

HISTORY
OF
FAYETTE COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA,
WITH
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES
OF MANY OF ITS
PIONEERS AND PROMINENT MEN.

EDITED BY
FRANKLIN ELLIS.

ILLUSTRATED.

PHILADELPHIA:
L. H. EVERTS & CO.
1882.

Upon or just below the site now occupied by New Haven a settlement was commenced by Capt. William Crawford in 1765, on the bank of the river, at the point where Gen. Braddock forded the stream on his way to the fatal battle-field of the Monongahela in 1755. That point is called "Braddock's Ford" to this day. Stewart's Crossing, sometimes confounded with Braddock's Ford, is farther up the river, and near the suspension bridge. It was so called because, in 1753, one William Stewart lived there on the south bank of the river. The Indian troubles of that period drove him away.

Evidence that Capt. William Crawford commenced his settlement improvements at Braddock's Ford in 1765 is found in his own affidavit, taken at the house of John Ormsby, in Pittsburgh, before the Virginia commissioners, in the year 1780, which is given on page 51 of this volume. In that affidavit he says he began his improvements on the Youghiogheny in the fall of 1765, and moved his family to his new home in 1766. The patent for his land was not issued until 1769. For some reason best known to himself he did not take it out in his own name, but caused it to be issued to his son John. The original survey was made in 1769, and included 376½ acres. This tract embraced all of what is now New Haven borough. The description of the lands was as follows: "Situated on the south side of the Youghiogheny River, and includes what is generally called Stewart's Crossing, in Cumberland County. The new purchase, surveyed the twenty-second day of September, 1769, by order of survey No. 2309, date the third of April, 1769. By N. Lane, Deputy Surveyor."

Not only for the reason that Capt. William Crawford was the original purchaser of the land now the site of the borough of New Haven, but because he was in his time one of the most prominent and influential men in the country west of the Alleghenies, and still more because his fearful death by Indian torture has made his name historic, a somewhat extended sketch of his life is here given:

William Crawford was a native of Virginia, born

of Scotch-Irish parentage in the year 1732, in that part of the county of Orange which afterwards became Frederick, and is now Berkeley County. His father, who was a farmer of respectability, died in 1736, leaving two sons, William and Valentine, of whom the first named was the elder. Their mother, Honora Crawford, was a woman of great energy of character and of unusual physical vigor, kind and affectionate in disposition, and devoted to the welfare of her children. Remaining but a short time in widowhood, she married for her second husband Richard Stephenson, who died about ten years afterwards, leaving six children of their marriage, viz.: John, Hugh, Richard, James, Marcus, and Elizabeth Stephenson,—five half-brothers and a half-sister of William and Valentine Crawford. The seven sons of Mrs. Stephenson were all remarkable for their size and unusual physical strength, and they were all living with their mother when, in the year 1749, the young surveyor, George Washington, then seventeen years of age, came to the neighborhood and took lodgings at Mrs. Stephenson's house while engaged in running lines in the vicinity for Lord Fairfax. Here he remained for a considerable time, and during his stay became much attached to the sons of his hostess, particularly to the eldest, William Crawford, who was of the same age as himself, and to whom he always remained a steadfast friend until death severed the tie, after an acquaintance of thirty-two years.

During the stay of Washington young William Crawford became his assistant, and learned the business of surveying, which he afterwards practiced in connection with his duties as manager of the farm until the year 1755, when he entered the military service, receiving from the Governor of Virginia a commission as ensign, which had been procured for him by the intercession of his young surveyor friend of six years before, who was now called *Colonel* Washington. It has been stated in some biographical account of William Crawford that he marched with the army of Gen. Braddock on the ill-fated expedition for the reduction of Fort du Quesne, taking part in the disastrous battle and defeat of the 9th of July, 1755; but that such was not the case is shown conclusively by his own affidavit, to which reference has already been made, and in which he distinctly states that he never saw the country west of the mountains until the year 1758. Prior to that time, for about three years, he had been engaged in frontier duty along the line of the Potomac and at Fort Cumberland, and during that time had been advanced to a lieutenancy. In the year mentioned, when the army under Gen. Forbes was preparing to march westward for a second attempt against Fort du Quesne, he received promotion to a captaincy on the recommendation of his friend, Col. Washington, who was then in command of all the Virginia troops destined for the expedition. On receiving his commission Capt. Crawford recruited a

full company of frontiersmen,¹ and at their head marched with Washington's regiments to join the forces of Gen. Forbes.

