

vania, at that time the backwoods frontier, the extreme limit of civilization. As might be expected, he received but a limited education in book-learning, but, as befitted a backwoods boy, he was well versed in wood-craft, active in the hunt, and inured to all the hardships and trials of a frontier life. At the age of eighteen, in 1755, he was taken captive by the Indians, was adopted into one of their families, and accompanied them in all their wanderings, till his escape in 1759. He returned to Conococheague early in 1760, and was received with great joy by his family and friends.

He settled himself at his old home in the ordinary routine of pioneer farming, and in May, 1763, married Miss Anne Wilson, by whom he had seven children—four sons, Jonathan, William, James, and Robert; and three daughters, Jane, Elizabeth, and Rebecca. His subsequent adventures, as a leader of the Black-boys, in 1763 and 1769; his service as a lieutenant in Bouquet's expedition against the Ohio Indians in 1764; his exploring excursion into southern Kentucky in 1766, and his services during the Revolutionary war, in which he earned and received the rank of colonel, are sufficiently detailed in his own narrative.

After the temporary peace made with the Indians in 1778, he removed to Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, and settled on a farm on Jacob's creek. Here his wife died. Of her we know little, except that she was a good woman, and a devoted wife and mother. In 1785, he spent most of the summer in Kentucky, looking after some land claims; there he married his