John Pemberton was born 12 Oct 1742 per his tombstone. (An earlier transcription of that cemetery showed 19 Oct 1749 as his birth). Teri Tillman recently visited this cemetery and confirms 12 Oct 1 742 as the correct birth date for John Pemberton.

Some researchers (from years ago) showed that John was born in Lancastershire, England, but I don't know what the source for that is. Recently Elizabeth Bailey found some Baptismal Records from Lan cashire County, England, in the Urswick Parish Register that shows a "John Pemberton" baptized on 16 Oct 1742, a son of Richard Pemberton, Berdsea (or Bardsea). She also found in the same records a m arriage for Richard Pemberton, Bardsea, Sailmaker, and Ann Atkinson dated 10 Feb 1739/40. Now it seems likely that Richard and Ann (Atkinson) Pemberton are the parents of the John who was baptized on the 16th. The question remains whether this was our John Pemberton or not, but it certainly could be. Our John would have been 4 days old at that point in time.

A follow up question is whether or not "Lancastershire" and "Lancashire" are the same place. I've done no English genealogical or historical research, so I'm not very familiar with English place n ames. [Note from George W. Durman, compiler of this database: Lancastershire and Lancashire *are* the same place. It has been spelled, and pronounced, differently at various time in the past.]

Though his parents are not known (Richard and Ann are certainly strong candidates), it is very likely that John Pemberton was a brother to George Pemberton and William Pemberton. Their relationship to each other is unproven, but they are related without doubt. The proof of their connection is this. John Pemberton's daughter, Sarah, married George Pemberton's son, Thomas. That shows that John and George were related somehow. Secondly, John Pemberton's son, Staunton Pemberton, was witness to William Pemberton's Will in Washington Co, VA. When William's widow, Nancy, made her Will in 1818, she named Jonathan King as Executor. Jonathan was son-in-law of John Pemberton. George and William Pemberton were all about the same age as John, and they all clearly knew each other, so it does seem likely they were brothers or somehow closely related.



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Resul	te	1-6	of	6
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	Birth/Christening		Death/Burial			Order	Other
Name	Date	Place	Date	Place	Database	record?	Matches
PEMBERTON, John	12 OCT 1742	Bardsea, Lancashire Co., England, UK	25 OCT 1813	Emmett, Sullivan Co., TN	germanna		<u>Census</u> Newspapers
< <b>⊡</b> 48€	Father: Richard PEMBERTON Mother: Ann ATKINSON Spouse: Elizabeth DELANEY						<u>Histories</u>
Pemberton, John	12 OCT 1742	Lancastershire, England	25 OCT 1813	Sullivan, Tennessee, USA	<u>craighodgetree</u>		Census Newspapers
<b>₹6</b> 0 <b>₹</b>	Father: George Y Pemberton Mother: Margaret Spouses: Elizabeth Stanton, Elizabeth George, Elizabeth Delaney						<u>Histories</u>
Pemberton, John	12 OCT 1742	Urswick in Furness, Lancaster County, England	25 OCT 1813	Sullivan County, Tennessee	dec2010		Census Newspapers
《四名□ 4	Father: Richard Pemberton Mother: Ann Atkinson Spouse: Elizabeth Stanton Delany>Delaney						<u>Histories</u>
Pemberton, John	12 OCT 1742	Urswick in Furness, Lancaster County, England	25 OCT 1813	Sullivan County, Tennessee	lucydeyoung		Census Newspapers
<b>₹⊡</b> 201€	Father: Richard Pemberton Mother: Ann Atkinson Spouse: Elizabeth Stanton Delany>Delaney						<u>Histories</u>
Pemberton, John	12 OCT 1742	Urswick, Furness, Lancaster Co., England	25 OCT 1813	Sullivan Co., TN	histmom1929		Census Newspapers
Q. E. q.	Father: Richard Pemberton Mother: Ann Atkinson Spouse: Elizabeth Stanton Delaney						Histories
PEMBERTON, John R.	12 OCT 1742	Urswick Parish, Lancastershire, England		Sullivan Co., TN	<u>brummett</u>		Census Newspapers
<b>₹</b> 四49€	Father: Probably Richard PEMBERTON Mother: Probably Ann ATKINSON Spouse: Elizabeth DELANEY						Newspapers Histories



# **Lucys Family Tree**

Entries: 26384 Updated: 2010-11-28 23:16:27 UTC (Sun) Contact: Lucy

nevdevoung@isomedia.com

Home Page: Lucys Family Tree

### Lucys Family Tree

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• ID: I14074

• *Name*: John Pemberton <sup>1</sup>

• Sex: M

Birth: 12 OCT 1742 in Urswick in Furness, Lancaster County, England 12 (Late right: date + Burial: Pemberton Cemetery, Sulllivan County, Tennessee 1 Place Matches kim; but its nat prove-)