In this campaign, which resulted in the occupation of the French fortress (Nov. 25, 1758), Crawford acquitted himself with gallantry and great credit. Three years longer he continued in the military service, and at the end of that time quitted it to resume his vocations of farmer and surveyor in the Shenandoah Valley. There he married Hannah Vance, a sister of John Vance, who settled in Tyrone township, Fayette Co., and remained in the quiet of domestic life on the old Virginia farm until the summer of 1765, when he mounted his horse and turned his face westward to cross the Alleghenies and select a location for the future home of his family beyond the mountains, in the new country which he had seen and admired while on his march with the army of Forbes.

¹ "The rendezvousing of Crawford's company, preparatory to marching his men to join the force under Washington, disclosed the fact that there was a want of transportation. Here was a dilemma. Fortunately, however, there happened to be at the place where the company was encamped a teamster who had stopped to rest and feed his horses. In such an emergency Crawford felt no hesitancy in pressing the wagoner into his service, and accordingly announced to the stranger his determination. The owner of the team was in no humor to submit to what he considered an oppressive act. But how could it be avoided? He was alone in the midst of a company of men who were ready and strong enough at a word to enforce their captain's orders. Remaining a short time silent, looking sullenly at the armed men, as if measuring their strength with his own weakness, he finally observed to Crawford that it was hard to be forced into the service against his will; that every man ought to have a fair chance, and that he was taken at a great disadvantage, inasmuch as the odds against him were so great as to deprive him of the power of self-protection.

"He thought the captain was taking advantage of circumstances, and he would now make a proposition, which the commander was certainly bound in honor to accede to. 'I will fight you,' said he, 'or any man in your company. If I am whipped I will go with you cheerfully. If I conquer you must let me off.' From what has been said of Capt. Crawford's personal activity and strength it will not be a matter of wonder to learn that the challenge of the doughty teamster was at once accepted. Both began to strip; the men prepared to form a ring, determined to show fair play and to see the fun. At this moment a tall young man, who had lately joined the company, but a stranger to most of them, and who had been leaning carelessly against a tree, eyeing the scene with apparent unconcern, now stepped forward and drew Crawford aside. 'Captain,' said the stranger, 'you must let *me* fight that fellow; he will whip *you*, and it will never do to have the company whipped.' A few additional words of like import, overheard by the men, with the cool, collected, and confident manner of the speaker, induced them to suggest to Crawford that perhaps it *would* be prudent to let the stranger try his hand. The captain, having done all that policy required in accepting the challenge, suffered himself to be persuaded by his men, and it was agreed that the youth should be substituted in his place.

"By this time the wagoner was stripped to the buff and ready for the fight. He was big, muscular, well filled out, hardened by exposure, and an adept in pugilistic encounters. His air was cool and professional, his mind defiant and confident. When the youthful-looking stranger, therefore, stepped into the ring, clad in his loose hunting-shirt, and looking slender and a little pale, the men had not the utmost confidence in his success. However, there was fire in his eye, and as he threw aside his garments a stalwart frame was disclosed of enormous bones and muscle. The spirits of the company immediately revived.

"Preparations being finished, the word was given. The youth sprang upon his antagonist with the agility and ferocity of a tiger. The blood flowed at every blow of his tremendous fists. The contest was short and decisive. The teamster was completely vanquished. The hero of this his first fight for his country was afterwards Maj.-Gen. Daniel Morgan, of Revolutionary fame."—*Butterfield's "Expedition against Sandusky."*

The spot which he selected was that which has already been described on the left bank of the Youghiogheny, near the place where the army of Gen. Braddock crossed the river, on its way to Fort du Quesne, ten years before. Here he built a log cabin, and began clearing land. He was joined in the same summer by his half-brother, Hugh Stephenson, who worked here with William Crawford for two years, during which time he made a clearing and built a cabin for himself, and in the year 1769 brought his family, which up to this time had remained at the Virginia home. The family of William Crawford, when he came to the Youghiogheny, consisted of his wife and four children,—Sarah, John, Effie, and Ann, the first named of whom became the wife of William Harrison; Effie, the wife of William McCormick; and Ann, the wife of Zachariah Connell.

