23d instant, a country born negro man, named **JIM**, about 25 years of age, five feet nine or ten inches high, one of his thighs shorter than the other; had on when he went away an

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old drab coloured great coat, with the cuffs torn off, a short striped linsey jacket, such as negroes generally wear, corduroy west coat, with blue linsey backs, an old pair of buckskin breeches, without any buttons on the knees, a wool hat, about half worn; said Jim laughs very loud, and is very fond of children. Any person that will take up said negro, and secure him so that I get him again, shall receive EIGHT DOLLARS reward, and TEN if brought home, and all reasonable charges paid.

**JOSEPH ERVIN**

March 26, 1793

### TEN DOLLARS REWARD

Strayed or stolen, on Sunday last, from this town, two horses---One a bright Bay, about 14 hands high, branded P on his near buttoch, his tail cut square, not shod, trots, canters, and carries himself very lofty.

The other is a pale Bay, 15 hands and an half high, branded with a Heart on the near shoulder, shod all round, his tail has been cut square. Whoever will deliver the above described horses to me, shall receive the above reward, or five dollars to either of them and if stolen a handsome reward will be paid for apprehending the thief, so that he be brought to justice.

**TITUS OGDEN**

April 3 1793.

12 t.f.

(p.4, col 3)

I hereby give notice to all persons who are indebted to the estate of **Benjamin Looney**, deceased, that unless they make immediate payment, or come and renew their bonds, they must be dealt with according to law. I live near Sullivan court-house, and the bonds are in my possession, being security for **Mary Looney**, executrix

**WALTER JOHNSTON**

Sullivan county, March 6, 1793

12.1t

**THOMAS M'Culloch, George M'Nutt, James Cozby, Joseph Greer and John Adair**, Esqrs. being appointed Commissioners by the county court of pleas and quarter-sessions, for the county of Knox, for the purpose of letting the building a court-house, prison, and stocks, for said county, in the town of Knoxville.

The commissioners will attend at the present court-house in Knoxville, on the first Monday of next court, for the purpose of letting the same to the lowest bidder, at which time and place the plan of each will be made known. Bond and approved security will be required of the undertaker, for a due performance of the contract.

The Commissioners

Knoxville, March 8, 1793.

[The above notice is the "serious" version of the announcement given in verse on page 2, col. 3 above.]

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

**Knoxville Gazette** (vol. 2, no. 13) **20 April 1793** (no. 39)

(p.2, col. 3)

**Knoxville**, April 20. On Tuesday, the 26th ultimo, nine men and ten women and children, on their way to Kentucky, were attacked, near the Hazle Patch, by a party of Indians, consisting of about eighteen, and a white man, who appeared to be their leader. On sight of the Indians the travellers dismounted, and an action ensued, which lasted near half an hour, when both parties retreated, each regarding the other as conquerors. Only four men of the company reached Kentucky, three of whom were wounded.

On Thursday following, **General Logan**, with about seventy men, went in search of the rest of the company. On the ground where the engagement had taken place, they found a little girl, who had been taken prisoner a few weeks before, and who, during the engagement made her escape and hid herself; they also found a child belonging to one of the company, some distance from the place of action, nearly exhausted, but is now recovering. They were led to this discovery by the barking of a dog. She had remained with the child from the time its parents had forsaken it. The rest of the company are yet missing.

The Indians had several wounded, and their leader (the white man) killed, whom they carried some distance, and buried.

Much credit is due to **Mr. M'Farland** (one of the travellers) for his manly and spirited conduct on the occasion; he wounded several Indians, and from him their leader received the just reward of his villainy. Mr. M'Farland was the last person who left the ground, and escaped unhurt, having his charger shot from his belt.

On Sunday the 30th ultimo, a party of seven or eight Indians killed and scalped **William Massey** and **Adam Greene**, at the gap of Powell's mountain, on Clinch, about twenty miles from Hawkins court-house.