• Event: Military Revolutionary War Enlisted 10.17.1742 in North Carolina reached rank of Captain <sup>3</sup> <sup>2</sup>

• Event: Alternate Death 25 OCT 1819 4

• Event: Alt Birth Location Madison County, Virginia <sup>5</sup>

• Event: Alternative Birth Locatio Lancastershire, England 6

• Death: 25 OCT 1813 in Sullivan County, Tennessee <sup>7</sup>

• Note:

1992 Families and History of Sullivan County, Tennessee Vol. 1 1779 - 1992. page 550 The Pembeton Family in Sullivan County

John Pemberton came to the American colonies in early 1770's from Engl and. He married Elizabeth Stanton and moved to the Holston Valley sec tion of what was then part of the colony of North Carolina. They had six sons: James, Thomas, Stanton, Ezekiel, Benjamim and William and four daughters: Elizabeth, Sarah, Dinnah and Nancy.

In 1780, Captain John Pemberton led his militia company, under Colone I Issac Shelby, in the Battle of Kings Mountain during the Revolutiona ry War. In 1782, grants of land from North Carolina were given to him in the Fall Creek and Sinking Creek area (Emmett), where his grave a ndthose of his wife and three sons are located.

In 1788, John Pemberton was a Colonel of Militia and led his troops in helping to lift the siege of Colonel Tipton's house by Colonel John Sevier and his troops, in his efforts to regain his slaves, who had be en seized to satisfy a judgment against Seiver for his part in establi shing the State of Franklin.

Benjamin Pemberton, son of John, married Mariamna Sharp, a daughter of John Sharp who died in 1812 and willed them 132 acres "where they no w live". That bequest is a part of the present farm, which is still o wned and operated by sisters Sue Pemberton Vaughan and Patsy Pemberto n Clark. Benjamin was a charter member and Elder of both the Papervil le Presbyterian Church (1824) and Cold Spring Presbyterian Church (1841). Benjamin and Mariamna had three sons: Henry Harrison, John Shar p and Elcana, all of who moved west to



#### Missouri.

After Mariamna died, Benjamin married Barbara Dryden and their childre n were: Thomas Dryden, William H., Milisssa and Benjamin Franklin. T homas D. Pemberton (Sr.) served in the Civil War as a private in Compa ny F, 21st Virginia Cavalry for four years and was wounded twice. this Brother, Benjamin F., also served in the war. The present two-story, red brick farm house, where Sue P. and Kelly Vaughan now live, was built in 1878 by Thomas D. (Sr.) who married Sarah Cowan. They had on e son, William Andrew and three daughters: Mary, Elizabeth and Ida. A fter Sarah's death, Thomas D. married Sue Bartles and they had Thomas Dryden, Jr. and Sarah Ellen (Nell).

Thomas Dryden, Jr. married Mary Carmack Wagner and they had two daught ers: Sue Legard and Patsy Preston. Sue married Newton Kelly Vaughan and had three children: Thomas P., Robert K., and Mary Sue. Patsy ma rried John William Clark and their children were: Patricia Jane, Mich ael, John P. and Susan.

In the front yard of the present farm house stand a hugh, white oak tree, under which Captain John Pemberton mustered his troops before the Battle of Kings Mountain in 1780. It is now known as the Pemberton Oak, which is also the name of the farm. It stands also on the edge of a remnant of the Great Watauga Road. The house and Oak are both on the National Register of Historic Places.

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1992 Families and History of Sullivan County, Tennessee Vol. 1 1779 - 1992. page 551 John Pemberton was born 12 Oxt. 1742 in England, little is known of hi m before his arrival in Sullivan Co. TN. About 1765 he married Elizab eth Stanton, who was born 17 July 1749, she may have been related to T homas Stanton of Washington Co. Virginia. who died 1780/82. John Pemberton received a land grant from the English crown before the Revolutionary War. In 1782 he acquired a North Carolina Land Grant for 300 acres on the north side of the Holston River on Fall Creek, then acquired 306 acres adjoining John Heckswood's line in 1784. In late September 1780, then Capt. Pemberton called to arms about 300 men in response to Major Ferguson's threat to "desist with their opposition to the British Arms" or he would "lay their country waste with fire and sword". These Holston area Mountain men gathered under the Pe mberton Oak, then joined with other volunteers and marched into South Carolina and defeateed major Ferguson's British troops on 7 Oct 1780 at the Battle of Kings Mountain. After the battle where family tradition says he was injured, John Pemberton was promoted to the rank of Col onel.