In the year 1770, Col. George Washington visited Crawford's home on the Youghiogheny, and the latter accompanied him in an extended tour down the Ohio to the Kanawha for the selection of large bodies of land, in which Washington desired to make investment. In the same year Crawford was appointed one of the justices of peace for the county of Cumberland (which then embraced the present county of Fayette), and on the 11th of March, 1771, Governor Penn appointed him, with Arthur St. Clair, Dorsey Pentecost, Robert Hanna, and others, justices of the peace of the then newly-erected county of Bedford. Upon the erection of Westmoreland County, in 1773, his commission was renewed for that county, and he was made presiding justice in its courts.

On the breaking out of "Dunmore's war," in 1774, being anxious to take part in the conflict, Crawford was indiscreet enough to accept a captain's commission from the Governor of Virginia. Up to this time, through the dispute which had existed between Pennsylvania and Virginia (in which both States claimed jurisdiction over the region west of Laurel Hill), he had remained true to the State under which he held commission as justice of the peace, but now that his military ardor had been reawakened he allowed it to outweigh his loyalty to Pennsylvania, and to induce him to recognize the claims of her adversary by taking service under the Virginia Governor, Dunmore. He raised a company of men, and in June of the year named marched them to "Fort Dunmore," as the Virginians had now named the fortification at the present site of Pittsburgh. He was made major by Dunmore, and took quite a part in the "war" of that year, being sent in command of a detachment to destroy one of the Mingo towns, and performed that duty thoroughly, taking some prisoners, whom he sent to Fort Dunmore. He also did some service with his command at Wheeling. At the close of the Indian hostilities in November he returned from that station to his home on the Youghiogheny.

While he was absent on the campaign Arthur St. Clair (afterwards major-general in the war of the

Revolution), one of his associate justices of Westmoreland County, feeling aggrieved at the course which Crawford had pursued in accepting a military office under Virginia and engaging in a war against the Indians, which the Pennsylvania government disapproved of, wrote to Governor Penn on the 22d of July, saying, "Capt. Crawford, the president of our court, seems to be the most active Virginia officer in their service. He is now down the river at the head of a number of men, which is his second expedition. . . . How is it possible for a man to serve two colonies in direct antagonism to each other at the same time?" He proceeded to argue that as Crawford had "joined with the government of Virginia in opposing the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania," he should be removed from the offices which he held by appointment in the county of Westmoreland. The argument was held to be sound, and the reasons sufficient. He was accordingly so removed on the 25th of January, 1775, and never again held office under the State of Pennsylvania.

He now became fully identified with the Virginia partisans as opposed to the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania. Upon the erection of the Virginia county of Yohogania, Capt. Crawford was appointed deputy surveyor and one of the justices for that county, and occasionally sat on the bench as one of the justices of its courts in 1777 and 1778. He continued to hold these offices during the existence of the county,—that is, until Virginia surrendered her claim to jurisdiction in the territory between Laurel Hill and the present western boundary of Pennsylvania.

During the first part of his career as deputy surveyor under Virginia, when his surveys caused many persons to be temporarily dispossessed and some imprisoned, Crawford became exceedingly unpopular among the people of his section, in whose favor and estimation he had previously stood high. But he soon after regained his popularity by the patriotic course which he took in the Revolution, sinking all his partisanship in an ardent zeal for the cause of liberty. At the convention which met at Pittsburgh on the 16th of May, 1775, to express their views as to the aggressions of the mother-country, and to concert measures for the general good, William Crawford took a prominent part in the proceedings, and was made a member of the "Committee of Defense." It has been said that about this time he offered his services in a military capacity to the Council of Safety, then sitting in Philadelphia, but that, "in view of his conduct in setting at defiance the laws of Pennsylvania, and the bitter feeling engendered on account of the transactions of other Virginians with whom he had associated, his patriotic offer was rejected;" but there is doubt of the authenticity of this statement.

