

PREFACE

ASSEMBLING materials for a biography of an early American is always complicated because of the lapse of time. In the case of frontiersmen such as James Harrod the problem is still more difficult, since they often came from obscure families and were generally second-generation pioneers. Record keeping in the wilderness was scanty at best, inaccurate, and confused, while spelling of proper names was done largely "by ear." Even those frontiersmen who possessed the necessary skill wrote little because paper was scarce, time for reflection even scarcer, and opportunities for mail delivery dependent on itinerant travelers.

The author is deeply indebted to numerous people who opened their records for her use, particularly to members of the Harrod-Moore family, who made it possible to obtain for the first time a clear picture of this pioneering group. Special thanks and appreciation are due Mrs. Bernice Lewis Swainson, Piedmont, California, for long hours of consultation and for making available hundreds of newly discovered records, and particularly for her assistance in establishing much genealogical data. Mr. Walter F. Harrod, Nottinghamshire, England; Mrs. Myrtle W. Richey and Mrs. John H. Cary of Washington, Pennsylvania; Mrs. Helen Denny Howard, Waynesburg, Pennsylvania; Mr. William R. Anthony, Memphis, Tennessee; Mrs. W. R. Patterson, Oroville, California; Dr. F. P. Strickler and Dr. D. W. Chamberlin of Louisville, Kentucky; Mrs. Maude Darling, Crete, Nebraska; and Mr. James D. Harrod, Midway City, California, were also among the members of the family who furnished data. Colonel J. Franklin Bell, USAR, Washington, D. C., provided the maps and supervised their preparation. He gave many

hours of study to geographical problems connected with the movements of the Harrod brothers.

Others, not descendants of the Harrods, also contributed records either directly or through Mrs. Swainson. Among them are: Mr. Howard L. Leckey, Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, who traced landholdings and family relationships through his collection of records on two hundred western Pennsylvania pioneers; Mr. Earle R. Forrest of Washington, Pennsylvania, who furnished illustrative material; Major George C. Chinn, USMC, a long-time student of Harrodsburg records, Mrs. T. F. Sandusky, the late Mr. James Taylor Cooke, Mr. D. M. Hutton, editor of the Harrodsburg *Herald*, and members of his staff—all of Harrodsburg, Kentucky; and Mr. Cass K. Shelby of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, who cleared up the relationship between the Harrods and the Shelbys.

I am happy to acknowledge the debt I owe numerous scholars and research workers in the state and private offices where I have worked, especially Miss Alice E. Smith, Curator of the Draper Collection, Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, Wisconsin; Miss Ludie J. Kinkead, Filson Club, Louisville; Mrs. Jouett Taylor Cannon and her assistant, Mr. Bayless Hardin, Kentucky State Historical Society, Frankfort, Kentucky; Miss Margaret Finch of the National Archives, Washington, D. C.; Miss Nell Nugent of the Virginia Land Office and Mr. J. J. Van Shreeven of the State Library, both of Richmond, Virginia; the county clerks and custodians of records in various pension and land offices in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois; staff workers in numerous libraries including the Library of Congress, Virginia State Library, New York Public Library, Oberlin College Library, and the library of the Maryland State Historical Society in Baltimore.

The writings of outstanding specialists on early American history and thought have contributed immeasurably to my understanding of this segment of the frontier. I am particularly indebted to several of these scholars for their personal interest and suggestions. Professor Max Savelle of the Univer-

sity of Washington assisted me through the inspiration of his course at Stanford on the Colonial Mind and through his published writings. He read and criticized the manuscript and was kind enough to write the introduction. Dr. Clarence E. Carter, Editor in Chief of the Territorial Papers of the United States, Washington, D. C., also read the entire manuscript and contributed many hours of consultation and critical discussion. Professor Thomas Perkins Abernethy, Chairman of the Corcoran School of History at the University of Virginia, read the study several times and was particularly helpful because of his intimate knowledge of the Virginia frontiers. Dr. St. George L. Sioussat, former Director of the Manuscript Division, Library of Congress; Professor Merrill Jensen of the University of Wisconsin; Dr. John H. Powell, former Assistant Librarian of the Philadelphia Free Library; and Miss Elizabeth Hooker, research assistant of the Land Tenure Section, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, read portions of the manuscript and furnished helpful criticism.

I am indebted to the D.A.R. library in Washington for their help in locating materials as well as for permission to examine the brooch said to have belonged to Ann Harrod.

Mrs. Alberta Powell Graham and Mrs. Catherine Cate Coblentz, writers, Washington, D. C., will be gratefully remembered for their long and helpful interest in this manuscript.

The Editor of the Southern Biography Series, Professor T. Harry Williams, Louisiana State University, was of great assistance. His wide knowledge and his meticulous editorial work have contributed immeasurably to whatever value the study may possess.

The author alone is responsible for any errors of fact that may have passed unnoticed, as well as for the conclusions expressed.

Oberlin, Ohio
January 16, 1948

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