Col. John Pemberton was a friend and strong supporter of Col. John Tip ton and figured prominently in the resistance to Gov. Sevier and the f oundation of the State of Franklin. In late February 1788, in respons e to a message from Tipton, Col. Pemberton came with thirty men and st ationed them unseen in front [of] Sevier's camp, where Sevier's had Ti pton trapped in his house. Pemberton ordered a volley fired over the heads of the Sevier supporters. The men on both sides were comrades a t the Battle of King's Mt., and hostilities were limited to angry word s. Not wishing to see the blood of his comrades spilled Gov. Sevier's surrendered, leading to the demise of the State of Franklin.

Col. John Pemberton died 25 Oct 1813, his wife Elizabeth died 7 Aug 18 12/1819?, in sullivan Co. their graves are in Pemberton-Hawkins-Gran t Cemetery on a farm in Emmett, Sullivan Co. TN. Memorial markers can be found at Cold Spring Cemetery.

John and Elizabeth Pemberton were the parents of 10 children. Three u nmarried (?) sons, James Pemberton, born 16 Dec. 1767, died 25 Nov. 18 15; Thomas, 29 Jan 1775 and Ezekial,

born 1 Aug. 1781 in TN., died 1 S ept 1857, are all buried near their parents.

William Pemberton, born about 1770, died before 1 Aug. 1781 of Whitle y Co. KY., children: John, William S., Sarah, Winifred, James and Dian a (h). Elizabeth, born (about) 18 July 177(2), died (about) 11 July 1 80(2?), married James J. George. Children: Sarah, Charles H., Elizabet h, Nancy, Frances, & Eliza.

Stanton, born 1778, died 1838 Oakland, Cole Co. Ill., married Sarah Ki ng, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Sharp) King. Children: Alfred, Harvey Guilford, William, Jonahan J., Sarah, Susanna, Ednah and Henr y.

Dianna(h) who married Samuel Snapp and settled in Greene Co. TN., chil dren Samuel S., John and Caroline.

Sarah/Sally born 1782, died 1850 in Adair Co, KY marriedTthomas Pember ton, said to be her cousin or second counsin, children: William, Thom as, Stephen, Elizabeth, Sarah, Anna/Dianah, Nancy, Mildred, Bennett and John.

Benjamin Pemberton, born 7 Feb. 1786, died 23 May 1877, married first Marianna Sharp, children: Henry H., John, Eleanor D., Melissa and Ben jamin F. He married second Barbara Buchanan Dryden, and had two more children Thomas Dryden and William H. Pemberton Nancy D. Pemberton, born 11 March 1788, died 9 July 1859 in Washingto n Co. Virginia., married Jonathan King, son of David and Elizabeth (Sharp) K ing, children: Eliza, John P., Amanda, Nancy, Julia, J. Stanton, Will iam and Margaret King.

Probably moved to Sullivan County in the late 1770's

John Pemberton (1742-1813) organized and commanded a company at the battle of Kings Mountain. He was born in England; died in Sullivan Count y, Tenn. The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolut ion Volume 82 page 316 John Pemberton (1742-1813) served as captain i n Col. Isaac Shelby's regiment in the battle of Kings Mountain. The Na tional Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution Volume 84 p age 143

Families and History of Sullivan County, Tennessee Vol. 1 1779 - 1992., page 231 One of the most interesting trees on the American continent stands near Bristol -- the

Pemberton Oak. One of the very first trees to be ente red in the Hall of Fame for Trees was this oak tree. Beneath the bran ches of this tree, Colonel John Pemberton drilled his soldiers before starting to the battle of King's Mountain. This is an authentic fact and since that time the grand old oak has sheltered the soldiers of the War of 1812 when Tennessee under Andrew Jackson, made such a wonderful record and earned the name of the "Volunteer State."

Next came the War with Mexico, War Between the States, Spanish-America n War and the World War. Soldiers of these wars have gathered beneat h the branches and prepared for war, and also recounted experiences o f war.

The picture and history of this tree appreared in the "American Forest ry Magazine" and attracted widespread interest, being copied in the pa pers in every secion of the United States. Some years ago a marker was placed on [t]his honorable tree telling the passerby of its wonderful history by Sycamore Shoals Daughters of the American Revolution. The tree stands now sturdy and strong, and we hope its boughs maycontinue to protect our American people for years to come.

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Families and History of Sullivan County, Tennessee Vol. 1 1779 - 1992 . page 221 The Pemberton House

For more than two hundred years, the Pemberton family has held title to the land surrounding this historic home. The progenitor of the Sulli van County Pembertons was Captain (later, Colonel) John Pemberton who came from Virginia's Shenandoah Valley to the Holston Settlement in the 1770's. He and his wife Elizabeth Stanton Pemberton were living in a log house on this land when the call came for men of the area to def end their homes from the threats of British Col. Patrick Ferguson.