In the fall of 1775 he offered his services to Virginia to raise a regiment for the general defense, and the offer was accepted. He then at once commenced recruiting, and it was not long before a full regiment

was raised almost entirely by his own exertions. He, however, did not then obtain the colonelcy, which he expected and which he had so well earned, for the reason that Congress had determined to receive only six Virginia regiments into the Continental army, and as the number of regiments raised in Virginia exceeded this quota all the expectant officers could not be provided for. On the 12th of January, 1776, however, Crawford was commissioned lieutenant-colonel of the Fifth Virginia Regiment, and on the 11th of October received from Congress the appointment of colonel of the Seventh Virginia Regiment in the Continental service, his commission dating the 14th of August preceding.

During the year 1776, Col. Crawford served with his command in the campaign and battle of Long Island, and in the later operations north of the city of New York. He was with the dispirited army of Washington in the dreary retreat through New Jersey and across the Delaware River, and was one of the heroes who, recrossing that stream in the night of the 25th of December, fought the battle and won the victory at Trenton on the morning of the 26th. On the 3d of January, 1777, he was present at the battle of Princeton, and marched from that field by way of Pluckamin to the winter-quarters at Morristown. In the fall of the same year he took part in the campaigns of the Brandywine and Germantown.

Col. Crawford having represented to the commander-in-chief that there was serious danger of Indian attacks in the country bordering the Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio Rivers, his views were taken into consideration, and it was ordered that two regiments of men be raised—one in Virginia and one in Pennsylvania—for the protection of their frontiers; and it was by Congress "Resolved, That General Washington be requested to send Colonel William Crawford to Pittsburgh to take the command, under Brigadier-General Hand, of the Continental troops and militia in the Western Department." In pursuance of this resolution the order was issued, and Col. Crawford having received his instructions from Congress at York, Pa., proceeded to Fort Pitt to assume his new command.¹ The regiment which Virginia

¹ When Col. Crawford bade farewell to his regiment—the Seventh Virginia—preparatory to leaving for his new command in the West, he received from the officers of the Seventh the following address, which is indicative of the high esteem in which he was held by them as a commander and as a man:

"We beg leave to take this method of expressing our sense of the warmest attachment to you, and at the same time our sorrow in the loss of a commander who has always been influenced by motives that deservedly gain the unfeigned esteem and respect of all those who have the honor of serving under him. Both officers and soldiers retain the strongest remembrance of the regard and affection you have ever discovered toward them; but as we are well assured that you have the best interests of your country in view, we should not regret, however sensibly we may feel the loss of you, that you have chosen another field for the display of your military talents. Permit us, therefore, to express our most cordial wish that you may find a regiment no less attached to you than the Seventh, and that your services may ever be productive of benefit to your country and honor to yourself."

had been required to furnish had been raised by that State to the maximum; that of Pennsylvania was considerably deficient in numbers. Both reported at Fort Pitt in the spring of 1778.

One of the first duties assigned to Col. Crawford in his new command was the erection of a fort at a fording-place on the Allegheny, sixteen miles above Pittsburgh, as a check to marauding Indians who were in the habit of crossing the river at that place. This work was performed successfully and to the entire satisfaction of Gen. McIntosh,¹ who named it "Fort Crawford," in compliment to the colonel who superintended its construction, and who was the commandant of its garrison a considerable part of the time during 1778 and the following year.

In the fall of 1778, Col. Crawford (who was then in command of a brigade formed of the militia of Yohogania, Monongalia, and Ohio Counties, Va.) took part in the expedition under Gen. McIntosh for the capture of the British post of Detroit. Nothing came of it, however, except the erection of Forts Laurens and McIntosh. At the close of the expedition he returned with his command to Fort Pitt. In 1779 he commanded several minor expeditions against the Indians, and was generally successful. In 1780 he appeared before Congress to urge a more energetic defense of the frontier against Indian depredations, and his representations caused that body to grant aid in money and munitions of war, which latter were forwarded to Fort Pitt and other Western posts. In 1781 he gave powerful aid to the unfortunate Col. Lochry in raising men in Westmoreland County for the expedition under Gen. Clarke, in which Lochry and his men all lost their lives. It was the intention of Crawford to accompany this expedition, but he was prevented by the necessity of his presence at Fort Pitt and on the Allegheny outposts.

