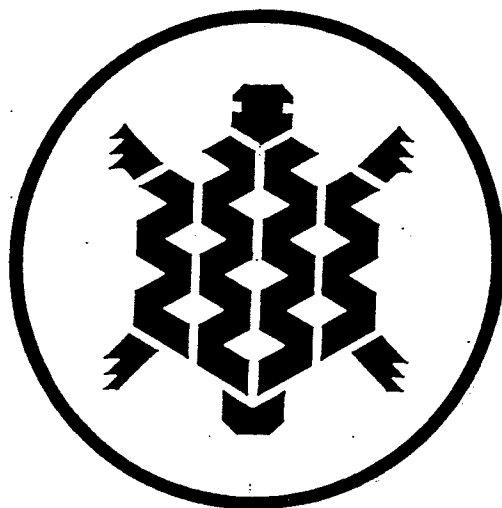


# **THE EMIGRANT TRIBES**

**WYANDOT, DELAWARE & SHAWNEE**



**A CHRONOLOGY**

**LARRY K. HANCKS**

**KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 1998**

this work is dedicated  
with appreciation and gratitude  
to the memory of

MRS. THELMA R. MARSH

## INTRODUCTION

This paper had its genesis in research begun in 1977, when work resumed on projected improvements to the Huron Indian Cemetery in Kansas City, Kansas. The project had been held in abeyance for several years following the termination of the Kansas City, Kansas Urban Renewal Agency, and there had been some question as to whether or not the City would ever proceed with it. Once the decision was made, the project architect, Gene Buchanan, asked if I would help in reviewing the research materials that had been compiled by Urban Renewal. My task was two-fold: to review the inscriptions and locations of the new grave markers to be installed, and to try to edit a new text for the entry plaques from two very different versions that had been prepared, by Charles W. E. Garrad and Robert S. Wood. Both tasks were eventually completed, although not without criticism (some of it quite justified). In the process, I began a fascination with the Wyandot Indians and their history that has lasted over twenty years.

In 1981, I was asked to make a presentation on the history of the three emigrant tribes that settled in the Kansas City area for an annual course on the history and culture of Wyandotte County, taught by Paul Jewell at the Kansas City, Kansas Community College. Struggling to find a way to keep events straight enough in my own mind to make a coherent presentation, I began work on the present chronology. That first draft was 62 pages in length, and I thought that some day it might go over 100. That "some day" was passed quite some time ago. It is now nearing 500 pages, and would probably go closer to 600 if I had been as diligent in researching the Delaware and Shawnee as the available materials would seem to justify.

The contents of the chronology are presented in as straightforward a manner as possible, often to the point of being phrases rather than complete sentences. In the beginning, the chronology relied heavily on secondary sources, but in more recent years primary documents have come increasingly into play - many Wyandots were not only literate, they cultivated the fine nineteenth century habit of writing everything down in journals, notebooks, and numerous letters. I have tried to present the known facts and sequence of events without undue editorializing, but certain biases will inevitably show through, if only in the matter of word choice. There is also a great deal of extraneous material on North American and world history, designed to put events affecting the three tribes into a broader context. And quite frankly, some of this latter material was inserted simply for my own amusement, as I never seriously expected the chronology to be published or even widely circulated. Should publication ever become likely, a rather ruthless editor would seem to be called for.

An additional problem with publication would probably be the question of plagiarism. In its early stages of development, this work relied heavily on entries found in four previously published chronologies, all noted in the bibliography: Louise Barry's The Beginning of the West (1972), Martha B. Caldwell's Annals of Shawnee Methodist Mission and Indian Manual Labor School (1939, 1977), D. W. Wilder's The Annals of Kansas (1886), and the Civil War chronology included with the deluxe edition of The American Heritage Picture History of the Civil War (1960). While some of the entries drawn from these four works were altered in various ways for various reasons (including questions of style), there often proved to be little room for change when trying to describe a discrete event in a simple sentence or phrase.

It should be kept in mind that, thanks to computers, this is still very much a work-in-progress, always subject to corrections and/or additions. Anyone with suggestions for either will always be welcome - this is a bit like a group project anyway - but please, let me know what your sources are. Both contributors and their sources will be credited whenever possible, in the acknowledgements and the bibliography.

Larry K. Hancks  
Kansas City, Kansas  
June 2007

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In addition to the primary and secondary sources listed in the bibliography, acknowledgement must be made of the many individuals that have freely provided information, assistance, comments and criticism over the years. They include Sallie Cotter Andrews, David Boutros, Dr. Steve Collins, Helen Long Dowis, Janith K. English, Charles W. E. Garrad, Dorothy Hart Kroh, Thelma R. Marsh, Susan Kollman Mufich, Deborah Nichols, Adele Rahn, Eudora Emmons Reed, Betty J. Roberts, Rodney Staab, Robert S. Wood, Paul Armstrong Youngman, the staff of the Kansas City, Kansas Public Library, and most particularly the staff of the Wyandotte County Historical Society and Museum, past and present: Steve Allie, Rebecca Barber, John Nichols, Tom Pfannenstiel, and Lisa Schwarzenholz. This work would not have been possible without them.

The Turtle symbol which appears on the title page was designed by the architectural firm of the late Charles W. Moore, as part of that firm's contribution to the Center City Urban Renewal Project in Kansas City, Kansas. As the symbol for the Wyandots' Big Turtle Clan, it is one of ten clan symbols incorporated into the design of the new 7th Street entrance to the Huron Indian Cemetery. At a larger scale, it also appears on the sign marking the cemetery entrance as a symbol of the Wyandots' identity as the People of the Great Island.

## THE EMIGRANT TRIBES: WYANDOT, DELAWARE & SHAWNEE

### A CHRONOLOGY

- 1453 - May 29; Constantinople falls to the Ottoman Turks. After 1100 years the Eastern Roman Empire has finally reached its end, shutting Europe's door to the East.
- 1485 - August 22; the Battle of Bosworth Field. Richard III is killed, ending the War of the Roses. Henry Tudor, Duke of Richmond, becomes King of England as Henry VII.
- 1492 - October 12; Christopher Columbus makes his first landfall in the Americas.
- 1498 - June 24; John Cabot, sailing on behalf of Henry VII of England, discovers North America.
- c. 1500 - Breton, Basque and Cornish fishermen are fishing the Grand Banks off Newfoundland, and may actually have preceded Columbus and Cabot.
- 1509 - April 21; death of Henry VII. Henry VIII becomes King of England.
- 1517 - October 31; Martin Luther nails 95 theses to the church door at Wittenberg. Beginning of the Reformation.
- 1519 - April 21, Good Friday; Spanish *conquistador* Hernan Cortes lands in Mexico with 600 men.
- 1523 - August 13; Tenochtitlan (Mexico City) falls to Cortes and his Indian allies, and with it the Aztec Empire. The repercussions are felt throughout Central and North America.
- 1529 - September 27; Vienna is besieged by Ottoman Turks under Suleiman the Magnificent. Forced to retreat with the onset of winter, this is the high point of Turkish conquest in Europe.
- 1531 - December 12; a Christian Mexican Indian named Juan Diego has a vision of the brown-skinned Virgin of Guadalupe near a former Aztec shrine.
- 1535 - August 10; Jacques Cartier, on a voyage of discovery for Francois I of France, sails into the St. Lawrence.
- October 2; first French contact with Wyandots in the vicinity of the great town of Hochelaga, site of the present Montreal. Wyandots and related tribes may number between 30,000 and 45,000, with two of the largest Wyandot tribal groups, the Attignaouantan and the Attingneenongnahac, joined in a confederacy. Already at war with other Iroquoian tribes, the Wyandots begin to move west.

- 1539 - May 25; Spanish *conquistador* Hernando de Soto lands with a large force at Tampa Bay in the Floridas.
- 1541 - May 8; Soto reaches the Mississippi River, having marched overland from the Floridas. The brutal behavior of the Spanish has a devastating effect on the tribes of the Southeast; perhaps coincidentally, Mississippian culture enters a rapid decline.
- 1542 - May 21; death of Soto. He is buried in the Mississippi at night to hide his death from the Indians.
- 1546 - February 18; death of Martin Luther.
- 1547 - January 16; Ivan the Terrible is crowned Czar of all the Russias.
- January 28; death of Henry VIII. His nine-year-old son Edward VI becomes King of England.
- March 31; death of Francois I. Henri II becomes King of France.
- 1553 - July 6; death of Edward VI. His elder half-sister Mary I becomes Queen of England.
- 1558 - November 17; death of "Bloody" Mary. Her younger half-sister Elizabeth I becomes Queen of England.
- 1559 - January 15; 25-year-old Elizabeth I is crowned in Westminster Abbey.
- July 10; death of Henri II. Francois II becomes King of France.
- c. 1560 - Iroquoian tribes south of the Great Lakes, at war with each other and surrounded by more numerous Algonquian enemies, are on the verge of extinction. The Iroquois Confederacy, the League of the Five Nations, is founded by Deganawidah and Hiawatha. Beginning of the "Great Peace."
- The Arendaronnon, the People of the Rock, become the third tribal group to join the Huron (Wyandot) Confederacy. They may be a Seneca or Onondaga group that has rejected (or been denied the protection of) the Great Peace and fled north across Lake Ontario. In the future they will be a particular target of Iroquois enmity.
- 1560 - December 5; death of Francois II after a reign of just 15 months. His brother Charles IX becomes King of France.
- 1564 - February 18; death of Michelangelo Buonarroti in Rome at the age of 89.
- April 23; birth of William Shakespeare at Stratford-on-Avon, England.
- 1570 - February 25; Pope Pius V excommunicates Elizabeth I.

- c. 1570 - The Tahontaenrat, the People of the Deer, become the fourth tribal group join the Huron (Wyandot) Confederacy.
- 1571 - October 7; the Battle of Lepanto. Allied naval forces under Don John of Austria defeat the Turkish fleet off western Greece. The last great sea battle involving galleys ends the Ottoman threat to Italy and the western Mediterranean.
- 1572 - August 24; the Saint Bartholomew's Day Massacre. At the instigation of Queen Mother Catherine de Medici, some 20,000 French Huguenots (Calvinist Protestants) are killed.
- 1574 - May 30; death of Charles IX (some say of a broken heart). His brother Henri III becomes King of France.
- 1582 - October 4; the Gregorian Calendar goes into effect, following the reform initiated by Pope Gregory XIII. In order to eliminate the accumulated error of 10 days found in the Julian Calendar, October 4 is followed by October 15. Some countries (including England) will not make the change for several centuries.
- 1587 - February 8; Mary, Queen of Scotland and the Isles, is beheaded for plotting to murder her cousin, Elizabeth I.
- 1588 - July 29; England defeats the Spanish Armada.
- 1589 - August 1; Henri III is assassinated by a Catholic fanatic. End of the House of Valois. Henri de Navarre, husband of Marguerite de Valois and leader of the Huguenots, is heir to the throne of France as Henri IV.
- 1593 - July 25; Henri de Navarre converts to Catholicism in order to secure the throne. "Paris is worth a Mass."
- 1598 - April 13; the Edict of Nantes. Henri IV signs a measure granting religious liberty and civil rights to the Huguenots.
- c. 1600 - The name "Hurons" is given to the Wyandots of the Huron Confederacy by the French. The four nations are at the height of their power in Ouendake (the French Huronia), with 16 towns between Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay in central Ontario. Capital of the confederacy is the town of Ossossane on the eastern shore of Nottawasaga Bay. Ottawa to Wyandot to Iroquois fur trade flourishes, supported by Wyandot agricultural surplus.
- West of the Hurons, across the Nottawasaga River, is a second, smaller Wyandot confederacy, the Tionontate, called Petun by the French. To the south a third Wyandot group, the Attiouandaron, called the Neutrals by the French because of their stance in Wyandot-Iroquois conflicts, occupies the country west of Niagara. (The Neutrals are considered by the Five Nations of the Iroquois to be ancestral to all the Iroquoian-speaking peoples, descended through the matrilineal line from The Woman Who Fell from the Sky.)