Since Pemberton held the rank of Captain at the time, he may have alre ady been fighting the British with Col. Isaac Shelby beyond the mounta in in North Carolina. It was Shelby led troops' successes against Fer guson at Pacolet, Thicketty Fort, Wofford's Iron Works and Musrove's M ill that made Ferguson treaten to "march his army over the mountains, hang their leaders, and lay waste to the country with fire and sword, " if the over-mountain men didn't stop fighting the British.

Capt. Pemberton was certainly one of the 240 men from Sullivan County who went with Shelby to silence Ferguson forever in 1780. He is said to have assembled the men of this company under the huge oak tree th at still shades the Pemberton Home and lawn today. Both the tree and brick house are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

After the Virginia-North Carolina line was finally established, Pember ton joined many of his Sullivan County neighbors in registering his fi rst North Carfolina land grant (#169) for 300 acres in October of 1782. Two years later, he added another 306 acres to his first grant and still later, another 28 adjoining acres. Col Pemberton eventually acq uired more than five thousand acres of "mountain land" in Sullivan and Carter Counties, but is was the first 634 acres that comprised his p lantation.

John and Elizabeth had nine children: Thomas, Ezekiel, William, Sarah, Elizabeth, Benjamin, Nancy, Dianah and Stanton. After the parents' deathsk Elizabeth in 1812 and John in 1813, the log house and farm pas sed to Thomas.

In 1812, Benjamin married Marianna Sharp, daughter of John Sharp whos e 802 acre farm joined the Pemberton's. After Marianna's death in 182 1, Benjamin retained a life estate in 229 acres of Sharp's land. Wit h John Sharp's death in the 1840's, ownership passed to the sons of Be njamin and Marianna - Henry H., John S., Elkanah D., who were living i n Missouri and

Benjamin F., a resident of Washington County, Va. The elder Benjamin purchased their interets in the 229 acres in 1847 and 1 848. The 1850 census indicated Benjamin was living on this farm with his second wife, Barbara Buchanan Dryden, and their 22-year old son, T homas Dryden when Thomas Pemberton died.

After his brother, Ezekiel, died in 1857 Benjamin and his family move d back to Col. Pemberton's log home on the old Watauga Road. He aske d for a new survey of his land and September 4, 1857, Gov. Andrew John son signed a Tennessee land grant for 370 acres to Benjamin Pemberton.

April 9, 1873, Thomas Dryden Pemberton married Sue Bartles. They bega n constructing the brick house just in front of the Colonel's old log home, completing it in 2877. Benjamin's will, recorded that year in the July term of Sullivan County Court, left the plantation to Thomas D ryden.

Thomas and Sue Pemberton raised four children in this lovely brick hom e. They were Thomas Dryden, Jr., William, Ida and Nellie. Thomas, Sr.'s will, probated in 1899, left 132 acres "immediately surrounding, a djoining and including the land with the mansion house & outbuilding" to Thomas Dryden, Jr. Sue was to have 175 acres "adjoining and surrou nding" the share given to Thomas, Jr., and "the use and enjoyment of three rooms in the mansion house to be selected by her" as long as she lived.

The other children were given, in addition to varying sums of money, p ortions of the Sullivan County land as well as land in Polk County, Fl orida, and a farm in Washington County, Virginia.

Today Pemberton Farms is owned jointly by two granddaughters of Thoma s and Sue Pemberton - Mrs. Patsy Pemberton Clark and Mrs. Sue Pemberton vaughn. Sue and her husband, Kelly Vaughn, are the gracious residen ts of the historic Sullivan County home. They're also caretakers of the marvelous Pemberton oak which has been scientifically determined to be between 700 and 800 years of age. The tree has been a silent witness to the arrival of the aborigine, Indi an and white man to this area. It's wide spread limbs have sheltered children at play, the departure of young men for distant battlefields, and offered rest to an unknown number of travelers along the Wataug a Road. Those journeying west surely marveled at the oak's size and went with renewed hope of finding their own giant tree on America's frontier.

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"In late September, 1780, the Overmountain Men mustered at Fort Wataug a for their march to Kings Mountain, SC, to give battle to Colonel Fer guson, who had threatened to march over the mountains and lay waste to their land with "fire and sword". Ferguson was killed and most of h is army captured. This battle was the turning point of the Revolution ary War in the south. It saved the Patriot cause, which had suffered so many military defeats in this region and set off