In the autumn of 1781 he was retired from active military duty, but without resigning his commission. The war was evidently drawing towards a close, and he resolved to pass the remainder of his life in peace at his home on the Youghiogheny. For a time it seemed as if this earnest wish might be gratified, but it was not to be so. The surrender of Cornwallis was clearly the end of the conflict, so far as the movements of armies were concerned, but the Indian depredations on the Western frontier were not only continued, but were becoming more frequent and daring. Finally, in the spring of 1782, the Sandusky expedition was proposed, to inflict a decisive blow on the savages by the destruction of their town. The proposition met with favor, the campaign was decided on, and preparations for it were pushed rapidly forward. Col. Crawford approved of but did not purpose joining it. "His advice was frequently and freely given, and although resolved to draw the sword no more, yet his

martial spirit was fully aroused as reports came in from the frontiers of the early appearance of the Indians, and their audacity and horrible barbarity. He could hardly restrain himself from hurrying away with his neighbors in pursuit of the merciless foe. . . . Many eyes were turned upon Crawford as the proper person to lead the expedition, but he refused. His patriotism, however, pleaded powerfully against his settled determination, as he saw the probability of a volunteer force, respectable in numbers, being raised for the enterprise. To add to the plea his son John and his son-in-law, William Harrison, determined to volunteer for the campaign. Pentecost² was urgent that he should once more take command. Irvine himself thought it would be expedient for him to accept.

"Crawford could no longer refuse. He still held his commission as colonel in the regular army, and the commanding officer of the Western Department desired him to lead the expedition; 'hence,' he reasoned, 'it is now my duty to go. I will volunteer with the rest, and if elected to command, shall do all in my power for the success of the expedition.' It is the testimony of a grandson of Crawford (Uriah Springer) that he had often heard his grandmother say it was against the will of his grandfather to go out on the Sandusky expedition; but as he held a commission under the government, he yielded to the wishes of the volunteers."³

Having arrived at this decision, he at once set about making arrangements for his departure. On the 16th of May he made his will,⁴ and in the morning of the 18th he took leave of his children, relatives, and friends, and departed. His wife accompanied him across the Youghiogheny to its right bank, where, bathed in tears and weighed down with the darkest forebodings, she bade him a sorrowful and, as it proved, a final farewell. The colonel mounted his horse⁵ and rode to Fort Pitt, where he held an extended conference with Gen. Irvine in regard to the expedition. On the 20th he left the fort and proceeded down the river to the rendezvous at Mingo Bottom, and was elected to the command of the forces. The events which occurred in the few remaining days of his life, and of his dreadful death at the stake in the afternoon of the 11th of June, 1782, have already been narrated in the account of the disastrous Sandusky expedition.

Crawford's farm and primitive residence at the crossing of the Youghiogheny was called by him "Spring Garden," but it was widely known by nearly all

² Dorsey Pentecost, of Washington County, a particular friend of Col. Crawford's.

³ Butterfield's "Expedition against Sandusky."

⁴ "He did not expect to traverse the Indian country as far as Sandusky without encountering many obstacles, and perhaps fighting hard battles; so, calculating all the chances, he thought fit to prepare for the worst, not, however, from any presentiment of disaster, as has so often been alleged, but simply from the dictates of prudence."—(Butterfield.)

⁵ The horse which Col. Crawford rode on the expedition to Sandusky was a very fine animal, which he had purchased expressly for this service from Col. Isaac Meason, of Mount Braddock.

¹ Who had succeeded Gen. Hand in command of the Western Department.