On Monday, the 8th instant, a party of Creek Indians, headed by young **Lasley**, the person who has of late committed so many depredations on the frontier inhabitants of this district, burnt a house belonging to **James Gallagher**, on the south side of Holston, 20 miles from this place. Returning from the frontiers, they called on the **Hanging Maw**, and asked for provisions, which he refused them; upon which they shot his dog, and went off.

A detachment of mounted infantry followed them across the Tennessee, without being able to overtake them, though encouraged to pursue still further by the **Hanging Maw**.--The waters having risen suddenly, the company were obliged to swim their horses in re-crossing the Tennessee, in attempting which, **Mr. John M'Culloh**, a very worthy young man, was drowned.

On Thursday the 11 inst., the house of ---- **Blackburn**, on the north side of Holston, 14 miles from this place, was burnt by Indians, generally believed to be Creeks, as several parties have lately been seen on the frontiers.

On the 15th instant, a party of **Lieut. Telford's** rangers on the south side of Holston, in the dusk of the evening, vigilant in pursuit of some Creeks who were on

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

the frontiers, under the command of young **Lasley**, fell in with two Indians, on horse, with arms whom they fired on and killed one; who proved to be the **Noon Day**, a Cherokee of Toquo.

At he inverview which his excellency **Governor Blount** had with **John Watts**, the **Hanging Maw**, and other chiefs, at Henry's Station, on the 6th instant, he pointed out to them the necessity there was for rangers being kept out for the protection of the frontiers, against the Creeks; admitted the claim of the Cherokees to lands on the north side of the Tennessee; but recommended to them to forbear to carry arms on that part which lay above the mouth of Clinch, until all matters should be settled; and informed them, that in case any of their people had business in the settlements, they must come along the paths that led directly from the towns; that none should bring guns except to be repaired, and in that case the persons bringing them should have a certificate from the **Hanging Maw**--And instructed a white man, who resides at the Hanging Maw's, to write such certificates, when wanted.

Devoutly as it is to be wished, that all hostile Indians should share the fate of the unfortunate **Noon Day**, yet his is to be lamented as he is represented to have conducted himself peacably during the late troubles.

Notwithstanding the assurances of peace the Creeks have given the United States, thro' **Mr. Seagrove**, undoubtedly information is received, that upwards of six hundred have lately passed the Cherokee lower towns for war against the United States; and that many more are daily expected.

The Cherokees have given many proofs of their disapprobation of the conduct of the Creeks. They appear sincerely disposed for peace. John Watts, in his late visit to Governor Blount, was explicit and clear on that head.

**ALEXANDER M'GILLIVRAY**, of the Creeks, is dead: So say the Cherokee accounts.--This idolized chief of the Creeks, styled himself **King of Kings**. But, alas, he could neither restrain the meanest fellow of his nation from the commission of a crime, nor punish him after he had committed it!--He might persuade or advis.--**all the good an Indian King or Chief can do.**

(p.3, col. 2)

Thirty Dollars Reward

DESERTED from my company on the night of the 12th instant, three soldiers, to wit:

**John M'Donald**, twenty one years of age, five feet 10 inches high, fair complexion, dark eyes and hair, wears his hair short, smooth face, a seaman by profession, born in Scotland, a resident of Fayetteville, North-Carolina.

**Malcolm M'Cloud**, eighteen years of age, five feet 6 inches high, short red hair, hazle eyes, much freckled, a farmer by profession, resident of Montgomery county in North-Carolina.

**Sherard Washburn**, twenty-two years of age, five feet 9 inches high, swarthy complexion, dark short hair and eyes, pimpled face, a carpenter by profession, born in Virginia, resident of Orange county.