the events that le d to the surrender of Cornwallis's Army at Yorktown the next year. TH E BATTLE OF KING'S MOUNTAIN The close of the year 1780 was, in the Sou thern States, the darkest time of the Revolutionary struggle. Cornwall is had just destroyed the army of Gates at Camden, and his two formida ble lieutenants, Tarlton the light horseman, and Ferguson the skilled rifleman, had destroyed or scattered all the smaller bands that had be en fighting for the patriot cause. The red dragoons rode hither and th ither, and all through Georgia and South Carolina none dared lift their heads to oppose them, while North Carolina lay at the feet of Cornwa llis, as he started through it with his army to march into Virginia. There was no organized force against him, and the cause of the patriot's seemed hopeless. It was at this hour that the wild backwoodsmen of the western border gathered to strike a blow for liberty. When Cornwall is invaded North Carolina he sent Ferguson into the western part of the State to crush out any of the patriot forces that might still be lin gering among the foot-hills. Ferguson was a very gallant and able off icer, and a man of much influence with the people wherever he went, s o that he was peculiarly fitted for this scrambling border warfare. He had under him a battalion of regular troops and several other battal ions of Tory militia, in all eleven or twelve hundred men. He shattere d and drove the small bands of Whigs that were yet in arms, and finall y pushed to the foot of the mountain wall, till he could see in his fr ont the high ranges of the Great Smokies. Here he learned for the firs t time that beyond the mountains there lay a few hamlets of frontiersm en, whose homes were on what were then called the Western Waters, that is, the waters which flowed into the Mississippi. To these he sent w ord that if they did not prove loyal to the king, he would cross their mountains, hang their leaders, and burn their villages. Beyond the, mountains, in the valleys of the Holston and Watauga, dwelt men who we re stout of heart and mighty in battle, and when they heard the threat s of Ferguson they burned with a sullen flame of anger. Hitherto the foes against whom they had warred had been not the British, but the Ind ian allies of the British, Creek, and Cherokee, and Shawnee. Now that the army of the king had come to their thresholds, they turned to mee t it as fiercely as they had met his Indian allies. Among the backwood smen of this region there were at that time three men of special note: Sevier, who afterward became governor of Tennessee; Shelby, who afterward became governor of Kentucky; and Campbell, the Virginian, who di ed in the Revolutionary War. Sevier had given a great barbecue, where oxen and deer were roasted whole, while horse races were run, and the backwoodsmen tried their skill as marksmen and wrestlers. In the mids t of the feasting Shelby appeared, hot with hard riding, to tell of the approach of Ferguson and the British. Immediately the feasting was s topped, and the feasters made ready for war. Sevier and Shelby sent word to Campbell to rouse the men of his own district and come without d elay, and they sent messengers to and fro in their own neighborhood to summon the settlers from their log huts on the stump-dotted clearing s and the hunters from their smoky cabins in the deep woods. The meeti ng-place was at the Sycamore Shoals. On the appointed day the backwood smen gathered sixteen hundred strong, each man carrying a long rifle, and mounted on a tough, shaggy horse. They were a wild and fierce peop le, accustomed to the chase and to warfare with the Indians. Their hun ting-shirts of buckskin or homespun were girded in by bead-worked belt s, and the trappings of their horses were stained red and yellow. At t he gathering there was a black- frocked Presbyterian preacher, and bef ore they started he addressed the tall riflemen in words of burning ze al, urging them to stand stoutly in the battle, and to smite with the sword of the Lord and of Gideon. Then the army started, the backwoods colonels riding in front. Two or three days later, word was brought to Ferguson that the Backwater men had come over the mountains; that the Indian-fighters of the frontier, leaving

unguarded their homes on the Western Waters, had crossed by wooded and precipitous defiles to the help of the beaten men of the plains. Ferguson at once fell back, se nding out messengers for help. When he came to King's Mountain, a wood ed, hog-back hill on the border line between North and South Carolina, he camped on its top, deeming that there he was safe, for he suppose d that before the backwoodsmen could come near enough to attack him he lp would reach him. But the backwoods leaders felt as keenly as he the need of haste, and choosing out nine hundred picked men, the best wa rriors of their force, and the best mounted and armed, they made a lon g forced march to assail Ferguson before help could come to him. All n ight long they rode the dim forest trails and splashed across the ford s of the rushing rivers. All the next day, October 16, they rode, until in mid-afternoon, just as a heavy shower cleared away, they came in sight of King's Mountain. The little armies were about equal in number s. Ferguson's regulars were armed with the bayonet, and so were some of his Tory militia, whereas the Americans had not a bayonet among them; but they were picked men, confident in their skill as riflemen, and they were so sure of victory that their aim was not only to defeat the British but to capture their whole force. The backwoods colonels, co unseling together as they rode at the head of the column, decided to s urround the mountain and assail it on all sides. Accordingly the band s of frontiersmen split one from the other, and soon circled the cragg y hill where Ferguson's forces were encamped. They left their horses in the rear and immediately began the battle, swarming forward on foot, their commanders leading the attack. The march had been so quick and the attack so sudden that Ferguson had barely time to marshal his men before the assault was made. Most of his militia he scattered around the top of the hill to fire down at the Americans as they came up, while with his regulars and with a few picked militia he charged with t he bayonet in person, first down one side of the mountain and then dow n the other. Sevier, Shelby, Campbell, and the other colonels of the f rontiersmen, led each his force of riflemen straight toward the summit. Each body in turn when charged by the regulars was forced to give way, for there were no bayonets wherewith to meet the foe; but the backw oodsmen retreated only so long as the charge lasted, and the minute that it stopped they stopped too, and came back ever closer to the ridg e and ever with a deadlier fire. Ferguson, blowing a silver whistle as a signal to his men, led these charges, sword in hand, on horseback. At last, just as he was once again rallying his men, the riflemen of Sevier and Shelby crowned the top of the ridge. The gallant British commander became a fair target for the backwoodsmen, and as for the la st time he led his men against them, seven bullets entered his body and he fell dead. With his fall resistance ceased. The regulars and Tori es huddled together in a confused mass, while the exultant Americans r ushed forward. A flag of truce was hoisted, and all the British who we re not dead surrendered. The victory was complete, and the backwoodsme n at once started to return to their log hamlets and rough, lonely far ms. They could not stay, for they dared not leave their homes at the m ercy of the Indians. They had rendered a great service; for Cornwallis, when he heard of the disaster to his trusted lieutenant, abandoned h is march northward, and retired to South Carolina. When he again resum ed the offensive, he found his path barred by stubborn General Greene and his troops of the Continental line.