travelers to and from the Monongahela country as "Crawford's Place," and it was made a halting-point by great numbers of those (particularly Virginians) who came to or through this region on land-seeking tours or other business. Crawford was a man of remarkably open and generous nature, free-hearted, and hospitable to a degree that was ruinous to his own interest. The result was that his house at the Youghiogheny crossing became a noted resort for pioneers, and there was seldom a day or night when his roof did not shelter others besides the members of his own family. Under these circumstances he found that to escape being reduced to poverty he must do one of two things,—leave the country or open a tavern at his house. He chose the latter, and announced his determination to Col. George Washington, in a letter dated "Spring Garden, Jan. 15, 1774," in which he said to his illustrious friend, "I intend public housekeeping, and I am prepared for it now, as I can live no longer without that or ruining myself, such numbers constantly travel the road, and nobody keeping anything for horses but myself. Some days, now, if I had rum, I could make three pounds. I have sent for some by Valentine Crawford, and can supply you with what you want as cheap as you can bring it here if you carry it yourself." This last part of the extract has reference to Washington's supposed need of rum for the use of the men he had employed about that time in improvements on his lands in what is now the township of Perry. The Valentine Crawford mentioned in the letter was William Crawford's brother, who came to this region and settled on Jacob's Creek not long after William settled on the Youghiogheny. Both the brothers were to some extent engaged in trade with the Indians after their settlement here, and both at different times acted as Washington's agent for the care and supervision of his large tracts of land in Fayette County and west of the Monongahela.

The widow of Col. Crawford was left in embarrassment as to property. Crawford's private affairs had come to be in a very unsettled condition on account of his military and other duties having called him so frequently from home, his absence sometimes being greatly prolonged. The excitements and vicissitudes of the later years of his life had called his attention from them necessarily. The result was that his estate was swept away, most of it, by a flood of claims, some of them having, doubtless, no just foundation. For losses sustained upon the Sandusky expedition the State afterwards reimbursed his estate. Hannah Crawford afterwards drew a pension from the State on account of the military services of her husband. In November, 1804, a petition to Congress for her relief was presented to Congress. It recited that her husband, William Crawford, was at the time of his death on the Continental establishment as colonel of the Virginia line; that in the spring of 1782, in the hour of imminent danger and the defenseless situation

of the Western frontier, by the directions and under the instructions of Gen. William Irvine, who then had the command of the militia and Continental troops in the Western country, he took the command as colonel of and marched with a detachment of Western militia volunteers and some Continental officers against the savage enemy, the Indians; and that in the month of June of that year he was defeated by the savages and fell in the defense of his country. The prayer of the petition was, in view of the fact that the petitioner was aged, infirm, and indigent, that "your honorable body will grant such relief and support as in your wisdom, justice, and discretion for the services and loss of her said husband your petitioner may be justly entitled to." Congress, however, refused to grant the relief sought for. For thirty-five years after her husband's tragic death Mrs. Crawford lived upon the old place at Braddock's Ford, and in the old log house that Col. Crawford built in 1765. After the departure of her son John for his new home in Kentucky, she was left to the care of an old slave named Daniel, and a man named Ladd, who had long been one of the Crawford servants. These two, as well as all of the old Crawford servants, she outlived, dying in New Haven in 1817, at the age of ninety-three years and eleven months.

Mrs. Crawford was described as a remarkably active woman in her old age. Provance McCormick, Esq., of Connellsville, remembers that one day, about 1807, Mrs. Crawford, then upwards of eighty years old, came on horseback to visit the McCormicks in Connellsville. She rode a good-sized mare, and when ready to return home after her visit was ended went to mount her favorite "Jenny." "Wait, wait," called one of the boys, "wait until I bring your horse to the block." "I don't want a horse-block, my boy, to mount upon Jenny's back," blithely replied the old lady; "I'm better than fifty horse-blocks," and so saying she moved briskly towards Jenny, placed one hand upon the horn of the saddle, the other upon Jenny's back, and at a single bound was firmly seated in her place. "There," cried she, "what do you suppose I want of horse-blocks?" Whereat everybody applauded and commended her performance, saying but few women could equal it.