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Whoever will apprehend either of these deserters, and bring him or them to my camp, near Knoxville, shall receive Ten Dollars for each, or the above reward for the three, with all moderate charges paid by

Camp (New Boston)  
near Knoxville  
April 13th, 1793

**William Rickard**, Lieut.  
Comm'dr 12th company of Infantry,  
3d sub legion of the United States of America.

I foreward all persons from purchasing the three following described bonds, viz.: One given by me, in Virginia, to James Callaway and Co. in 1788 for four pounds, the other to James Lyles and Co. in 1790, for seventy pounds, both in Virginia currency; which bonds I have paid and have receipts against them, the bonds being lost or mislaid at the time of payment.--Also the bond given by me to **Moses Greer**, for my appearance in Franklin county, Virginia, which is settled and the bond lost or mislaid. Should the above bonds be offered for sale, I request that they may be stopped, that the person or persons in whose hands they may be found, may be obliged to give and account how they came by them.

**T. Arthur**  
Jefferson County

February 23, 1793

**Knoxville Gazette** (vol. 2, no. 14) **4 May 1793** (no.40)

(p.2, col. 3)

**Knoxville**, May 4. By a company of travellers who arrived at German Creek, Hawkins county, on Tuesday the 18th of April, from Kentucky, we learn, that just before their departure from thence, a station had been attacked by Indians, who killed three persons and made eighteen prisoners, whom they carried some distance into the woods, and put to death. They also informed, that on Monday the 15th, the day they left Kentucky, another station was attacked, but had not learned the particulars. As they passed the station, on the Kentucky trace, at Rockcastle, the houses there were on fire--having been previously abandoned by the inhabitants.

On the 18th ultimo, on Little Pigeon, Jefferson county, 30 miles from this place, **Joshua Tipton** and --- **Mathews** were killed, and ---- **Shields** wounded, by Indians, as they were watering their horses from the plough.

(p. 3, col. 3)

I do hereby caution and forbid all persons from purchasing a certain bond given by me to **John Jackson**, of Carter's Valley, Hawkins county, as I have paid the same, and will not pay it again.

**Robert King**

Hawkins county, April 29, 1793

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

STRAYED from the subscriber, on the month of November last, a **SORREL MARE**, twelve years old, fourteen hands two inches high, branded with a heart on the near shoulder and buttock, has very remarkable white spots on her back and rump. Whoever will take up said mare and deliver her to the subscriber, living in Jefferson county, shall receive **SIX DOLLARS REWARD**.

**Joseph Evans**

Jefferson county, April 26, 1793 14.3t

(p. 4, col.1)

STRAYED from the subscriber, living near the big bent of Nolichucky, Jefferson county, the first of this instant, a **BAY HORSE**, near five feet high, five years old, trots, paces, and gallops, light built, had old shoes on, and was lame in his off hind foot-lock joint. Whoever will deliver him, or give information to the owner, so that he may be had again, shall receive Two Dollars reward.

**William Small**

Jefferson county April 23, 1793

**Knoxville Gazette** (vol. 2, no. 15) **18 May 1793** (no.41)

(p. 3, col. 1)

**LEXINGTON**, [Kentucky] April 6.

On the 26th of March, a company consisting of nine men, two women, and eight children, on their way to this state, were attacked about five miles from the Hazle Patch toward Laurel river, about an hour before sunset, by a party of Indians supposed to be about 30. The nine men, dismounted and defended the women and children for about 15 minutes, during which time they fired four or five rounds, but being overpowered and the Indians closing in on all sides, the whole were killed or taken, except four, who escaped, one of which is dangerously wounded.

Names of the killed and missing.

**James Carder** and his family; **James Anthony** and family; **Mathew Flourney**; --- **Spilman** and **Thomas Penniston**, **James Jones** wounded. **Robert Hill**, **James M'Farland**, and **William Anthony** escaped unhurt. The above account is given by one of the men who escaped.

We are just informed, that **Penniston**, and one of the children who were missing, have just come in.

On Monday evening last, **Morgan's station**, on Slate creek, was taken and burnt, by 35 Indians: two of the inhabitants were killed, and 19 taken prisoners; they were pursued, and within about 30 miles the whole of the prisoners were found tomahawked and scalped, one of which (a woman) was found alive in her senses, after being tomahawked and two scalps taken off. We have the above information from the husband of the unfortunate woman.