King's Mountain: History Revisited by C. Hammett, Coordinator Combs &C ounty. Research Group and Tennesseans in the Revolutionary War The bas ic facts about The Battle of King's Mountain speak for themselves, and need no interpretation: About 1,000 militiamen, the majority of the m rough-hewn frontiersmen from "Overmountain" (west of the Blue Ridge) set out to bring down English Col. Patrick Ferguson and his troops, and on October 7th, 1780, and

accomplished their goal-in only one hour. Many theories have been advanced as to how these men able to manage what the entire Southern Campaign of the Continental Army had been una ble to do, with the most common (and most likely) being that, despite their lack of formal military training, they were seasoned Indian figh ters. This does not, however, address the question of why they were willing to go King's Mountain. Most early Southern historians romanticized their motives (1), with the most commonly-held explanation being that they were patriotic zealots willing to die for their country, and s econdarily, their anger over Col. Patrick Ferguson's threat to march o ver the mountains, hang their leaders, and lay their country waste wit h fire and sword. While both these explanations may contain more than a kernel of truth (and together form a logical explanation), and while ardent patriotism might certainly have been a factor, it has rarely been the primary rallying call for any battle. Furthermore, these early historians also fail to explain (other than in zealous patriotic phr ases) why the percentage of men from the Overmountain counties who wer e Whig (Rebels, Patriots) was so much higher than the percentage who were Tory (Loyalists, Royalists)-at a time when the remainder of North Carolina was estimated to be roughly fifty-fifty divided in their lova lties. (2) The most obvious reason, one that has been ignored by many historians, is that the Overmountain Men had no choice but to fight an d to win---not if they wanted to remain Overmountain. The Overmountai n Counties of Washington and Sullivan, North Carolina (present-day Ten nessee) did not even exist until enacted by North Carolina's Revolutio nary government (whose land policies, from the beginning, ignored bot h Royal Grants and Indian Treaties). With the exception of a few famil ies who lived "North of Holston" on land earlier granted by Virginia C olony, the remainder of those who lived Overmountain were Intruders (w hite settlers on either Indian or Granville lands)-at least in the eye s of the British. And even the North of Holston settlers were actually Intruders, or would have become such once the North Carolina provinc ial government had figured out their land wasn't in Virginia (See Squa bble State). A British victory would have most certainly resulted in the majority of the Overmountain men being ousted from their lands-assu ming they hadn't already been hung by Ferguson. Clearly, neither was a n "option." (3) Two additional factors must also be entered into the e quation of how and why the Overmountain men responded so strongly pro-Rebel: (a) They had chosen to live Overmountain, and this fact alone predisposed them toward independence-at every level; and (b) They were hunters and killers by nature: This was how they survived, how they fed their families (man does not live by corn crops alone). (4) Insofa r as the Rebel leaders were concerned, regardless of where they lived, whether east or west of the Blue Ridge, victory had become a require ment-if there was to be Life After War As We Want It. North Carolina's Revolutionary government, including the counties of Sullivan and Was hington, had been actively confiscating the estates of all Tories. (5) Would the British do the same if they regained control? All of the leaders, and many of their men (particularly land-owners) had taken po sitions so strong that there would be no going back if the British won, nor even if they "half- won," a possibility that had become a stron g rumor during the summer after the Rebel defeats at Charlotte and Cam den (the only two Major battles in the South in 1780-both of them lost). According to this rumor, the British had come to the realization that Rebel sentiments were so strong in the Northern colonies and provin ces that it would be impossible to ever recover them. in the Carolina's and Georgia, however, following the wins at Charlotte and Camden, there was talk of a negotiated settlement under which these three would remain British (along with Florida and the Bahamas). (6) The Carolina and Georgia Whigs were well aware of this rumor, and also that the Con tinental Army was no longer expending much in the