- 1603 - March 24; death of Elizabeth I. End of the House of Tudor. James VI of Scotland becomes King of England as James I.
- Samuel de Champlain, a Huguenot captain, is appointed a royal geographer by Henri IV.
- 1606 - April 12; England adopts as its flag the first version of the Union Jack, combining the national flags of England and Scotland.
- 1607 - April 26; the first permanent English settlement in the Americas is established at Jamestown in Virginia.
- 1608 - July 3; Samuel de Champlain founds Quebec, the first permanent French settlement in the Americas, on the site of the Algonkian town of Stadacona.
- 1609 - July 30; Champlain accompanies a mixed war party of Arendaronnon Hurons, Montagnais and Algonquins to the lake which now bears his name, where with his aid they inflict a major defeat on the Iroquois. The Iroquois discover firearms.
- September 2; Henry Hudson and the *Half Moon*, sailing on behalf of the Dutch East India Company, enter the Hudson River while searching for the Northwest Passage.
- In the winter, La Villa Real de la Santa Fe de San Francisco de Asis is founded by Pedro de Peralta as the capital of the province of New Mexico.
- 1610 - May 14; Henri IV is assassinated by a Catholic fanatic. Eight-year-old Louis XIII becomes King of France.
- 1611-1612 - Etienne Brule, protege of Champlain, spends an extended period among the Hurons.
- 1614 - A formal trading alliance between the French and the Huron Confederacy is ratified at Quebec.
- Dutch begin trading guns to the Iroquois. They are soon much better armed than the Hurons.
- 1615 - Champlain sends Franciscan missionaries into the St. Lawrence territory. With Recollet Father Joseph Le Caron he visits the Hurons and their allies, accompanies them in a raid against the Iroquois that assembles at the principal Arendaronnon town of Cahigue, and subsequently spends the winter among them. The hatred of the Iroquois for both the French and the Huron, particularly the People of the Rock, "were intensified beyond measure."

- 1616 - Champlain goes west from the country of the Hurons and visits the Petun, but gives up trying to reach China. On his return to France, he publishes the first eyewitness account of the Wyandot homeland (Ouendake), and prepares the first map showing the upper Great Lakes (published in revised format in 1632).
- April 23; deaths of William Shakespeare in Stratford-on-Avon, England, and Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra in Madrid, Spain.
- 1619 - In the latter part of August, a Dutch warship needing supplies lands the first cargo of 20 African slaves at Jamestown in Virginia. (New-found records indicate there were already slaves present at the settlement.)
- 1620 - December 26; English religious dissenters (the Pilgrims) land at the site of Plymouth on Massachusetts Bay.
- 1621 - June 3; the Dutch West India Company receives a charter for New Netherlands.
- 1623 - Father Le Caron and two other Recollet missionaries attempt to establish a mission among the Hurons but fail.
- 1624 - August 13; Louis XIII names Cardinal Richelieu his first minister.
- 1625 - March 27; death of James I. Charles I becomes King of England.
- In the spring, Nieuw Amsterdam (present New York City) is founded on Manhattan Island by the Dutch.
- Arrival of Jesuit missionaries in Canada.
- 1629 - August 9; Champlain is forced to surrender Quebec to the English after a relief expedition sent by Cardinal Richelieu from France is captured by privateers. The town's French population still numbers just 65, with only 20 adult males.
- 1632 - March 29; Quebec is returned to France by the Treaty of St. Germaine-en-Laye. Champlain must begin to rebuild.
- 1634 - The Jesuits begin a mission to the Hurons at Ihonatiria, where Taretand' is chief.
- Trois Rivieres is founded by La Biette, at the mouth of the St.-Maurice River some 70 miles up the St. Lawrence from Quebec. It becomes the fur trading center of Nouvelle-France.
- 1634-1640 - War, a devastating smallpox epidemic, and religious dissension among the Wyandots reduce their number to approximately 10,000.
- 1635 - December 25; death of Samuel de Champlain at the age of 68.

- 1637 - The Jesuits move their Huron mission headquarters to Ossossane. Many turn to the Church for protection from the epidemic.
- 1638 - March 29; Swedish and Finnish colonists begin to settle in the Delaware River valley. They have friendly relations with most groups of the Lenape (Delaware) Indians.
- More than 600 of the Wenrohoronnon, a Neutral tribe from east of Niagara, seek refuge with the Huron Confederacy to escape destruction by the Iroquois. A Turtle people themselves, they settle among the Turtle phratry of the People of the Bear at Ossossane and nearby villages.
- 1639 - The mission-fort of Ste. Marie Among the Hurons is constructed by the Jesuits on the Wye River near Midland Bay, and becomes the center for Huron mission activities.
- 1640 - Ehwae, principal town of the Petun, is attacked by an unidentified enemy, probably the Iroquois.
- 1642 - May 18; La Ville Marie de Montreal is founded by Paul de Chomeday, Sieur de Maisonneuve, on the site of Hochelaga.
- The Iroquois invade the country of the People of the Rock, and attack Huron canoes on the Ottawa River, in retaliation for loss of the fur trade to the French.
- August 22; the English Civil War begins, as Charles I raises his standard against Parliament.
- 1643 - February 15; New Sweden's first governor, Lieutenant-General Johan Printz, arrives at Christina Harbour (present Wilmington, Delaware).
- May 14; death of Louis XIII. Five-year-old Louis XIV becomes King of France and reigns for 72 years.
- There are more Iroquois attacks on French-Huron trading parties on the Ottawa River.
- 1644 - February 18; a Papal Brief recognizes Ste. Marie as a place of pilgrimage.
- The Iroquois block the Ottawa River. Twenty French men-at-arms are sent to protect Huronia.
- The Atontraronnon (Ottawa?), an Algonquian people, seek asylum with the Huron to escape destruction by the Iroquois.
- 1645 - A peace treaty between the French and the Iroquois leads the latter to expect a resumption of the Huron fur trade. Instead, the Huron take 60 canoe loads of furs to Montreal.

- 1646 - The Huron take 80 canoe loads of furs to Montreal - some 32,000 lbs. of beaver pelts.
- 1647 - May 11; Peter Stuyvesant arrives in Nieuw Amsterdam to become governor of New Netherlands.
- June 4; Charles I is taken hostage by the Parliamentary army.
- No Huron trading canoes go to Montreal this year.
- The Seneca attack and destroy a Neutral town, taking many captives, reportedly in revenge for the killing of a Seneca warrior by Wolf Petun who had pursued him to the town's gates and killed him before he could claim sanctuary. The Neutrals try to peacefully arrange for the captives' return.
- 1648 - In the spring, a small group of traditionalist Hurons rises up against the Jesuits in an abortive revolt.
- 250 Hurons in a flotilla of canoes make the journey to Quebec.
- July 4; raiding deep into Ouendake, the Iroquois destroy the Huron town of Teanaostaiaie and the mission of St. Joseph. Nearly 700 Hurons are killed, along with the Jesuit missionary, Father Antoine Daniel. Any hope for reconciliation between the Huron and the Iroquois is ended.
- The Huron trading expedition returns from Quebec with 27 Frenchmen, including 12 men-at-arms.
- 1649 - Unbeknownst to the Huron, 1,200 well-armed Iroquois, principally Seneca and Onondaga, winter north of Lake Ontario just below Ouendake.
- January 30; following trial by Parliament, Charles I is beheaded. England becomes a republic.
- March 16; the Iroquois launch coordinated attacks into Ouendake, wiping out the mission towns of St. Ignace and St. Louis. Hundreds of Hurons are put to death, along with Father Jean de Brebeuf and Father Gabriel Lalement. (Brebeuf proves so brave and steadfast under torture, preaching to his enemies, that the Iroquois eat his heart and drink his blood in tribute to his courage.)
- March 19; fearing attack by the Iroquois, Ossossane is abandoned, the people fleeing with the resident Jesuit, Father Joseph Marie Chaumonot, across the frozen Nottawasaga Bay to Ekarenniondi, principal town of the northern (Deer) Petun, and its smaller suburb on the western shore of the bay (the present Craigeith).

The Huron Confederacy disintegrates. Some flee to islands in Georgian Bay; others seek refuge with the Ottawa, Petun, Neutrals, Erie, or French, while still others become adopted captives of the Iroquois. Although well defended, Ste. Marie is isolated.

May 1; Father Chaumonot and some of his flock leave the Petun towns for Christian Island in Georgian Bay. Other Huron and Wenrohoronnon refugees from Ossossane remain with the Petun.

In May, Ste. Marie is abandoned, the refugees moving to the safety of Christian Island.

In the fall, Christian Island is put under siege by the Onondaga for the express purpose of taking captives for adoption. Despite this, by winter the island's population has swelled to several thousand.

December 7; Etharita, principal town of the southern (Wolf) Petun, is destroyed by the Iroquois. Father Charles Garnier and Father Noel Chabanel, missionaries to the Petun at St. Jean, are killed, Garnier by the Iroquois at Etharita, and Chabanel the next day by an anti-Catholic Huron, bringing the number of Jesuit martyrs to five. Many Petun refugees flee south to their Neutral kin, while other surviving Petun and Huron gather in the two northernmost Petun villages.

c. 1650 - First French contact with the Shawnee in the Cumberland Valley of Tennessee, where they have drifted from Ohio. A Shawnee colony called the Savannah is in South Carolina, where they form a buffer between the Cherokee and the Catawba.

1650 - In the early spring, Petun (Deer and Wolf), and Huron and Wenrohoronnon (Turtle) refugees from the two Petun towns follow after their Ottawa allies and leave Ontario for the fishing grounds at Mackinac Island. This is the apparent origin of the three phratries of the historic Wyandot Nation.

June 10; after a winter of famine, 300 surviving Huron refugees on Christian Island set out with 60 Frenchmen for Quebec, where their descendants the Hurons of Lorette, the Huronne Wendat of Wendake, still live. Others from Christian Island, together with some who have wintered on Manitoulin and other islands, will follow over the next year.

In the autumn and on into the spring of the next year, the Neutrals are attacked by the Iroquois, principally the Seneca. Two towns are destroyed, their inhabitants taken captive for forced adoption. Like the Huron and the Petun before them, the Neutral Confederacy disintegrates, the scattered refugees pursued by famine.

1651 - In October, Father Paul Ragueneau in Quebec records the destruction of the Neutrals. He notes that some refugees have fled to their Petun and Huron kin at Mackinac, some to the Huron at Quebec, and some have gone south to the Andastes (Susquehannocks) in New Sweden, allies of the Huron.

- 1652 - Under continuing Iroquois pressure, Petun and Huron Wyandots, together with their Ottawa allies, move from Mackinac to Rock Island in Green Bay on Lake Michigan.
- 1653 - February 2; the city of Nieuw Amsterdam is incorporated.
- April 20; General Oliver Cromwell with the backing of the army turns out Parliament.
- In July, the French report 800 Neutral and Petun refugees at Sken'chio, e in southern Michigan, near the present Detroit. They say they intend to join the Wyandots and Ottawa at Mackinac, but the Wyandots are now in Wisconsin. Some Petun may have reached the Wyandots; the Neutrals are never heard from again. (One theory is that they may have accepted Seneca sovereignty and, too numerous to be easily adopted, settled in Ohio to become part of the mixed group eventually known as the Western Seneca, or Senecas of Sandusky.)
- December 16; Oliver Cromwell is solemnly installed as Lord Protector of the English Commonwealth – the first modern dictator.
- 1653-1656 - The Erie lose a protracted war with the Iroquois. Some flee, others are forcibly adopted by the Seneca. They disappear as a tribe. The Five Nations temporarily control all the lands on either side of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.
- 1654 - Huron refugees at Quebec are joined by others from Trois Rivieres. Their chief is Ignace Tsauenhouhi.
- 1655 - September 1; New Sweden falls to Peter Stuyvesant and the Dutch. In the years of skirmishing back and forth, the Delaware have generally sided with the Swedes.
- 1656 - The Jesuits begin a mission to the Onondaga, but are forced to abandon it within two years because of Mohawk threats.
- 1657 - The Seneca, having incorporated captives from 11 different tribes through war and forced adoption, are now the largest tribe in the Iroquois Confederacy, with vastly expanded territory. They force a restructuring of the League of the Five Nations in their favor, with "coveted privileges and prerogatives" and two additional Seneca chiefs on the League Council.
- 1658 - September 3; death of Oliver Cromwell.
- 1658-1660 - The Wyandots and Ottawa move inland from Green Bay to the Mississippi River, then drift north to Chequamegon on Lake Superior in the country of the Lakota (called Sioux by their enemies), where they resume fur trade with the French.

- 1660 - May 29; the Restoration. Charles II becomes King of England.
- The Jesuit Father Rene Menard sends a present to "Sasteretsi" of the Tobacco Nation (Petun Wyandots), now at Chequamegon. First recorded mention of the title of the Wyandot principal chief.
- 1664 - September 8; Peter Stuyvesant is forced to surrender Nieuw Amsterdam to the English when the good burghers refuse to fight. New Netherlands and New Sweden become the property of the English Crown.
- 1665 - June 12; England installs a municipal government in Nieuw Amsterdam, renamed New York.
- June 30; a new Lieutenant-General of Nouvelle-France, the Marquis Prouville de Tracy, arrives in Quebec with the first regular French troops. The Crown takes possession of the colony.
- The Mission of La Pointe du St. Esprit is founded by the Jesuit Father Allouez at Chequamegon on Lake Superior, ministering to the Ottawa and Wyandots.
- 1666 - In the summer, 22-year-old Rene Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, arrives in Nouvelle-France and settles at the west end of Montreal Island.
- September 20; the Jesuit Father Jacques Marquette arrives in Quebec.
- In the fall, after over two decades of skirmishes, raids and ambushes, the Marquis de Tracy launches a full-scale military invasion of the Iroquois country. Nearly 2,000 French troops and allied Indians attack the Mohawks, destroying towns and fields.
- 1667 - July 7; the French and the Iroquois sign a peace treaty. This brings 20 years of peace to Nouvelle-France and for a time ends the conflict between the Iroquois and the remaining Wyandots.
- 1669 - Father Marquette joins the Mission of St. Esprit at Chequamegon. Kondiaronk is already a leading figure among the Wyandots in the west.
- 1670 - May 2; the Hudson Bay Company is chartered by Charles II to compete with the French in the Canadian fur trade.
- 1671 - In conflict with the Lakota and no longer menaced by the Iroquois, Wyandots move to Michilimackinac, where the Mission of St. Ignace is founded by Father Marquette. Initially located on Mackinac Island, both town and mission are soon relocated to the mainland on the north side of the strait. The Ottawa from Chequamegon relocate to Manitoulin Island.