On Saturday last, the Indians killed a man on the Beach fork of Salt river.

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Monday evening they stole 30 horses from **Man's lick**. The same day a boat was fired on in the Ohio, at the 18 mile island, by about 25 Indians--luckily no body was hurt. On Tuesday evening they took a boy from **Eastin's mill**, in Jefferson county and carried him to the Ohio; then set him at liberty, and gave him a knife and pipe-tomahawk.--The same day took a man going from the saltworks to **Steel's ferry**.

(p. 3, col. 2)

**KNOXVILLE**, Saturday, May 18. Last Saturday **James Donelson** arrived in town, express, from Cumberland, Mero district. By him we have received letters, containing the most melancholy accounts of the distressed situation of the truly unfortunate inhabitants of that district.

Among the many murders and depredations lately committed, by Indians, in that district, the following, which have taken place between the 9th and 28th of April, are a part.

April 9. **Col. Isaac Bledsoe** killed in his field near his own house; the party consisted of twenty.

-----10th. The house of **Mrs. Simpson** was set on fire in the night; but the flames were extinguished by men who were in the house.

-----11th. **John Harman** and ----- **Dowdey** were killed near the mouth of Sycamore, in Tennessee county.

-----14th. **Henry Howdeshall** and **Samuel Pharr** killed near **General Rutherford's**.

-----18th. **John Benton** killed, on the road between **Capt. Reese's** and **Col. Winchester's mill**--The same day two men were killed on the road to Kentucky.

-----19th. Two men were killed within hearing of Clarksville.

-----26th. **Richard Shaffer** and ----- **Gambrell** were killed, and **James Dean** wounded.

-----27th. A party of Indians, at first supposed to be sixty, but since, on good grounds, believed to be two hundred, attacked the station at Greenfield, and killed **John Jervis**, and a negro fellow belonging to **Mrs. Parker**.--This station was saved by the signal bravery of **William Neeley**, **William Wilson**, and **William Hall**, who killed two Indians and wounded several others.

-----28th. **Francis Ramer** was killed, near the Dripping Spring, on the trace between Cumberland and Kentucky.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Mero district, dated April 29.

It is shocking, to describe the bloody scenes that have taken place in this district since your departure from hence. The Indians have killed and scalped a great number of persons, among whom is **Col. Isaac Bledsoe**, who was massacred within an hundred and fifty yards of his house. On the 27th instant, a body of Indians attacked Greenfield station; they killed **John Jervis** and a negro fellow belonging to **Mrs. Parker**. By the bravery of three young men, viz., **William Neeley**, **William**

## FROM EARLY KNOXVILLE NEWSPAPERS

**Wilson**, and **William Hall**, the station was preserved; they killed two Indians, wounded several others and put them to flight. It is to be remembered, that **Neeley** and **Hall** had each lost a father and two brothers, and **Wilson** a brother, by the savages. Men are now in pursuit of the Indians. Where will these mischiefs end? What are the blessings of government to us? Are we to hope for protection? If so, when?

Last Tuesday week two horses were stolen by Indians, from **James Boyd** and **Stephen Graves**, at **M'Tear's station**, twelve miles from this place.--And on Saturday night last, fifteen horses were stolen from **Mathew Bishop's**, eight miles from this place.

From undoubted information we can assert, that since the first of April, six hundred and sixty Creeks have crossed the Tennessee, at the lower towns of the Cherokees, for war against the district of Mero, Cumberland settlements.

On the 29th ultimo, a detachment of mounted infantry, consisting of one hundred and twenty men, under the command of **Major Hugh Beard**, marched from South-West Point (mouth of Clinch) to the relief of Mero district.