way of either men or money on the South. A Major Southern victory could go a long ways to ward circumventing any plans for ten original colonies instead of thir teen, and the decimation of Col. Patrick Ferguson might force the nort hern colonies (including, of course, General Washington's own Virginia ) to provide the necessary support to help turn the South around. Whet her there was any truth to the rumor may never be known, but among the facts that are known is that (a) British activity in the North was m inimal in 1780; (b) they had moved a large detachment of both their fl eet and their army to the south; (c) a letter in May 1780 from Contine ntal Congressman James Duane to General Phillip John Schuyler, both of New York, indicated that a ten-colony settlement had been privately considered and discussed by some members of Congress; (d) General Wash ington was concerned lest Southern Whigs place too much importance on the victory at King's Mountain; and (e) the general feeling of the Nor thern states, given the high British sentiment in the South, was that they should look to their ownwhich is exactly what was happened at Ki ng's Mountain. (ibid.) Yet another factor, one which applied to all Am erican militiamen, whether Tory or Whig, was that some militia duty was involuntary. Although it is well-documented that the Colonels "volun teered" for King's Mountain, this was not necessarily the case for the militiamen-on either side. Both the English and the Rebels had instituted the "draft," and the punishment for failing to appear for militia duty could range from fines to imprisonment and from confiscation o f one's lands to execution for treason-regardless of whether one was a Whig or a Tory. (7) Thus, even though the King's Mountain militiame n who were Overmountain are often referred to as "volunteers," they al so included conscripts, a fact that may have contributed to the high r ate of desertion after the battle. (desertions on the way to and durin g the battle appear to have been minimal). Most historians who have ac knowledged this (8) have attributed it to their having had excellent r easons for having "faded off" off into the woods after the battle; i.e., back home, their families had been left unprotected from Indian att acks. Also to be considered is the fact that their past Indian servic e had always been concluded upon achieving their goals, and the men fr eely permitted to depart immediately. In the case of King's Mountain, however, after the battle, their leaders were burdened with hundreds of Tory prisoners whom the militiamen were expected to guard, and the p recipitate departures of the Overmountain men were undoubtedly a majo r cause for the equally rapidly diminishing numbers of prisoners. (9) Also to be remembered is that the Revolutionary War was, not just a re bellion against the English, but a Civil War, and King's Mountain not a battle between Englishmen and Americans, but American against Americ an, neighbor against neighbor, and kinsman against kinsman. (10) Ther e were only a handful of Englishmen present at King's Mountain, and ev en some of them, although English-born, had been residents of the colo nies prior to the onset of the War, providing yet another possible exp lanation for the high numbers of Tory prisoners who managed to escape. While many Whig militiamen may have lauded the subsequent Tory hangi ngs (as has been alleged) at Gilbert Town, many others may have been s ufficiently shaken by this turn of events that they actively aided the ir Tory relatives and neighbors in escaping (rather than just turning a blind eye). (11) All of these factors, and more, make the battle at King's Mountain much more than a flat, onedimensional history, whethe r over- romanticized or dehumanized. The Men of King's Mountain, both Whigs and Tories, were men-living, breathing, human beings with cares and concerns not all that different from those of our brothers, father s and grandfathers who served in later American wars, and it is the telling of their real stories that most honors them.

According to Katherine Keogh White's The King's Mountain Men (Dayton, Virginia, 1924)

"Captain Samuel and his brother, Robert, were in the Point Pleasant ex pedition of 1774 (1). Samuel was at King's Mountain under Sevier and i s mentioned by Draper (2). As a captain he was with Sevier at Boyd's C reek, mentioned by Ramsey as the best fought battle in the Indian War s of Tennessee. It took place in December, 1780. In the state of Frank lin he sided with TIPTON, but when PEMBERTON reenforced Tipton with th irty men from Sullivan and captured John COWAN, HANDLY made TIPTON rel ease COWAN. In 1793, his company of 42 men was attacked near Craborcha rd [Crab Orchard] while defending the stations on the Cumberland. The Indians, 56 strong, mostly Cherokees, and led by Middle Striker, effected a surprise and created a panic. A man named LIEPER was unhorsed ne ar the Indian line. HANDLY at once seized the horse and led it near hi m, so that LIEPER might mount again, but his own horse was shot from u nder him and he took a tree, where he was met by an Indian with uplift ed tomahawk. He caught the foeman's arm and uttered an Indian word mea ning friendshipo, which the brave reciprocated and led him to the chie f, where for a time he was free from danger. While this was being done, every Indian near enough struck him with the flat side of his tomaha wk. This diversion was in favor of the panic-stricken men, only Liepe r and two others being killed. Captain McClelland, then where Kingston [Roane Co. Tennessee?] now is, set out with a relief party to bury H andly, who was thought to be killed. He found the tree where the priso ner had been tied and fragments of the paper containing the foll of the company, this having been torn in pieces by Handly. The captain was taken to Will town, where his fate was in suspense three days. He was made to run the gauntlet. His feet and hands were made fast and the In dians threw him over their heads to see what the effect would be on hi s nose. But his life was spared and he was adopted into the Wolf clan of the Cherokees. His captors wanted peace and allowed him to write the following letter to his brother-in-law Colonel James SCOTT:"