- 1673 - In May, Father Marquette and fur trader Louis Joliet set out from St. Ignace to find the great river described by the Illinois Indians. They reach the Mississippi on June 17, and the mouth of the Arkansas a month later, where they turn back after learning there are Spanish in the area of the present New Orleans.
- 1675 - May 18; Father Marquette dies of a fever while on a mission to the Illinois Indians.
- 1676 - The Seneca send an embassy to the Wyandots at Michilimackinac, bearing rich gifts and offering aid against the Lakota. The Jesuit missionaries at St. Ignace believe the Seneca are trying to lure the Wyandots to New York.
- 1677 - Father Marquette's remains are returned to St. Ignace.
- 1678 - Having gained Royal support in France for his proposed explorations, the Sieur de La Salle returns to Nouvelle-France with his new lieutenant, the brilliant Italian Henry de Tonti. They make the acquaintance of the Belgian Recollet Father Louis Hennepin, who is also on board their ship.
- 1679 - In the early summer, La Salle launches the 60-ton sailing vessel *Griffon* from a shipyard he has had built on the Niagara River above the falls, near the present Buffalo. He intends to use the ship for trade and exploration of the upper Great Lakes.
- Father Hennepin, accompanying La Salle and Tonti aboard the *Griffon*, visits the Wyandots at Michilimackinac. He describes their town as being surrounded by palisades 25' high and very advantageously situated on a promontory.
- At Green Bay, La Salle loads the *Griffon* with a great store of furs and dispatches the cargo back to Fort Frontenac, on the north shore of Lake Ontario near the beginning of the St. Lawrence. La Salle then leads his party southwest into the Illinois country. The ship is never heard from again.
- In the winter, La Salle and Tonti build Fort Crevecoeur on Lake Peoria in the Illinois country.
- 1680 - In February, at the direction of La Salle, Michael Aco leaves Fort Crevecoeur with Antoine du Gay Auguel and Father Hennepin to explore the upper Mississippi.
- April 11; Aco, Auguel and Father Hennepin are taken captive by the Lakota. They are eventually rescued by Daniel Greysolon, Sieur du Lhut (Duluth), a cousin of Henry de Tonti, who has abandoned his own explorations on hearing of their plight.
- In the early spring, La Salle, pursuing deserters from Fort Crevecoeur, returns to Fort Frontenac on foot. His enterprise is largely in ruin.



August 21; Pueblo Indians take possession of Santa Fe after driving out the Spanish, who retreat south beyond El Paso del Norte. The successful revolt temporarily creates a power vacuum in western North America, which the French are quick to exploit. In the aftermath, Spanish horses are traded to tribes on the Great Plains, beginning the transformation of a centuries-old way of life.

1681 - In June, La Salle and Tonti are reunited at Michilimackinac. They return to the Illinois, building Fort St. Louis on the Illinois River.

1682 - April 9; La Salle and Tonti, having descended the full length of the Mississippi from the mouth of the Illinois with an exploring party of 23 Frenchmen and 31 Indians, claim all of the lands drained by the river and its tributaries for France and name it Louisiana.

July 15; the Delaware sign a treaty with Penn's representative William Markham at the present site of Germantown, Pennsylvania. Voltaire claims this is the only treaty with the Indians that whites never broke.

August 15; the French convene a council at Montreal with many tribes represented. Ten canoes of Wyandots come bearing the word of Sasaretse, Kondiaronk being his speaker or representative.

October 29; William Penn arrives in Pennsylvania to oversee the Holy Experiment.

1683 - July 14; Vienna is besieged by the Turks for a second time. Fifteen thousand defenders led by Charles of Lorraine hold off an Ottoman army of 150,000 under Sultan Mehmed IV.

September 12; the siege of Vienna is lifted and the Turks defeated with the arrival of a Polish army led by King John III Sobieski. Beginning of the long Turkish retreat from Europe.

1685 - February 6; death of Charles II. His brother James II becomes King of England.

March 21; birth of Johann Sebastian Bach.

October 18; Louis XIV revokes the Edict of Nantes. Many Huguenots eventually seek refuge in other countries.

1686 - A Wyandot named Scoubache betrays 70 of his companions into the hands of the Iroquois while they are hunting near Saginaw Bay. The Wyandots are taken as captives to the Seneca country. Twenty years of peace between the Wyandots and the Iroquois have ended.

The English, claiming Michilimackinac as English territory under Charles II's charter to the Hudson Bay Company, send traders to the Wyandots. They are well received, and on their departure are protected from French pursuit.

On the return of the English trading party from Michilimackinac, another trading party is sent to winter with the Seneca, before proceeding to Michilimackinac in the spring. They hope to persuade the Seneca to release the Wyandot captives, thereby gaining greater influence.

1687 - March 19; La Salle is murdered by mutineers in present-day Texas, his triumphant return from France as governor of Louisiana having ended in disaster when his ships miss the mouth of the Mississippi.

The second English trading party, being guided to Michilimackinac by some of the Wyandot captives of the Seneca, is taken prisoner by Henry de Tonti. The English try to persuade the Wyandots to encourage Tonti's Indians to murder Tonti, but the Wyandots refuse.

In the summer, the Seneca are besieged by an army of nearly 2,000 French and Indians under Governor Denonville, including 140 Christian Caughnawaga Mohawks the French have pressed into service. Easily detected in its advance, the invasion force is largely limited to sacking empty Seneca towns.

In December, a Wyandot war party led by Saentsouan attacks a Seneca encampment, killing or taking captive 62 while losing only three. The war party returns to Michilimackinac with 18 captives.

1688 - Early in the year, Kondiaronk personally leads another Wyandot war party against the Seneca.

When the French make peace overtures to the Iroquois, Kondiaronk in his hatred of the Five Nations plots to break it. (He would have been a boy in 1649.) He attacks an Iroquois peace delegation, killing several and taking the others captive. He then manages to convince the Iroquois that he was sent by the French.

December 22; the Glorious Revolution. James II, autocratic and Catholic, is forced to abandon his throne. William of Orange and his wife and cousin Mary, elder daughter of James II, become joint rulers of Great Britain as William III and Mary II.

1689-1697 - King William's War between Great Britain and France.

1689 - In August, in revenge for the presumed French treachery, the Iroquois (with a few New Yorkers) attack Lachine, westernmost French village on the St. Lawrence. Some 200 *habitants* are "clubbed, burned and roasted," and 120 survivors taken as captives.

1690 - In the winter, a French and Indian war party attacks an unguarded Schenectady, New York, in retaliation for the attack on Lachine, and kills 60 townspeople.

July 12; the Battle of the Boyne. Protestant forces led by William of Orange defeat James II in Ireland, as he attempts to regain his throne.

- 1692 - The Spanish retake Santa Fe, meeting little resistance, in an otherwise brutal reconquest of New Mexico.
- 1693 - In January, 600 French and Indians attack the Mohawks. The British at Albany learn of the impending attack and take measures to defend themselves, but fail to warn their allies.
- In July, Governor Fletcher of New York meets with the deputies of the Iroquois Confederacy at Albany. An Oneida chief informs him that all of the Five Nations have proposed to make peace with the Wyandots. The Seneca have undertaken it, with belts of wampum from the other nations to confirm it. The Iroquois want the governor's consent to this, and ask him to send a belt, which he does.
- 1694 - December 28; death of Mary II after six years of joint rule with her husband William III.
- 1696 - In the summer, the French attack the Oneida and Onondaga.
- In July, the French convene a council at Montreal with delegates from many tribes. The chief Wyandot delegate is the Baron. While publicly professing a willingness to continue the war, he has responded to the Iroquois peace overtures by withholding his warriors and sending his son to the Seneca with peace belts. In this he is opposed by Kondiaronk, and he will eventually be forced to flee into exile, first to the Miami and then to the Mohawks.
- 1697 - The Treaty of Ryswick ends King William's War. In North America, the respective colonies of New York and Nouvelle-France suspend hostilities, and the English withdraw their active support of the Iroquois. This prompts the Iroquois to make further peace overtures to the French.
- 1700-1730 - The Shawnee begin drifting back north into Kentucky - the Dark and Bloody Ground - and western Pennsylvania. One group ends up in Maryland.
- 1700 - French fur traders are operating along the Missouri River as far as the mouth of the Kansas River and perhaps beyond.
- 1701 - July 24; anticipating that peace will allow access to Iroquois-controlled territory, Fort Pontchartrain du Detroit is founded by the French. At the invitation of Sieur Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, Wyandots and their Ottawa allies move south from Michilimackinac and Manitoulin to settle in the vicinity of the new fort, but pro- and anti-French (anti-Catholic) divisions persist among the Wyandots. Cadillac himself is hostile toward the Jesuits and their missionary efforts, while the Jesuits oppose the move, in large part because of the liquor traffic at the new fort.

In August, a peace treaty is agreed to at Montreal between the Iroquois, the French, and the tribes allied to the French, with some 800 Indian delegates present. The chief Wyandot representative, the aged Kondiaronk, falls ill. Reversing his long-held opposition to reconciliation, from his deathbed he urges his western allies to ratify the pact. Two Iroquois delegates preside at the imposing ceremony of his funeral.

- 1702 - March 8; death of William III. Anne, second daughter of James II, becomes Queen of Great Britain and America.
- 1702-1713 - Queen Anne's War between Great Britain and France. Marlborough and Prinz Eugene versus the Sun King.
- 1703 - June 17; birth of John Wesley, founder of Methodism, in the village of Epworth, England.
- The French village of Kaskaskia is founded in Upper Louisiana by settlers who have come upriver from the area of the future New Orleans. The *habitation* is located between the Kaskaskia and Mississippi Rivers, about 60 miles southeast of the present St. Louis.
- 1704 - February 29; Deerfield, Massachusetts, is attacked by a French and Indian war party, 49 townspeople killed, the town burned and 112 survivors taken as captives to Canada.
- 1706 - January 17; birth of Benjamin Franklin in Boston.
- The last Wyandots having left, the Jesuits burn their mission house at Michilimackinac and return to Quebec, as there is a Franciscan missionary at Fort Pontchartrain du Detroit.
- 1709-1742 - The Delaware gradually move in small groups from the Delaware River valley to lands controlled by the Iroquois on the West Branch of the Susquehanna in central Pennsylvania. From this point, the Iroquois regard the Delaware as a subservient people. The Munsee have already separated from the main Delaware group.
- 1712 - In May, the Foxes besiege the French at Fort Pontchartrain du Detroit. The Wyandots and their allies come to the aid of the French, dislodging the Foxes from their camp and cutting them to pieces in a long and stubborn fight, with many Wyandots killed.
- 1713 - The Tuscarora, defeated by an alliance of Indians and British colonists in North Carolina, move north at the invitation of the Iroquois Confederacy. They become the Sixth Nation in the League, a status that the Iroquois have never consented to grant the Wyandots.
- July 10; the exploring party of Etienne Veniard, Sieur de Bourgmont, camps at the present site of Kansas City, Missouri. The next day he investigates the "crusts of Red Earth" he saw along the banks of the Kansas River.