The people of Georgia appear to bear, with much impatience, the killing a few only of their fellow citizens.--What would be their feelings, had the hundreds of murders and depredations been perpetrated there, which have been in this Territory? It has been our duty to bear them, relying on the protection of the federal government in due time; but Georgia is a state which was represented in the late "philanthropic Congress." It is to be hoped their success will not exceed their philanthropy so far as to give large supplies and thereby invigorate the Creeks to murder the peaceful citizens of the United States. Had not the late Congress ordered a supply of corn to the Creeks, so great was the scarcity of that article, that they would have had little spirit or ability for war. It is not now probable, **Mr. Seagrove** will not again publish to the world the peaceful disposition of the Creeks, at the very moment when large bodies of them are invading the defenceless people of this Territory.

Having purchased a certain tract of land from **WILLIAM TERRELL LEWIS**, in consequence of which I gave said Lewis bonds for the payment of different sums; which bonds are part paid, the last payment of which becomes due this month (May.) and as there are several claimants to said land--These are to require said Lewis to come and make a title to the same, and receive his pay, as I stand ready to discharge my bonds, as soon as the title is made.

**JAMES RICHARDSON**

Greeneville, May 1, 1793

15 It

I do hereby foreward all persons from purchasing a note of hand given by me to **Capt. James Thompson**, of Washington county, Virginia, for SIX POUNDS, Virginia

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currency; and now in the hands of **Moses Shelby**, living on the waters of Red River (Cumberland), as I have paid the same, and will not pay it again.

**JOHN YANCEY**

Sullivan county, March 3, 1793

Ten dollars reward

Strayed or stolen from the subscriber, from Knoxville, in the month of November last, a BAY HORSE, fourteen hands and an half high, branded on the near shoulder with J; and M on the buttock, one hind foot white.--Any person who will deliver said horse to the subscriber, in Hawkins, or **George Roulstone**, in Knoxville, shall receive the above reward.

May 7, 1793

**THOMAS KING**

STOLEN from the subscriber, living in Mecklenberg county, North-Carolina, about the 13th of November, 1792, a light dun colored horse, black mane and tail, 14 hands high, 3 years old, a natural trotter. Also, a saddle; it is much worn, the pad of which is fasted with red cloth.

The above described horse and saddle were stolen by a certain **THOMAS HALL**, who sometimes calls himself **THOMAS LEE**.

Any person who will deliver said horse to Mr. **Andrew Woods**, living at the **widow Kelly's** on Little River, shall receive Ten Dollards Reward, or twenty dollars for the horse and thief.

**JOSEPH HART**

April 7, 1793 15 3t

Five Dollars Reward,

STRAYED, or stolen, from Mr. **JOHN WOOD'S** stable, a GREY HORSE. The finder shall have the above reward, and if the thief is prosecuted and convicted, SIX POUNDS.

**EPHRAIM DUNLAP**

Knoxville, May 11, 1793 15 3t

**Knoxville Gazette** (vol. 2, no. 16) 1 June 1793 (no.42)

(p. 2, col. 2-3)

**KNOXVILLE**, Saturday, June 1.

On the ninth ultimo, a party of Indians fired upon four children at Johnston's station near Nashville, wounded three, one of which they scalped, and caught the fourth by the jacket as he slipped it off and escaped.

On the eighteenth ultimo, ten horses were stolen by Indians from Pigeon, Jefferson county; they belonged to three poor men, who have not another left to draw their ploughs at this important season of the year.

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Killed by Indians, on Saturday last, **Thomas Gillum**, and his son **James Gillum**, on Bull Run, 18 miles from this place. The persons who buried them judging from the sign, report the number of Indians to have been twelve. And trails of several other parties were discovered, making in the whole about forty.--On the same day, upwards of twenty horses were stolen and tracked to Clinch River.

The main camp of this marauding party, is supposed to be in Cumberland mountain, in search of which the Governor has ordered out **Capt. John Beard**, of Knox county, with fifty mounted infantry.

Many parties of the Creeks have lately repassed the Tennessee, at the lower Cherokee towns, on their way home from Kentucky and Cumberland, with many scalps and valuable horses.