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Sullivan County, Tennessee (then still NC) was established in 1779, pr imarily from Washington County, Tennessee (then NC), although part of Sullivan, including the "North of Holston" and Carter Valley Settlem ents, was considered part of Virginia, and Tennesseans taxed by Old Fi neastle, Montgomery and Washington Cos Virginia rather than by NC. (Se e Shelby's Fort and SQUABBLE STATE) in 1784, the ill-fated State of Franklin was created (records now mostly lost and/or duplicated in Ten nessee county records), and in 1787, Hawkins County was created from the majority of Sullivan's territory (and then some). in 1790, NC cede dit's "western lands" and Tennessee became part of the "Territory Sou th of the Ohio River," which it remained until 1796 and statehood. Sul livan County Tennessee remained generally the same (land) from 1787 to the present time. Sullivan is due west of Johnson County, Tennessee

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PEMBERTON/HAWKINS/GRANT CEMETERY---Located in the Holston Valley on the farm of Mrs. Carl Leonard, Emmett Community. Copied 23 Apr. 1958 by Belle Lyle Tilden; 1985 S. I. Edwards, W. Smith, Carol Booher. (The Em mett Community is in District 1) Pemberton Oak is named for John Pembe rton according to Pemberton Cemetery Records. August 1, 2002, a littl e after 1:00PM, the Pemberton Oak completely fell. There is about 12 t o 15 feet of vertical stump left--up to where the lateral branches sta rted. It was obvious from seeing the split ends of those massive later als that the heart rot had extended up to that point. All that support ed the tree and the laterals these last several years was about 3 to 4 inches of wood. The rest of the tree's center was hollow. There are no branches at all remaining. Only the lone column of the

tree's bole . \*

John Pemberton was born 12 Oct 1742 per his tombstone. (An earlier tra nscription of that cemetery showed 19 Oct 1749 as his birth).

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Families and History of Sullivan County, Tennessee Vol. 1 1779 - 1992 . page 26 1786 Petition for Division of Sullivan County (State of Franklin) /s/ William Pemberton /s/ John Pemberton

Father: Richard Pemberton Mother: Ann Atkinson

Marriage 1 Elizabeth Stanton Delany>Delaney b: 27 JAN 1741 in Virginia

Married: 1765 <sup>8</sup>

#### Children

- 1. Renjamin Franklin Pemberton b: 07 FEB 1786 in Sullivan County, Tennessee
- 2. **Q**Dianah Pemberton b: 1781 in Sullivan County, Tennessee
- 3. RElizabeth Pemberton b: 18 JUL 1779 in Montgomery County, Virginia
- 4. <u>Ezekial Pemberton</u> b: 01 AUG 1781 in Sullivan County, Tennessee
- 5. <u>James Pemberton</u> b: 16 DEC 1767 in Montgomery County, Virginia
- 6. Nancy Pemberton b: 11 MAR 1788 in Sullivan County, Tennessee
- 7. Rarah Pemberton b: ABT 1769 in Montgomery County, Virginia
- 8. <u>Stanton Pemberton</u> b: 1778 in Montgomery County, Virginia
- 9. Thomas Pemberton b: 29 JAN 1775 in Montgomery County, Virginia
- 10. William Pemberton b: 08 JUL 1766 in Virginia

#### Sources:

1. Title: Marty Grant

Note:

Source Medium: Book

2. Title: Pemberton Cemetery Records

Note:

Source Medium: Book
3. Title: DAR Application

4. Title: Cemetery Records

Note:

Source Medium: Book

5. Title: Descendants of the Sept O'Dubhshláine

6. Title: Pentecost Family Website

Note:

Source Medium: Book

- 7. Title: Families and History of Sullivan County, Tennessee Vol. 1 1779 1992
- 8. Title: Sue Pemberton Vaughan's DAR Application

Note:

Source Medium: Book

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