- 1714 - August 1; death of Queen Anne. End of the House of Stuart. Queen Anne's cousin Georg, Elector of Hanover, becomes King of Great Britain and America as George I. (He speaks not a word of English.)
- 1715 - August 31; death of Louis XIV. His five-year-old great-grandson Louis XV becomes King of France.
- 1717 - Upper Louisiana (the Illinois country) comes under the supervision of Lower Louisiana's government.
- 1718 - August 25; hundreds of French colonists arrive in Louisiana, some settling on the site of the future New Orleans.
- The Huron (Wyandots) are reported to be three furlongs from Detroit, in a well-fortified town, "the most industrious nation that can be seen...they raise a very large amount of Indian corn, peas, and beans; some grow wheat...they are the bravest of all the nations and possess considerable talent." Their effective number is given as 100 fighting men.
- 1720 - The French build Fort de Chartres in the Illinois country, 15 miles north of Kaskaskia, as the seat of government in Upper Louisiana.
- August 15; a Spanish military expedition from Santa Fe and their Apache allies are defeated by the Pawnee and their French allies near the principal Pawnee village at the forks of the Platte in present Nebraska. Only a handful of men live to return to Santa Fe.
- 1721 - The fortified city of La Nouvelle Orleans is laid out by Le Blond de la Tour.
- Charlevoix reports that the principal Wyandot town is on the American side of the Detroit River. Sastaretse is a minor, with his (maternal) uncle as regent. In the absence of the Jesuits, they have no resident missionary, although many in the tribe are anxious to have someone who can instruct them in their own language.
- In June, Henry de Tonti informs the Wyandots that he is about to stop the liquor trade, and invites them to join in war against the Foxes. The council does not object to the former, believing it wise, but is averse to the latter, saying their interests have too often been sacrificed to those of the French.
- 1726 - The French build Fort Niagara to keep watch on the British at Oswego.
- 1727 - June 11; death of George I. George II becomes King of Great Britain and America.

- 1728 - The Mission of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Among the Huron is established at Detroit by the Jesuit Father Armand de La Richardie.
- Despite their previous reluctance, the Wyandots join in Ligneris' expedition against the Foxes.
- c. 1730 - While retaining their settlements in the Detroit area, Wyandots begin to migrate southward and settle on the south shore of Lake Erie. They gradually assume sovereignty over all the Ohio country between the Great Lakes and the Miami River. Respected by surrounding Algonquian tribes, the Wyandots are now regarded by the Six Nations as their viceroys in Ohio. Their influence greatly exceeds their number.
- 1732 - February 22; birth of George Washington on his parents' plantation in Westmoreland County, Virginia.
- The Wyandots again join the French in war against the Foxes.
- December 19; Benjamin Franklin, under the name Richard Saunders, begins publishing *Poor Richard's Almanack*.
- 1733 - May 17; the Molasses Act is passed by Parliament.
- 1734 - November 2; birth of Daniel Boone in Berks County, Pennsylvania, the sixth child of Quaker parents.
- c. 1735 - Birth of Alexander McKee, son of trader Thomas McKee and a Shawnee woman (possibly an adopted white captive), in western Pennsylvania.
- 1738 - Orontondi (Ron-ton-dee, or Warpole), called Nicolas, war chief of the Wyandots' Turtle phratry, has become estranged from the Ottawa and the French. With his followers he leaves Detroit to establish a new village at Lower Sandusky (present Fremont, Ohio).
- 1739 - In January, Nicolas meets with the French at his new village, and proposes (with Sastaretse and Tayetchatin) that the Wyandots be resettled on the St. Lawrence River in order to live in peace.
- 1740 - Nicolas visits Montreal and presents Governor Beauharnois with his proposal for the resettlement of the Wyandots.
- c. 1740 - Birth of Tarhe, called the Crane, a Wyandot of the Porcupine Clan, near Detroit.
- 1741 - Birth of Simon Girty, called the "Great Renegade" and the "White Savage," son of Simon and Mary Newton Girty, at Chamber's Mill near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. His father is subsequently killed in a drunken fight, and his mother remarries.
- 1742 - The Jesuits' Wyandot mission is transferred from Detroit to Isle aux Bois Blancs at the mouth of the Detroit River.

1743 - Benjamin Franklin organizes the American Philosophical Society.

April 2; birth of Thomas Jefferson in Virginia.

His resettlement proposal having been rejected by the French, Nicolas visits Albany, where with the Wyandot chief Angirot he proposes an alliance between the Wyandots, the Iroquois and the British.

1744-1748 - King George's War between Britain and France. Wyandots join the French in making war on the British, but divisions within the tribe soon become apparent.

1744 - August 8; Fort de la Trinite, popularly called Fort de Cavagnial, is established by the French on the west bank of the Missouri River near the principal Kansa village, just north of the present Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Westernmost outpost of the Illinois district in Upper Louisiana, it is intended to keep a watchful eye on both the Spanish in Santa Fe and French fur traders in the area.

The Jesuit Father Pierre Potier arrives at the Assumption Mission.

1745 - June 20; a treaty of alliance between Great Britain and the Six Nations is signed at Onondaga.

English traders from Pennsylvania build a blockhouse near Nicolas' village at Lower Sandusky, in the furthest British penetration into lands claimed by the French.

Father Potier of the Assumption Mission conducts a detailed census of the Hurons (Wyandots) residing along the Detroit River. They are divided into three nations (phratries), the Deer, Turtle and Wolf.

1746 - Father Potier repeats his census of the year before.

1747 - Five French traders are robbed and killed at Nicolas' village on the Sandusky. Sastaretse and Tayetchatin disclaim any involvement, but the French commandant at Detroit, M. de Longueuil, will not listen to them and refers them to the governor at Montreal.

August 9; Sastaretse and Tayetchin, in council at Montreal, ask for the return of Father Armand de La Richardie, hoping that his influence might help to avert further conflict. They promise to surrender the murderers, but Nicolas has grown too powerful for that to be easily done.

In September, the Wyandot delegation returns from Montreal with Father La Richardie. Tayetchatin, already ill, dies on the return trip. Father La Richardie subsequently establishes a mission at Nicolas' village, but seems to have little influence.

October 7; birth of Ebenezer Zane, eldest son of William and Nancy Ann Nolan Zane, in Virginia.

A Huron named Tohake, acting as British emissary, proposes a multi-tribal attack on the French at Detroit, and Nicolas is encouraged to send war belts to the various tribes. The proposed attack is discovered and thwarted by Longueuil, but Father Potier flees the Assumption Mission on Isle aux Bois Blancs for Detroit and the mission is burned.

Although increasingly isolated and apparently unable to take action against Nicolas, Longueuil still demands the surrender of the murderers.

In December, Nicolas and Aniotin, called Le Brutal, arrive at Detroit to make peace, surrender the British war belts, and make reparation for the murders. Longueuil grants them pardon, on the condition that they will bring him two English scalps for each murdered Frenchman.

1748 - In April, dissident Wyandots led by Nicolas burn their village and the fort at Lower Sandusky and flee to the White River in Indiana, where Nicolas dies in the autumn. Many Wyandots return to Detroit.

The Assumption Mission is reestablished by Father Potier on Ottawa lands on the Canadian side of the Detroit River, and a number of Wyandots settle around it (present Windsor, Ontario).

1749 - September 7; birth of Rene Auguste Chouteau  *fils*, son of Rene Auguste Chouteau, a baker, and 16-year-old Marie Therese Bourgeois Chouteau, in New Orleans. The elder Chouteau will desert his family, returning to France.

c. 1750 - After much wandering and division, the five semi-autonomous bands of the Shawnee are permitted by the Wyandots to settle along the Scioto River in central Ohio.

The Ottawa chief Pontiac, or Pontiac, organizes a loose confederation of the Ottawa, Ojibwa (his mother's people), and Pottawatomi, tribes closely related in language and heritage.

1750 - Dr. Thomas Walker enters Kentucky through the Cumberland Gap, following the Warriors' Path used by the Shawnee and Cherokee, while on a two-year exploration for the Loyal Land Company.

Christopher Gist, exploring for the Ohio Company, reaches the Falls of the Ohio (present Louisville, Kentucky).

The Council of the League of the Six Nations at Onondaga denies the independence of the Ohio tribes, but in reality they have little influence or control over those tribes, many of them French-allied.



- 1752 - September 2; the British Empire finally adopts the Gregorian Calendar (although many still believe it to be a papist conspiracy of some sort). September 2 is followed by September 14, as the accumulated error in the Julian Calendar is now 11 days.
- November 19; birth of George Rogers Clark, son of John and Ann Rogers Clark, near Charlottesville, Virginia.
- 1753 - Birth of Isaac Zane, son of William and Nancy Ann Nolan Zane and younger brother of Ebenezer, in Berkley County, Virginia.
- 1754-1763 - The French and Indian War.
- Under continuing pressure from British colonists, many Delaware drift west once more, crossing the Alleghenies into western Pennsylvania. The majority of the Munsee move north from Pennsylvania to settle in Canada. A few rejoin the main group of Delaware.
- 1754 - Delaware in western Pennsylvania join the Shawnee in raiding the settlements, more out of hatred of the English than love of the French. The Delaware still on the Susquehanna stay neutral at first.
- Fort Duquesne (the present Pittsburgh) is built by the French where the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers join to form the Ohio. The young George Washington is sent to destroy the fort and attacks a French survey party, but is forced to surrender to superior forces. His unwitting signature on a "confession" of murder becomes a *cause celebre* and helps to trigger a wider war.
- 1755 - April 3; birth of Simon Kenton in Fauquier County, Virginia.
- July 9; Braddock's Defeat. Maj. Gen. Edward Braddock's expedition to dislodge the French is wiped out near Fort Duquesne by a mixed force of French and Indians, including Delaware, Ojibwa, Ottawa, Pottawatomi, Shawnee and Wyandots. The Indians are led by Anastase, a Huron war chief from Lorette. Twenty-three-year-old George Washington (serving as Braddock's aide) and 21-year-old Daniel Boone are among the survivors. For the first time, Wyandots and other Northwestern tribes acquire large numbers of horses.
- Kansa and Missouri warriors from Upper Louisiana arrive at Fort Duquesne too late to take part in the battle; their return journey takes six hardship-filled months.

- 1756-1763 - The Seven Years' War. The fighting in North America expands into the first global conflict, with Britain and Prussia fighting France, Austria and their allies in Europe, the Americas, and India.
- 1756 - January 27; birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in Salzburg, Austria.
- The Delaware still on the Susquehanna defy the Iroquois and join their western kinsmen, raiding as far as New Jersey and southern New York.
- April 14; Governor Robert Morris of Pennsylvania declares war on the Delaware, and offers cash bounties for prisoners and scalps.
- June 14; the governor of New Jersey declares war on the Delaware.
- Simon, James and George Girty, their mother and stepfather are taken captive in an Indian raid in Pennsylvania. The stepfather is burned at the stake; the boys are eventually traded to the Seneca.
- September 8; colonial troops attack and burn the principal Delaware town of Kittanning on the Allegheny River, but most Delaware escape with over 100 white captives. End of the Delaware presence in central Pennsylvania.
- The Wyandots allow the main group of Delaware to settle along the Tuscarawas River in eastern Ohio. No longer under the thumb of the Iroquois, the Delaware reassert their manhood.
- In November, William Pitt becomes Secretary of State for Great Britain, responsible for the conduct of the war and foreign affairs.
- 1757 - August 9; the French and Indians under the Marquis de Montcalm take Fort William Henry on Lake George. The fort is burned and prisoners massacred.
- 1757-1762 - Franklin is in London as agent for Pennsylvania.
- 1758 - July 26; the British take the great fortress at Louisbourg in Nova Scotia, giving them naval control of the St. Lawrence.
- October 10; birth of Jean Pierre Chouteau, half-brother of Auguste and illegitimate son of Pierre de Laclede Liguist and Marie Therese Bourgeois Chouteau, in New Orleans.
- November 25; the British capture Fort Duquesne. Rebuilt over the next two years as Fort Pitt, largest land fortification in North America, this establishes British control over the entire Ohio River valley.

1759 - Eighteen-year-old Simon Girty is released after three years as a captive of the Seneca. He eventually becomes an interpreter at Fort Pitt.

July 25; the British capture Fort Niagara.

September 13; General James Wolfe takes Quebec. Deaths of both Wolfe and the Marquis de Montcalm. This marks the effective end of French power in North America.

1760 - Alexander McKee, after serving as a lieutenant with Pennsylvania forces in the first part of the war, enters the British Indian Department as an assistant to Thomas Croghan. Working and trading among the tribes in the Ohio country, he gains considerable influence.

September 8; Sir William Johnson captures Montreal.

Pontiac meets in central Ohio with Maj. Robert Rogers, who is leading a British occupation force from Fort Pitt to Detroit. The meeting ends amicably.

October 25; death of George II. His grandson George III becomes King of Great Britain and America.

November 29; Rogers occupies Detroit.

1761 - James Otis speaks against writs of assistance. George III makes colonial judges serve at his pleasure.

July 3; the Northwest Confederacy (sometimes called Pontiac's Confederacy, and later the Miami Confederacy because of that tribe's prominent role) is organized at a Wyandot town near Detroit, includes Delaware, Miami, Ojibwa, Ottawa, Pottawatomi, Shawnee, Wyandots, and others. Wyandots are made Keepers of the Council Fire.

October 5; William Pitt, architect of Britain's victory over France, is forced to resign by George III.

1762 - James Otis challenges the royal governor in A Vindication of the Conduct of the House of Representatives of...Massachusetts.

In the wake of French defeat, Pontiac sends messengers to all the tribes between the Alleghenies and the Mississippi, seeking united support against the British.

November 3; the Treaty of Fontainebleau. France secretly cedes the greater part of Louisiana to Spain (hoping to eventually regain it), in return for Spanish agreement to an end of the war with Great Britain.