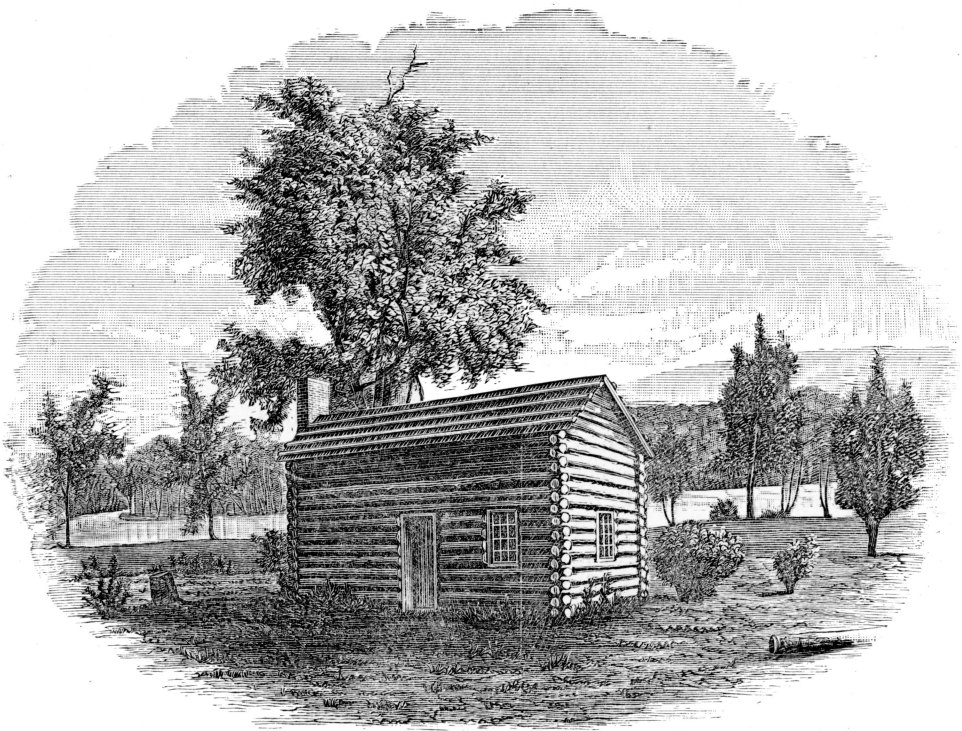
Of course the death of Col. Crawford was a terrible blow to the widow. For years her grief was overwhelming. Uriah Springer¹ says, "When I was a little boy (long after Col. Crawford's death) my grandmother Crawford took me up behind her on horseback and rode across the Youghiogheny, past the John Reist farm, and into the woods at the left. When we alighted we stood by an old moss-covered white-oak log. "Here," said my grandmother, as she sat down upon the log and cried as if her heart would break, "here I parted with your grandfather."

¹ Son of Col. Crawford's daughter Sarah, whose first husband, William Harrison, was killed in the Crawford expedition, and who afterwards married Capt. Uriah Springer.

The old Crawford house contained but one room, and stood upon a round knoll, about fifty yards from the Crawford Spring, now on Mrs. Banning's property, near the house of Washington Johnson. In the stone house built over the spring is said to be a stick of timber from the Crawford house, while other timbers therefrom are said to have been used in the construction of the buildings known as the Locomotive-Works. When the house was demolished a few speculative persons made walking-canes of some of the timber, and sold them at high prices to relic-seekers.

Early in 1770 an occurrence took place at the home of William Crawford which created considerable ex-

cerned in the murder of Indian Stephen," which, from the best information the Governor could obtain, was committed on a spot of ground claimed by Pennsylvania.¹ "You will find by the paper I have inclosed," adds Botetourt, "that there never was an act of villany more unprovoked or more deliberately undertaken." Crawford took every pains to bring forward the proper evidence against the prisoner, but the latter escaped from custody and was never heard of afterwards.



WILLIAM CRAWFORD'S HOUSE, BUILT 1766.

citement in Western Pennsylvania. John Ingham, a young man in his employ, who had been indentured to him to learn the art of surveying, brutally murdered (while intoxicated) an Indian, a warm friend of the Crawford family. After committing the deed the young apprentice fled to Virginia, pursued, however, by Crawford and a few neighbors, who succeeded in capturing him. He was then turned over to the State authorities for punishment. Lord Botetourt, the Governor of Virginia, after a conference with Crawford, sent Ingham, under guard, to Governor Penn, of Pennsylvania, at the same time explaining to the latter, by a letter written at Williamsburg on the 20th of March, 1770, that he had sent "the body of John Ingham, he having confessed himself as con-

¹ The return of this prisoner by Lord Botetourt to Pennsylvania for trial was in the after controversy between the two provinces as to whom the territory belonged urged with great force by Governor Penn against the claim of Virginia.