The Creek nation must be destroyed, on the south western frontiers, from the mouth of St. Mary's to the western extremities of Kentucky and Virginia, will be incessantly harrassed by them; and now is the time. [*Delenda est Carthago.*]

The Cherokee council, with the Shawanese ambassadors, held at Will's Town, adjourned a few days past--The result is said to be, that the Cherokees determined on peace with the United States; and five of the ambassadors, with **Mr. Willbank**, who has been long residing among the Creeks, on the next day departed for the northern nations.

**Corporal M'Donald**, advertised as a deserter among the Cherokees, has since been delivered up by them.

On Sunday the 19th ult. **David Gilliland**, a young man from Washington county, in Virginia, who had lately been in the lower Cherokee towns, and had some dealings with **Arthur Coodey**, a Cherokee half-breed, upon a matter of difference arising between them, discharged a musquet at Coodey and slightly wounded him with one shot. Gilliland was immediately taken into custody by a justice of the peace (**John Chisholm**, esquire) in whose view the act was committed, and bound in security for his appearance at the superior court, and for his future good behavior.

The matter is since happily made up by the parties, that no evil consequences are like to arise from it in a national point of view. Gilliland was truly sensible of the error he had committed, and Coodey heartily forgave him.

On Thursday, the 23d ultimo, some persons unknown, but believed from a variety of circumstances to consist of from three to six, fired upon three unarmed Indians, two Chickasaws and a Cherokee, in the woods about six hundred paces from governor Blount's house, and wounded one of the Chickasaws (**John Morris**) with which wound he died on the 24th, and was buried on the 25th.

"**Governor Blount's** order for his burial.

"**John Morris**, the Chickasaw who was inhumanly murdered on the 23d instant, by the base hand of some unknown assassin, to be buried this afternoon, at the usual burial ground of the white people, with the military honors due to a warrior

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of his friendly nation.--The procession to commence in the street near the Magazine at four o'clock:

"Order of procession.

"Sergeant, Corporal, and twelve privates to precede the corps.

"The governor and brother of the deceased as chief mourners.

"The Chickasaws, two and two.

"The civil and military officers, two and two.

"Private citizens two and two.

"May 25, 1793."

The inhabitants of Knoxville generally, and many from the circumjacent country, attended and expressed great sorrow at the inhuman murder of this good and friendly young Chickasaw.

**John Morris**, and his brother **James Anderson**, who was with **PIAMINGO** in **Gen. St. Clair's** army, arrived with Coodey, the **Hanging Maw**, and several other Cherokees at the governor's, on Sunday 19th, and at the time they were fired upon, were in the woods attending to their horses at grass between the governor's house and plantation, in a bend of the river Holston, where no armed persons could have any business except to injure such Indians as they might there find. Morris was well known and esteemed in the town and neighbourhood, having been long here last summer in the character of an interpreter to some Chicksaw chiefs. He appeared sensible and composed, bearing his pain with great fortitude, to the moment of his death; declared his hands were unstained with injuries done any person, expressed his surprize that an attempt should be made to kill him, begged no satisfaction should be taken by his brother or nation for his death, except on the unprovoked author of it, in case he was discovered. The perpetrators of this unmanly act, also stole three Indian horses--a proof that they not only sought innocent blood, but property not their own.

Every good man must detest the horrid act, every friend to government must feel the insult offered it, and himself thereby personally injured.

The law is the rule and guide for all freemen, from the president to the most indigent beggar, and it is the common interest of the community at large that all violators of it should be brought forth and punished according to their offences.

**DIED**--On the 14th ultimo, **Lieutenant Colonel JOHN BLAIR**, of Hawkins County, of a nervous fever. He was a brave, prudent, heroic officer, a valuable and highly esteemed citizen, an observer of the laws of his country, and always ready to fight and bleed in its defence--Lately, **Robert Bean**, of Hawkins county: a distinguished soldier, a lover of peace and order, and an esteemed citizen.

To be continued