1763 -

February 10; the Treaty of Paris is signed ending the Seven Years' War between France and Great Britain. Britain acquires Canada and Louisiana east of the Mississippi from France, and East and West Florida from Spain.

Britain prohibits American settlement west of the Alleghenies, hoping to keep the colonies dependent on British trade, and otherwise tries to tighten colonial controls. The colonies enter a severe economic depression lasting until 1770, with scarce money and declining trade.

February 15; the Treaty of Hubertusberg is signed by Prussia and Austria, restoring the status quo in Europe.

April 27; Pontiac convenes a multi-tribal council near Detroit, speaking eloquently of the wrongs done to the Indians by the British. Coordinated attacks on a dozen different forts and outposts are planned.

May 7; Pontiac's plan to seize the fort at Detroit is betrayed by a young girl of mixed parentage, and a lengthy siege begins. The adjacent town's French *habitants* give at least passive support to the Indians.

July 31; the Battle of Bloody Ridge. A large British force sallying from Detroit is destroyed, but the fort's defenders continue to hold out.

August 6; the Battle of Bushy Run. At Bushy Run near Fort Pitt, Col. Henry Bouquet with a force of Royal Americans and Highlanders defeats a large war party of Shawnee and Delaware.

In October, the siege at Detroit sputters to an end. Wyandots led by Baby, who have taken part reluctantly, are the first to sue for peace.

October 31; Pontiac signs a preliminary peace agreement with Detroit's commander, Maj. Henry Gladwin. The Ottawa withdraw to a winter village on the Maumee River.

In November, the site of La Ville St. Louis des Illinois is picked by Pierre de Laclede Liguist to become the new entrepot of the Missouri River fur trade.

1764 -

In February, 14-year-old Auguste Chouteau and 30 men are sent by Laclede from Fort de Chartres in the Illinois to clear the site of St. Louis and begin construction of the new post. By mid-summer some 40 settlers arrive from Cahokia and St. Philippe.

April 5; the Sugar Act is passed by Parliament; the colonies protest.

July 10; most of the French troops in the Illinois district, including those from Fort de Cavagnial, are evacuated from Fort de Chartres to New Orleans. Capt. Louis St. Ange de Bellerive is left in command.

August 12; the Treaty of Presque Isle. The Detroit-area Wyandots sign a peace treaty with Sir William Johnson, although the Ohio Wyandots remain aloof.

In September, both groups of Wyandots meet with the British in council at Detroit.

1765 -

Delaware and Shawnee make peace with the British.

Many French *habitants* from the Illinois cross the Mississippi to resettle in St. Louis, which soon has a population of nearly 300.

March 22; the Stamp Act is passed by Parliament. The Sons of Liberty are organized to resist it, and the colonies boycott British imports.

March 24; the Quartering Act is passed by Parliament, requiring colonists to house British soldiers.

October 7-25; The Stamp Act Congress assembles and adopts "A Declaration of Rights and Grievances of the Colonists of America."

October 10; Commandant Louis St. Ange de Bellerive surrenders Fort de Chartres and French jurisdiction in the Illinois to the British under Capt. Thomas Stirling. St. Ange transfers his headquarters to St. Louis.

October 17; Pontiac negotiates a peace treaty at Detroit.

November 1; a day of national mourning over the Stamp Act.

1766 -

March 5; Don Antonio de Ulloa arrives in New Orleans, as Spain takes possession of Louisiana from France.

March 18; following protests over losses caused by the American trade boycott, the Stamp Act is repealed by Parliament, but the Declaratory Act is passed affirming the sovereignty of Parliament over the colonies, "in all cases whatsoever."

The Quaker mercantile firm of Baynton, Wharton & Morgan, Philadelphia, dispatches 600 pack horses and many wagons with goods worth 50,000 pounds to Fort Pitt for the Illinois fur trade. The goods are shipped down the Ohio in new *bateaux* manned by 300 boatmen.

July 24; the terms of the Detroit peace treaty are confirmed by Pontiac and Sir William Johnson, meeting at Oswego, New York.

October 7; birth of Pierre Menard, son of Jean Baptiste and Marie Francoise Ciree Menard, in St. Antoine, Quebec.

December 19; the New York Assembly is suspended for refusing to obey the Quartering Act.

- 1767 - April 20; while staying with St. Ange in St. Louis, Pontiac crosses the river to visit Cahokia and is assassinated by a Peoria Indian, possibly in the pay of a British trader. He is buried with honors on the hill above St. Louis. In revenge for his death, the Illinois tribes are attacked, scattered and nearly destroyed by the tribes of the Northwest Confederacy.
- June 29; the Townshend Revenue Acts are passed by Parliament, levying import duties on necessities like glass, lead, paint, paper and tea, further depressing the colonial economy. The Acts are resisted in Boston.
- 1768 - February 11; Massachusetts submits a list of grievances to Parliament. In retaliation, Governor Bernard dissolves the Massachusetts House of Representatives.
- In March, the birth of Tecumseh near the Shawnee town of Old Chillicothe in Ohio.<sup>1</sup> His father, Puckeshinwa, is a Kiscopocoke Shawnee war chief; his mother, Methoataske, is a Creek.
- In November, the Treaty of Fort Stanwix is signed. The Iroquois sell the Shawnee and Delaware's traditional hunting grounds in Kentucky and western Pennsylvania to the British, and set the Ohio River as the boundary between Indian lands and white settlement.
- 1769 - The Act of Henry VIII is revived by Parliament. The Virginia Resolves are passed, protesting British policies. The Virginia House of Burgesses is dissolved by the royal governor.
- May 1; Daniel Boone, his brother-in-law John Stuart, John Finley, and three others set out on a two-year hunting expedition that will lead them through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky.
- 1770 - Population of the thirteen colonies is estimated at 2,205,000.
- March 5; the Boston Massacre. Panicked British soldiers fire on a Boston mob, killing five.
- April 12; the Townshend Acts are repealed, except for the tax on tea.
- Ebenezer Zane, with his brothers Silas and Jonathan, begins a settlement at the mouth of Wheeling Creek on the Ohio River which eventually becomes Fort Henry, Virginia (present Wheeling, West Virginia). Their brother Isaac Zane is an adopted captive of the Wyandots, married to Tarhe's daughter Myeerah. Allowed to visit his family, he always returns to the Wyandots.

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<sup>1</sup> This is the accepted date but it may be incorrect.

Alexander McKee is living among the Shawnee on the Scioto, married to a Shawnee woman. They have at least one son, Thomas McKee.

May 20; a Spanish garrison is finally sent to St. Louis, seven years after the Treaty of Paris.

June 11; Captain James Cook, commanding HMS *Endeavour*, discovers the Great Barrier Reef off Australia.

June 18; seven years after the Treaty of Paris, St. Ange surrenders his authority in Upper Louisiana to a Spanish lieutenant governor, Pedro Jose de Piernas. For the most part, Spanish Louisiana remains French in all but name.

August 1; birth of William Clark, younger brother of George Rogers Clark, in Caroline County, Virginia.

Birth of William Walker Sr., in or near Greenbrier, Rockbridge County, Virginia.

December 16; birth of Ludwig van Beethoven.

1771 -

In March, Daniel Boone returns home from Kentucky.

Birth of Ebenezer Zane, Wyandot, eldest child of Isaac Zane and Myeerah. His parents are 18 and 14 respectively; Romeo and Juliet on the Northwest frontier.

June 4; birth of Catherine Rankin (Walker), Wyandot, daughter of James and Catherine Montour Rankin. Her father is an Irish trader, but her maternal great-grandmother is Madame Montour, and her aunt the Mohawks' Queen Esther of Revolutionary War fame.

Believing he has killed a man, 16-year-old Simon Kenton flees west. Assuming the name Simon Butler, for over two years he hunts along the Ohio and the Great and Little Kanawha Rivers, often in danger from the Shawnee.

1772 -

May 3; a United Brethren (Moravian) mission is established among the Delaware in Ohio at Schoenbrunn on the Tuscarawas River. Moravian missionary David Zeisberger discovers Indian burial mounds at the site, and writes the first account of the Ohio works.

June 10; the British revenue cutter HMS *Gaspee* is burned off Rhode Island by angry Providence merchants.

In August, a second Moravian mission in Ohio is founded by David Zeisberger's assistant, John G. E. Heckewelder, at Gnadenhutten, some 10 miles from Schoenbrunn.

November 2; the first Committee of Correspondence is organized in Massachusetts. They quickly spread.

1773 -

February 9; birth of William Henry Harrison in Charles City County, Virginia.

The Regulating Act is passed by Parliament.

The Boones and a handful of others set out to settle Kentucky, but turn back after 16-year-old James Boone and Henry Russell are captured and tortured to death by Indians (probably Cherokees).

Hopocan, or Captain Pipe, succeeds his uncle Custaloga as chief of the Wolf Band of the Delaware at Kuskuskies (present New Castle, Pennsylvania).

White Eyes, war chief of the Turtle Band of the Delaware, succeeds the elderly Natawatwees as Principal Chief of the Delaware Nation.

December 16; the Boston Tea Party.

1774 -

In January, frontiersmen attack a party of friendly Shawnee near Fort Pitt.

March 25; the Boston Port Act is passed by Parliament. The Massachusetts Government Act nullifies the colony's charter.

Franklin publishes On the Rise and Progress of the Differences between Great Britain and Her American Colonies. Thomas Jefferson publishes Summary View of the Rights of British America.

April 30; frontiersmen slaughter a peaceful encampment of Mingos near Fort Henry, Virginia, including the Shawnee wife of Chief Logan. Several days later, Logan's brother and pregnant sister are murdered.

May 10; death of Louis XV. His grandson Louis XVI becomes King of France.

June 1; Boston Harbour is closed to shipping. To the surprise of the British government, instead of taking commercial advantage of the city's plight the other colonies ship goods overland to keep the city alive.

June 2; the Quartering Act is revived by Parliament.



June 10; Lord Dunmore's War begins. The skirmishing provoked by colonials with the Shawnee and Mingos escalates into open warfare between Virginia and the allied tribes, as Pennsylvania and Virginia try to assert conflicting claims on the western frontier. (Pennsylvania soon declares itself neutral.) War parties kill several settlers on the Muskingum River in southern Ohio. George Rogers Clark, Simon Girty, and Simon Butler (Simon Kenton) serve together as scouts at Fort Pitt.

June 22; the Quebec Act is passed by Parliament, which extends the boundary of Quebec (still largely French, Catholic, and autocratic) to the Ohio River, and reaffirms the prohibition on western settlement by the colonies. The loyalty of the majority of French Canadians to the Crown is assured.

Adam Brown Sr. is taken by Indians in Greeneborough County, Virginia, and becomes an adopted captive of the Wyandots.

Eighteen-year-old James Whitaker is captured by Indians near Fort Pitt, and becomes an adopted captive of the Wyandots.

In July, Logan informs colonial officials that the killing has ended (revenge having been taken, the Indians see no reason to continue), and Cornstalk, Shawnee Principal Chief, asks the British Indian Department to mediate a peace, but clashes continue.

August 18; birth of Meriwether Lewis near Charlottesville, Virginia.

September 5 - October 26; the First Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia with twelve colonies represented. The Congress passes a Declaration of Rights and Grievances, and votes to boycott all trade with Great Britain.

October 10; the Battle of Point Pleasant. Fighting in Lord Dunmore's War largely ends when 300 Shawnee led by Cornstalk are defeated by Virginia militia under Col. Andrew Lewis and are forced to withdraw across the Ohio. There are substantial casualties on both sides. Lewis and Lord Dunmore then advance into Ohio, converging on the Shawnee town of Chillicothe.

Matthew Elliott, for nearly 10 years a trader among the Shawnee on the Scioto, acts as the Shawnee's emissary to Lord Dunmore. Cornstalk meets with colonial officials, pledging friendship and giving up all Shawnee claims to Kentucky.

December 26; death in St. Louis of Louis St. Ange de Bellerive.

