

starting-place, on the Durham road, in order to see the champions pass. First came Yates, stepping along as light as a feather, accompanied by William Penn and his attendants on horseback; after him, but out of sight, came Jennings, with a strong steady step; and not far behind, Edward Marshall, apparently carelless, swinging an axe in his hand, and eating a dry biscuit. Bets were greatly in favour of Yates.

Marshall took biscuits to support his stomach, and carried an axe to swing in either hand alternately, having a notion that the action of his arms should somewhat correspond with that of his legs; he was fully resolved to beat the other men, or to die in the attempt.

In relating this feat some years after, he gave the following account. He said that he gained upon Yates in descending towards the Durham creek, where Yates complained of being very much tired, sat down on a log to rest himself, and soon after gave up the walk; he walked nearly eighty miles, but hurried too much at first. Marshall kept on, and before he reached the Lehigh, overtook and passed Jennings, waded the river Bethlehem, and walked on, faster and faster, past the place where Nazareth, now stands, to the place called the Wind Gap.

This was as far as the path had been marked out for them, and there was a large collection of people waiting to see if any of the three men would reach it by sun-set. Marshall halted only while the surveyor furnished him with a pocket compass, and then started forward again. Three Indian runners were sent after him, to see that he walked it fairly, and to ascertain how far he went. He then passed to the west of the Pokono mountain, (the Indians finding it difficult to keep up with him,) till he reached Long Pond, and he would have proceeded farther, had it not been for this water. Here he marked a tree, as was witnessed by the three Indians.

The distance he walked between sun-rise and sun-set, none of it being on a good road, and thirty miles of it being through woods, was measured, and found to be one hundred and fifteen miles.