- 1775-1783 - The American Revolution. The Ohio tribes generally side with the British, although many try to remain neutral at first. The British commandant at Detroit is Lt. Col. Henry Hamilton, called "Hair Buyer" Hamilton for reportedly offering bounties to Indians for white scalps regardless of sex or age. After an initial neutrality, the war divides the League of the Six Nations, with the Cayuga, Mohawks, Onondaga, and Seneca supporting the British while the Oneida and half the Tuscarora side with the colonies; Iroquois power is broken.
- 1775 - Birth of Lalawithika, the future Shawnee Prophet. Reportedly one of triplets, he is a younger brother of Tecumseh. Their father Puckeshinwa was among those slain at Point Pleasant.
- Most Thawegila Shawnee leave Ohio, seeking refuge among the Creeks in Alabama. The mother of Tecumseh and Lalawithika goes with them, leaving her sons to be raised by their older sister Tecumpease.
- March 10; a group of settlers sponsored by Judge Richard Henderson's Transylvania Company and led by Daniel Boone sets out for Kentucky. The Company has paid 10,000 pounds in goods to the Cherokee for 20,000,000 acres between the Kentucky and Cumberland Rivers.
- March 15; James Harrod begins the first permanent settlement in Kentucky at Harrodstown (Harrodsburg).
- March 23; in a speech to the Virginia Provincial Convention, Patrick Henry declares for American independence: "Give me liberty, or give me death."
- March 30; the New England Restraining Act is passed by Parliament.
- April 1; Daniel Boone and his party reach the site of Boonesborough in Kentucky.
- April 14; Benjamin Franklin and Dr. Benjamin Rush found the first American society for the abolition of slavery.
- April 19; the Battles of Lexington and Concord. By nightfall, Boston is under siege by colonial militia.
- May 10; the Second Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia.
- That same day, Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold capture Fort Ticonderoga on authorization from Connecticut. Some suggest returning the fort to the British, as New York is not yet in rebellion.
- May 23; unaware of the Revolution, a convention of Kentucky settlers is held at Boonesborough to set up the government of Transylvania.

Samuel Saunders, a Jewish boy transported from England for a minor crime, is captured by Indians in Kentucky. Taken to Detroit, he becomes an adopted captive of the Wyandots.

Twenty-year-old Simon Butler (Simon Kenton) moves from Limestone on the Ohio River to Boonesborough, where he is appointed scout by Daniel Boone.

June 16; the Second Continental Congress names Col. George Washington of Virginia General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, authorized two days before. (The army's colors, blue and buff, are those of the Whig party in England.)

June 17; the Battle of Breed's Hill (Bunker Hill).

June 20; the Wyandots at Detroit give James Rankin a tract of land just below the Assumption Mission church.

July 2; Washington arrives at Boston.

July 18; James Wood and Simon Girty leave Fort Pitt for the Ohio country. Traveling nearly 800 miles and visiting 15 towns over the next 25 days, they invite the tribes to a peace conference to be held in September.

August 23; King George issues a Proclamation for Suppressing Rebellion and Sedition. The war remains opposed and the American cause supported by a Parliamentary minority and the City of London, while a number of senior British military officers refuse to serve. When military enlistments decline, the services of mercenaries are purchased from the German states; they will eventually make up a third of British forces in America.

Birth of Robert Armstrong, son of George and Jane Armstrong, in Pennsylvania.

Francisco Cruzat replaces Pedro de Piernas as lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana at St. Louis.

September 26 - October 19; a peace conference is held at Fort Pitt between the Ohio tribes and representatives of the Second Continental Congress. Among those in attendance are Cornstalk, Custaloga, Pontiac's son Shaganaba, Wingenund, Half King and Captain Pipe. Alexander McKee as Deputy Indian Agent takes a leading role despite his position as a presumed Loyalist. The Indians pledge neutrality in the Revolution, in exchange for an American pledge to recognize the Ohio River as the permanent frontier. The peace will hold until 1777.

December 31; Montgomery and Arnold fail in their assault on Quebec.

1776 -

January 10; Thomas Paine publishes his revolutionary pamphlet Common Sense, advocating American independence.

March 5; Washington fortifies Dorchester Heights overlooking Boston with guns brought from Ticonderoga by Henry Knox.

March 17; the British evacuate Boston.

April 2; an anonymous American agent prepares a detailed report on the British forces at Detroit and on Lake Erie.

A third Moravian mission town of Lichtenau is founded on the Muskingum River in Ohio. 2500 to 3000 Delaware are in Ohio, with 300 to 400 living in the three mission towns.

Death of Netawatwees, chief of the Turtle Band of the Delaware (and former Principal Chief). He is succeeded by his grandson Killbuck.

In early June, a convention of Kentucky settlers at Harrodstown rejects Judge Henderson's Transylvania government and votes to be part of Virginia. George Rogers Clark and John Gabriel Jones are elected to Virginia's new House of Delegates.

June 11; the Second Continental Congress appoints a committee to draft a declaration of independence from Great Britain. The final draft is largely the work of Thomas Jefferson.

Eleven-year-old Elizabeth Foulks is captured by Indians near Cross Roads, Pennsylvania, and becomes an adopted captive of the Wyandots.

June 29; the Virginia constitution is adopted and Patrick Henry made governor.

July 4; the Second Continental Congress signs the Declaration of Independence, approved two days before.

In early July, 14-year-old Jemima Boone and her friends Betsey and Fanny Callaway, 16 and 14, are captured by a small band of Shawnee and Cherokee near Boonesborough. Leaving a trail and delaying their captors, the girls are rescued after three days by Jemima's father Daniel.

July 9; the Declaration of Independence is read to Washington's troops.

In the summer, trader Matthew Elliott acts as an American emissary to the Shawnee and Delaware (something he will later keep secret from the British).

August 27; the Battle of Long Island.

September 16; the Battle of Harlem Heights.

In November, Cornstalk, who has kept the Shawnee neutral and given himself up as a hostage, is brutally murdered by American frontiersmen near Fort Pitt. His successor is Blackfish, a bitter enemy of the Virginians. Shawnee neutrality is ended.

December 7; the Virginia Assembly declines to seat Clark and Jones, but creates Kentucky County out of Fincastle County, with Harrodsburg as its seat.

December 26; the Battle of Trenton follows Washington's daring crossing of the Delaware River.

In the winter, Matthew Elliott is again among the Shawnee in Ohio.

1777 -

January 3; the Battle of Princeton.

In March, surveyor George Rogers Clark begins organizing a Kentucky militia and suggests that the scattered settlers find refuge at the larger fortified stations. Blackfish with 200 Shawnee warriors begins to harass the settlements.

April 24; Daniel Boone and a dozen men are cut off by Indians in front of Boonesborough. Boone is rescued by Simon Butler (Simon Kenton).

In the spring, Matthew Elliott goes to Detroit to try to recover trade goods stolen by the Mingos. Arrested as an American spy, he is sent to Quebec.

In May, Captain William Linn arrives at Fort Pitt with a large supply of powder brought upriver from New Orleans.

June 14; Congress passes the Flag Act, adopting as the national flag a flag of 13 stars and 13 stripes.

June 17; Lt. Col. Henry Hamilton convenes the tribes of the Northwest Confederacy at Detroit. Painted and singing a war song, he urges them to attack the Americans.

June 22; Benjamin Linn and Samuel Moore, sent by Clark to spy out the Illinois country, return with the news that most British forces have withdrawn to Detroit.

By July, only Boonesborough, Harrodsburg and St. Asaph's (Logan's Fort) remain in Kentucky as settlers flee to the stockades for protection or return to the East. All summer, Blackfish's Shawnee strike alternately at the three stations.

July 20; Half King with 19 Wyandot warriors holds council with the Delaware at Cuchachunk, urging them to join the other tribes in taking the war belt. The Delaware try to refuse it, wishing to remain neutral, but Half King insists.

July 29; Moravian missionary David Zeisberger writes to General Edward Hand at Fort Pitt of Half King's actions. He pleads for military protection for the Delaware.

In August, the newly appointed County Lieutenant, Col. John Bowman, arrives in Kentucky with 100 men to relieve the settlements.

August 16; the Battle of Bennington.

September 1; Fort Henry, Virginia, is besieged for 23 hours by almost 400 Mingos, Wyandots and Shawnee. Half of the 42-man garrison is killed in early skirmishes.

September 2; reinforcements arrive at Fort Henry and the Indians withdraw after burning the surrounding settlement. Maj. Samuel McCulloch, separated from his men and pursued by Indians, escapes by making a daring leap on horseback down a 150-foot embankment.

September 26; Half King with 40 Wyandots successfully ambushes a scouting party from Fort Henry led by Capt. William Foreman. Of 34 Americans, 26 are killed and one is captured.

September 30; Congress is forced to flee Philadelphia for York, Pennsylvania.

October 1; George Rogers Clark leaves Harrodsburg for Virginia. He writes to Governor Patrick Henry, urging a military expedition to secure the Illinois.

October 4; the Battle of Germantown.

October 14; "Gentlemanly Johnny" Burgoyne surrenders to Gates at Saratoga.

A vague appropriation for the protection of Kentucky is authorized by the Virginia Assembly. Clark, just turned 25, is appointed to raise the forces needed.

November 15; the Articles of Confederation are adopted by Congress.

The Continental Army goes into Winter Quarters at Valley Forge.

- 1778 - January 2; Clark receives secret instructions from Governor Henry to take Kaskaskia.
- January 18; Captain James Cook discovers the Hawaiian Islands.
- Matthew Elliott is freed on his parole at Quebec and allowed to return to Pittsburgh (possibly with a message for Alexander McKee).
- February 6; impressed by Burgoyne's surrender, Louis XVI recognizes the United States and signs a treaty pledging full military support.
- February 8; Daniel Boone is taken captive by the Shawnee. Taken to Detroit, Blackfish refuses to turn him over to Lt. Col. Hamilton, and he is adopted into the tribe.
- In February, General Edward Hand marches north from Fort Pitt with a force of Pennsylvania militia. No hostile Indians are found but two attacks are made on defenseless villagers. The mother of the friendly Delaware chief Captain Pipe is wounded and his brother killed. The "Squaw Campaign" ends Pipe's neutrality.
- March 28; convinced that the Americans have lost the war in the west, Alexander McKee, Simon Girty, Matthew Elliott and four others flee Fort Pitt. General Hand resigns in disgust and is replaced by Lachlan McIntosh.
- May 11; death of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, leading champion of American rights in Parliament.
- May 12; Clark embarks down the Ohio River, picking up supplies at Pittsburgh and proceeding to the planned rendezvous at the Falls of the Ohio. Twenty families travel with Clark and settle on Corn Island, near the river's south bank above the falls.
- Simon Girty reaches the villages on the Sandusky. As he reportedly speaks only Seneca, the Western Seneca (Mingos) there accuse him of being a runaway captive and threaten his life until the Wyandot chief Shoo-to intervenes.
- Wyandots led by Half King unsuccessfully attempt to draw out the garrison at Fort Randolph on the Ohio, then move up the Kanawha toward the Greenbrier settlements.
- May 29; Half King's Wyandots attack a blockhouse 20 miles from Fort Union. Held off until relief arrives from Fort Randolph, they give up the attack.

In June, McKee, Girty and Elliott reach Detroit, where McKee is appointed captain and interpreter in the British Indian Department. Elliott and Girty also become interpreters and scouts for Lt. Col. Hamilton. Girty, a lieutenant in the Pennsylvania militia, is regarded as a traitor by the Americans. Called the "Great Renegade," he will be present at most of the major confrontations between the Ohio tribes and the Americans.

June 16; Daniel Boone escapes from the Shawnee at Old Chillicothe.

June 17; Fernando de Leyba replaces Francisco Cruzat as lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana at St. Louis.

June 18; American forces enter Philadelphia as the British withdraw.

June 20; having covered 160 miles in four days, Daniel Boone reaches Boonesborough to warn of impending attack. His truthfulness is questioned when the attack does not immediately materialize.

That same day, death of Pierre de Laclede Liguist while returning to St. Louis from New Orleans. He is buried near the mouth of the Arkansas.

June 26; George Rogers Clark with just 175 men sets out from the Falls of the Ohio to attack the British outposts in the west.

June 28; the Battle of Monmouth. Washington almost traps the retreating British, who retire to their stronghold at New York. The theater of action shifts to the south and west.

July 4; Kaskaskia falls to Clark without a shot being fired. Prairie du Rocher and Cahokia soon follow. The Illinois country is now in American hands. Simon Butler (Simon Kenton) is sent back with dispatches.

July 20; Clark's emissaries from Kaskaskia, Dr. Jean B. Laffont and Father Pierre Gibault, persuade the French *habitants* of Vincennes on the Wabash to swear allegiance to the Republic of Virginia.

In late July, Clark visits St. Louis at the invitation of Lieutenant Governor Leyba. The meeting is cordial and Clark is able to obtain supplies on credit from Auguste Chouteau and other merchants. (There are also stories about Clark's supposed romantic involvement with Leyba's sister.)

In August, the deserted Fort Sackville at Vincennes is occupied by Captain Leonard Helm, sent by Clark to secure that post.

For five weeks beginning in August, Clark councils with the Northwestern tribes at Cahokia, including Wyandots led by Half King. Thereafter, Half King will keep most Wyandots neutral until 1782.



September 6-16; the attack Boone warned against finally comes. Boonesborough is besieged by a war party of 450 Shawnee and French Canadians led by Blackfish. The siege fails after nine days.

September 17; the Delaware chiefs White Eyes, Captain Pipe, and Killbuck sign a treaty at Fort Pitt which provides for an alliance between the Delaware and the Americans and allows construction of a fort on Delaware lands in Ohio. Some Delaware feel that they have been duped, and Pipe resumes his pro-British efforts.

October 7; Lt. Col. Hamilton, accompanied by McKee and Elliott, sets out from Detroit with 175 whites, mostly French, and 60 Indians to retake Fort Sackville and Vincennes.

In November, White Eyes is murdered while escorting General Lachlan McIntosh from Fort Pitt to the site of the new fort in Ohio. The Delaware are told he died of smallpox; only a handful of Americans know the truth.

November 21; McIntosh establishes Fort Laurens on the west bank of the Tuscarawas River. The first American outpost in Ohio is designed by a military engineer and garrisoned with Continental regulars.

December 17; Lt. Col. Hamilton recaptures Vincennes.

1779 -

Near the end of January, Simon Girty and 17 Mingos attack an American detachment near Fort Laurens, capturing valuable dispatches.

February 6-23; Clark with 200 men, nearly half of them French volunteers, makes an epic march through winter floodwaters from Kaskaskia to Vincennes. Lt. Col. Hamilton surrenders Fort Sackville, deceived as to American numbers. (McKee and Elliott aren't included in the surrender, having already left Vincennes.)

February 23; Indians kill 18 soldiers in front of Fort Laurens. The fort comes under siege by a war party of Wyandots and Mingos.<sup>2</sup>

March 23; relief columns from Fort Mackintosh and Fort Pitt reach Fort Laurens, only to find the siege lifted and Indians gone.

In the spring, the settlers at the Falls of the Ohio move from Corn Island to the Kentucky mainland. In April they organize a town government and lay out a town at the east end of the falls which at Clark's suggestion they name Louisville.

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<sup>2</sup> The main group of Mingo, or Western Seneca, live on the Scioto River along with renegades from the Shawnee and Wyandots, led by one Captain Pluggy. Made up of remnants from a number of Iroquoian tribes that prior to 1750 were under at least nominal Seneca jurisdiction, the Mingo will eventually coalesce into two groups, the Senecas of Sandusky and the mixed band of Seneca and Shawnee.

In May, Col. John Bowman assembles 300 mounted American volunteers to cross the Ohio and raid the Shawnee. Old Chillicothe is burned and Blackfish killed, but Clark's plans to launch an attack on Detroit from Vincennes are forestalled by this diversion.

Concerned that the Wyandots would not oppose an attack by Clark on Detroit, the new British commandant, Capt. Henry Bird, calls Half King and his brother Orontondy (Ron-ton-dee) "rascals and cowards."

Scouting for Bowman, Simon Butler (Simon Kenton) is pursued to the Ohio and captured by the Shawnee. Forced to run the gauntlet eight times and twice threatened with burning, he is reprieved at the urging of Chief Logan and his former comrade Simon Girty. He is turned over to the British at Detroit.

Many Kiscopocoke and Piqua Shawnee begin to move down the Ohio valley and into Spanish Louisiana to get out of the war zone. They are joined by Thawegila Shawnee from the Creek towns. Those who stay in Ohio join the Chillicothe and Mequachake bands, determined to fight on.

June 3; Simon Butler (Simon Kenton) escapes from Detroit and makes his way safely back to Kentucky.

June 21; Spain declares war on Great Britain but refuses to recognize American independence.

In early August, Fort Laurens is abandoned after repeated brushes with starvation and losses to the Indians. "A slaughter pen, impossible to maintain..."

General Sullivan's campaign against the Iroquois in New York in late summer; destruction of towns, crops and stores, with the Seneca particularly hard hit. His troops exhausted and supplies running low, Sullivan decides against trying to launch an assault across northern Ohio against Detroit.

October 4; Indians led by Simon Girty and Matthew Elliott ambush Col. David Rogers on the Licking River in Kentucky. They capture 600,000 Spanish dollars and other valuable supplies being conveyed from New Orleans to Fort Pitt.

Following Rogers' defeat, Simon Girty winters in the Shawnee country. Two of Girty's brothers also live among the Indians as interpreters and traders, the elder James with the Shawnee at Girtystown (present St. Mary's, Ohio), and George with the Delaware.

1780 - February 9; seven African-American residents of Massachusetts who have refused to pay taxes petition the legislature for the right to vote. They are subsequently granted full civil rights.

March 1; Pennsylvania approves the gradual abolition of slavery.

In March, Simon Girty returns to Detroit.

In the spring, 300 boats arrive at the Falls of the Ohio with supplies and more families, followed by a number of unmarried young women. Louisville begins to grow.

The British plan a three-pronged attack to seize control of the Mississippi basin: on Kentucky at the Falls of the Ohio, St. Louis and the Illinois, and New Orleans.

May 9; St. Louis receives word of impending attack by the British. The militia at Ste. Genevieve is ordered to St. Louis by Leyba, but Clark is unable to send help.

May 19; a mysterious darkness envelops much of New England and part of Canada in the early afternoon. The cause has never been determined.

May 25; Capt. Henry Bird leaves Detroit with 600 Indians and whites and six cannon for the Falls of the Ohio. He is accompanied by Simon and James Girty (and has a low opinion of both), Alexander McKee and Matthew Elliott. Moving down the Maumee River-Miami River corridor, his ranks swell to nearly 1,200.

That same day, Clark arrives at Cahokia with a handful of men.

May 26; St. Louis is attacked by 950 British and Indians under Capt. Emanuel Hesse. The attackers are driven off by cannon fire from recently completed fortifications, but 79 *habitants* are killed, wounded or captured out of a total population of less than 700. An attack is also made against Clark at Cahokia across the river, and is also driven off.

In June, at the insistence of Indian leaders, Bird's expedition changes course to go up the Licking into Kentucky. They attack the settlements between the Licking and Kentucky Rivers, taking over 300 prisoners and much plunder before withdrawing. Bird's Indian allies are disgruntled, believing an attack should have been launched against Boonesborough.

June 28; seriously ill at the time of the British attack, Leyba dies at St. Louis. He is replaced as lieutenant governor by his predecessor, Cruzat.

In July, French troops under General Comte Donatien de Rochambeau arrive at Newport, Rhode Island.

Birth of Between-the-Logs, Wyandot, near Lower Sandusky. His father is a Seneca, his mother a Wyandot of the Bear Clan.

In response to five years of unfulfilled American promises, a majority of the Delaware end their neutrality and join Captain Pipe in allying themselves with the British. Other Delaware led by Killbuck hold to their treaty and join the Americans at Fort Pitt, making war on their brothers.

August 4; Bird's expedition returns to Detroit, having failed in its strategic objective. The third prong of the British attack, against New Orleans, never materializes.

In August, George Rogers Clark strikes back against the Shawnee. He destroys Old Chillicothe on the Little Miami on August 6, and Piqua on the Miami on August 8.

August 16; the Battle of Camden.

September 22; Wyandots at Detroit cede two arpents of land on the Detroit River southwest of their village to Father Pierre Potier, in appreciation for his many services to the Nation.

October 7; the Battle of King's Mountain.

In December, Greene replaces the incompetent Gates as commander of the American army in the South.

December 21; Great Britain declares war on the Netherlands because of that country's joining in a neutrality pact aimed at breaking the British blockade of the American colonies.

1781 -

January 2; Lieutenant Governor Cruzat sends troops from St. Louis under Capt. Eugene Poudre to destroy the British supply base at Fort St. Joseph in southwest Michigan (and assert a Spanish claim to the Illinois).

February 17; after a grueling march through the winter wilderness, Poudre's men capture Fort St. Joseph. They burn the fort and then withdraw.

March 1; with Maryland's approval, the Articles of Confederation are finally ratified.

March 6; Poudre's expedition is welcomed back to St. Louis.

March 13; the planet Uranus is discovered by British astronomer William Herschel, the first new planet to be identified since ancient times.

March 15; the Battle of Guilford Court House. Cornwallis withdraws to Wilmington, North Carolina, then moves north into Virginia.

In the spring, a Grand Council of the Northwest Confederacy is held at New Chillicothe (the former Piqua), followed by bloody warfare in Kentucky. Simon Girty and Matthew Elliott lead war bands against the settlements.

In the early summer, William Walker Sr. is captured by a Delaware war party in Virginia, and his uncle killed. Walker's aunt, Mrs. Cowan, is captured by another war party but is eventually ransomed. Taken to a Delaware town on the Whetstone (present Delaware, Ohio), the 11-year-old Walker is made to run the gauntlet and is subsequently adopted.

Adopted Wyandot captives James Whitaker, 24, and Elizabeth Foulks, 16, marry at Detroit and settle near Lower Sandusky.

July 16; death of Father Pierre Potier at the age of 73, ending 37 years of service at the Assumption Mission. He is buried two days later in the sanctuary of the mission church. The long Jesuit mission to the Wyandots comes to an end.

Moravian missionaries David Zeisberger and John Heckewelder and much of their flock are forcibly removed to Upper Sandusky by Matthew Elliott. (Elliott brings along trade goods to buy the Moravians' cattle, hoping to sell them at a profit at Detroit.) Accused of being American spies, the two missionaries are twice summoned to Detroit to be examined by the commandant. They are eventually acquitted as neutrals.

George Rogers Clark sets out from Fort Pitt with 400 men to try again to mount an assault on Detroit, up the Wabash from Vincennes.

August 25; Lochry's Defeat. One hundred Pennsylvania volunteers under Col. Archibald Lochry, intending to join Clark, are ambushed near the mouth of the Miami River by Indians and Tories led by Joseph Brant. Half the Americans are killed and most of the others captured.

Following Lochry's defeat, Brant's war party joins 100 British Rangers and 300 Indians from Detroit under Capt. Andrew Thompson and Alexander McKee, in an attempt to waylay Clark on the Ohio.

Clark safely reaches Fort Nelson at Louisville, but the expedition against Detroit is called off when fearful Kentucky settlers refuse their support.

September 8; the Battle of Eutaw Springs.

October 19; Cornwallis surrenders to Washington and Rochambeau at Yorktown. "The World Turned Upside Down."

1782 -

February 27; the House of Commons adopts a resolution against further prosecution of the war in North America.

March 4; the Wyandots at Detroit give a tract of land measuring 6 by 40 arpents to Father Jean Francois Hubert, Vicar-General of Detroit, and the Sisters of the Congregation de Notre-Dame de Montreal, to establish a house of the congregation. It lies south-southwest of the Wyandot village and east of James Rankin's property.

March 8; the Gnadenhutten Massacre. With Zeisberger and Heckewelder still in British custody, some 150 Moravian Delaware have been permitted by the Wyandots to return to Gnadenhutten and Schoenbrunn in search of food. A party of 160 American volunteers from Washington County, Pennsylvania, under the command of Lt. Col. David Williamson attacks Gnadenhutten, killing 90 unresisting Christian Delaware - men, women, and over 30 children - and burning the mission church. The survivors at Schoenbrunn flee back to British-controlled territory.

March 14; birth of Thomas Hart Benton, son of Jesse and Ann Gooch Benton, in Hillsboro, North Carolina.

Later that month, the Moravian missionaries and their charges are removed from the Sandusky River by the British at the request of Half King. Wyandot neutrality is ended. The Moravian Indians are allowed to settle near Detroit and on the River Thames in the present southwestern Ontario. Zeisberger remains with the Indians.

April 19; the Netherlands recognizes American independence.

June 5; Crawford's Defeat. The Wyandots and allied tribes (with Simon Girty and Matthew Elliott) defeat a large American force advancing on the villages on the Sandusky, and capture the commanding officer, Col. William Crawford. Simon Butler (Simon Kenton), who had advised against the expedition, is among the survivors.

June 11; in response to an impassioned plea from Captain Pipe, Half King turns Col. Crawford over to the Delaware, who burn him at the stake (actually, slow roast him while he is tethered to a stake) in revenge for the Moravian massacre. Simon Girty is present, and may have tried to ransom Crawford (or so William Walker Jr. and Adam Brown Jr. both firmly believed), though most accounts say he taunts the tortured victim.

August 15; Indians and Tories led by Alexander McKee, Simon Girty and Capt. William Caldwell raid Bryant's Station in Kentucky. They are pursued by hastily assembled militia.

August 19; the Battle of Blue Licks, sometimes called (erroneously) the last battle of the American Revolution. Girty's war party defeats the pursuing Americans led by Maj. Hugh McGary. Among the 60 American dead is Daniel Boone's son Israel.

October 9; birth of Lewis Cass, son of Jonathan and Mary Gilman Cass, in Exeter, New Hampshire.

October 12; Fort Henry, Virginia, is again under siege by a force of 40 Tories and 250 Indians, including James Girty. Betty Zane risks capture or death by fetching powder from her brother Ebenezer's fortified house outside the stockade. Girty and adopted Wyandot captive Adam Brown Sr. attempt to devise a wooden cannon, but it blows up in their faces. (The Indians later regard this as a great joke on the pair.) The siege fails.

November 10; George Rogers Clark with 1100 mounted riflemen (including Simon Butler) defeats the Shawnee in Ohio and burns six towns, including New Chillicothe. The war in the west is largely over.

1783 -

February 4; Great Britain declares a formal cessation of hostilities with the United States.

February 5; Sweden recognizes American independence.

March 24; Spain recognizes American independence.

Eight-year-old Robert Armstrong is captured by Indians (probably Delaware) in western Pennsylvania. Taken to Lower Sandusky, he is adopted by the Wyandots.

June 5; the Montgolfier brothers publicly demonstrate their hot air balloon with a 10-minute flight over Annonay, France.

July 26; Jean Pierre Chouteau marries Pelagie Kiercereau in St. Louis.

September 3; the Treaty of Paris. Great Britain recognizes American independence. Lands west of the Alleghenies and south of the Great Lakes are ceded to the new nation, where despite the British ban there are already 25,000 settlers. Contrary to the treaty, British troops continue to hold Detroit and other western forts. Spain recovers the Floridas, but France gains very little.

October 4; the People called Quakers (the Society of Friends) state their opposition to slavery in an address to Congress: "We have long beheld with sorrow the complicated evils produced by an unrighteous commerce which subjects many thousands of the human species to the deplorable State of Slavery."

November 25; the British evacuate New York.

December 4; Thomas Jefferson writes to George Rogers Clark, attempting to interest him in leading an expedition overland to the Pacific. Clark declines.

1784 -

January 14; Congress ratifies the Treaty of Paris.

A grant of land is made near Amherstburg, on the east side of the Detroit River opposite the Isle aux Bois Blancs, some 20 miles south of Detroit, to a number of employees of the British Indian Department and their families, including Simon Girty, Matthew Elliott and Alexander McKee's son Thomas. Elliott's farm becomes a showplace, with over 4,000 acres and many slaves, some acquired on raids during the war.

Alexander McKee is appointed Deputy Agent of the British Indian Department at Detroit, using his influence to encourage continued resistance by the Indians to American expansion north of the Ohio. With John Graves Simcoe, lieutenant governor of Upper Canada, he hopes to create an Indian buffer state between the U.S. and British possessions (and protect Montreal's domination of the fur trade).

In August, Simon Girty marries Catherine Malott, an adopted captive of the Delaware. They have at least two sons and one daughter.

Birth of Isaac McCoy, son of William McCoy, in western Pennsylvania.

October 22; the Second Treaty of Fort Stanwix. The Iroquois make peace with the Americans, giving up all claims west of the Alleghenies and agreeing to allow the sale of tribal lands. Many refuse, and remain in Canada with Joseph Brant. The Six Nations remain divided.

1785 -

January 21; the Treaty of Fort McIntosh. The Delaware, Ojibwa, Ottawa and Wyandots acknowledge American sovereignty in Ohio. A line is drawn between white and Indian territory, and the principal of the law applying to white criminals on Indian land is acknowledged. In practice, the new government can enforce neither condition.

At a council at British-held Detroit to discuss the Fort McIntosh treaty, Adam Brown Sr. convinces the Delaware to give up 14-year-old William Walker Sr., and takes him into his household. (Brown had reportedly known Walker's family in Virginia.)

In the spring, George Rogers Clark's parents, brothers and sisters move to Kentucky, where they build "Mulberry Hill" on a large tract outside Louisville.

John Adams is sent as Minister to Great Britain, Thomas Jefferson to France. After nine years as envoy to France, Franklin returns home in triumph.



May 20; Congress passes the Land Ordinance of 1785, providing for the survey of the first seven ranges of townships in the Ohio country by Thomas Hutchins. This establishes the rectangular survey system subsequently applied to all U.S. public lands.

Simon Butler (Simon Kenton), now 30, discovers that the man he thought he had killed 14 years before is still alive. Resuming his own name, he again settles at Limestone, Kentucky (present Maysville) on the Ohio River.

1786 - January 31; the Treaty of Fort Finney. The Shawnee acknowledge American sovereignty in Ohio and are forced to sign away their Ohio lands east of the Miami River. Indian Agent Richard Butler threatens the deaths of Shawnee women and children otherwise.

May 9; birth of Auguste Pierre (A.P.) Chouteau, eldest son of Pierre and Pelagie Kiercereau Chouteau, in St. Louis.

In October, in response to raids in Kentucky by Mingos, Cherokees, and dissident Shawnee, Col. Benjamin Logan leads an attack on the Shawnee villages on the Mad River in Ohio. Once again, the wrong Indians are attacked.

In December, the tribes of the Northwest Confederacy meet in Grand Council at Huron Village near Detroit to protest American policies. The Shawnee repudiate the treaty of Fort Finney, citing ignorance of the terms, coercion and unfairness. The government refuses to negotiate with the Confederacy but will only deal with individual tribes, and contrary to the treaty of Fort McIntosh, Americans are pushing onto lands reserved for Indians. The Confederacy resolves resistance.

1787 - January 7; birth of Catherine "Caty" Sage, daughter of James and Lovice Ott Sage, in Cripple Creek, Virginia.

February 21; Congress passes a resolution calling for a convention to be held in Philadelphia for the purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation.

May 14; the Constitutional Convention convenes in Philadelphia. George Washington is elected president of the convention.

July 13; Congress passes the Northwest Ordinance, creating the Territory Northwest of the River Ohio (Northwest Territory). It includes the present states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. The Ordinance establishes the system by which territories are created and may subsequently enter the Union as states, bans slavery in the territory, assures religious freedom and encourages education. Arthur St. Clair of Pennsylvania is appointed governor of the territory.

September 17; the Constitutional Convention approves the Federal Constitution for adoption, and transmits the document to the President of Congress.

October 26; Congress directs Governor St. Clair to pacify the Ohio tribes by whatever means necessary.

In the late autumn, Manuel Perez replaces Francisco Cruzat as lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana at St. Louis.

1787-1788 -

Hamilton, Madison and Jay author the Federalist Papers, urging adoption of the Constitution.

1788 -

January 18; the first British settlement in Australia is begun on Botany Bay as a penal colony.

In April, settlers from Massachusetts and Connecticut sent out by the Ohio Company establish Marietta, Northwest Territory, at the mouth of the Muskingum River. Laid out by Gen. Rufus Putnam, the new settlement is named in honor of Marie Antoinette, Queen of France.

June 21; nine states having voted approval, the United States Constitution is ratified.

In July, death of Half King at Detroit. His successor as Wyandot Principal Chief is Tarhe, called the Crane. Rohn-yau-tee-rah, or Isadore Chaine, believes that as head of the Deer Clan he should have been Half King's heir, but he is denied this because his father was French. The chieftainship passes to the Porcupine Clan of the Turtle Phratry.

The Ottawa and Ojibwa grant a lease of Pelee Island in Lake Erie to young Thomas McKee, son of Alexander McKee, for 999 years.

Lieutenant Governor Perez sends emissaries to the Shawnee and Delaware, inviting them to settle in Upper Louisiana near Cape Girardeau. The Spanish wish to form a buffer against attacks by the Osage.

September 13; Congress passes a resolution calling for the new government to begin operations on Wednesday, March 4, 1789, authorizing the first national elections and designating New York the temporary national capital.

Daniel Boone leaves Kentucky in the autumn, having lost his lands in a series of court suits.

In December, the settlement of Losantiville, Northwest Territory, is laid out by John Filson and Israel Ludlow on the Ohio River, opposite the mouth of the Licking. Governor St. Clair soon renames the town Cincinnati in honor of the Order of the Cincinnati, the Revolutionary War veterans' organization.

1789 - January 9; the Treaty of Fort Harmar reconfirms the provisions of the Treaty of Fort McIntosh, and is signed by a significant number of chiefs including Tarhe, but American encroachment continues. A separate article confirms the Wyandots in the possession of their two towns below Detroit. A notation states that the Wyandots claim the lands granted to the Shawnee, and if the Shawnee will not be at peace, the Wyandots will dispossess them and take back their lands.

January 19; birth of Jean Pierre Chouteau  *fils*, Cadet or second son of Pierre and Pelagie Kiercereau Chouteau, in St. Louis.

February 4; electors unanimously elect George Washington as first President of the United States, with John Adams as Vice President. (The votes are not counted until April 6, however.)

April 28; the crew of HMS *Bounty* mutinies in the South Pacific. Captain William Bligh and 18 loyal sailors are set adrift in a launch.

April 30; George Washington is sworn in as President.

July 14; the fall of the Bastille. The French Revolution begins.

September 25; Congress approves the first 10 amendments to the Constitution (the Bill of Rights) for submission to the states.

October 14; birth of John R. Walker, Wyandot, eldest child of William and Catherine Rankin Walker. The young parents are 19 and 18 respectively. The family settles at Gros Roche, near Brownstown on the Detroit River (present Gibraltar, Michigan). The convent-educated Catherine teaches her husband to read and write.

c. 1790 - The main Kansa village is moved from its old site near the abandoned Fort de Cavagnial to a new location on the Big Blue River near the present Manhattan, Kansas.

1790 - January 8; President Washington delivers an address to Congress on the State of the Union.

March 1; Congress authorizes the first U.S. Census. It establishes the population at 3,929,214.

March 21; recalled from France, Thomas Jefferson reports to President Washington in New York to take up his new office as Secretary of State.

April 17; death of Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia at the age of 84.

May 19; as the result of a treaty negotiated by Alexander McKee, the Wyandots surrender much of southwest Ontario, including most of their lands around the present Windsor. The British establish two reserves for the Wyandots in western Canada, the Huron Mission Reserve opposite Detroit and the much larger Huron or Anderdon Reserve on the Canard River near Amherstburg. This is the last treaty on which appears the name and Deer totem of Sastaretse (spelled "Sastaritsie" on the treaty), Principal Chief of the Wyandot Nation.<sup>3</sup>

His partnership in a trading firm having gone bankrupt, Matthew Elliott becomes an assistant to Alexander McKee at Detroit. He works among the tribes along the Maumee River, distributing British supplies.

The Miami war chief Little Turtle is elected to command of all the war parties of the Northwest Confederacy.

October 22; Harmar's Defeat. The Ohio allies led by Little Turtle defeat Bvt. Maj. Gen. Josiah Harmar's expedition against them near the present Fort Wayne, Indiana. The handful of regulars are cut down while the militia breaks and runs.

Auguste Chouteau is granted trade with the Kansa by the Spanish, and Pierre Chouteau spends the winter of 1790-91 at the new Kansa village.

December 6; the Third Congress of the United States convenes in Philadelphia, which has replaced New York City as the temporary national capital.

1791 -

March 2; death of John Wesley, founder of Methodism, at the age of 87. He has always regarded the Methodist movement as still part of the Church of England, rather than a separate sect, and opposed the Methodist churches in America going their own way.

March 3; the District of Columbia is established.

March 4; Vermont is admitted to the Union as the 14th state.

That same day, Governor Arthur St. Clair is appointed major general and commander-in-chief of American forces.

March 29; with his father's support, Thomas McKee secures a commission as ensign in the 60th Foot, part of which is stationed at Detroit.

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<sup>3</sup> If it is true that Half King died in 1788, as related by David Zeisberger, then Half King was not Sastaretse. Alternatively, the 1788 date is incorrect (dates as late as 1805 have been proposed). The title was never accorded to Half King's successor, Tarhe.

In the early summer, a Canadian Iroquois (possibly Captain David) and two Wyandots, Spliced Arrow and the Grey Eyed Man, go south seeking allies for the Northwest Confederacy. They reportedly find a small, long-separated band of Wyandot descendents called the U-chee among the Creeks in Alabama.

June 19; Parliament approves the Constitutional Act, establishing constitutional government in Canada and dividing Quebec into Lower and Upper Canada.

Eight-year-old Jonathan Pointer, an African-American, is taken by Indians near Point Pleasant, Virginia, and becomes an adopted captive of the Wyandots.

Pierre Menard, 24, moves from Vincennes to Kaskaskia, where he opens a store in partnership with Toussaint DuBois.

November 4; St. Clair's Defeat. The Ohio allies led by Little Turtle defeat American forces under Maj. Gen. Arthur St. Clair near the headwaters of the Wabash. With the loss of over 600 men, this is the greatest Indian victory over the Americans. The mouths of the dead are filled with earth, a reply to the American hunger for Indian land. St. Clair subsequently resigns his commission, but retains the governorship of the Northwest Territory. (A congressional inquiry is hampered when, for the first time, President Washington claims executive privilege.)

December 5; death of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in Vienna at the age of 35.

December 15; the Bill of Rights is ratified.

December 30; Francisco Luis Hector, Baron de Carondelet, is appointed governor of Louisiana and West Florida.

1792 -

January 17; birth of James R. Walker, Wyandot, second child of William and Catherine Rankin Walker, at Gros Roche near Brownstown, Northwest Territory.

March 7; 21-year-old William Clark, younger brother of George Rogers Clark, is commissioned a lieutenant of infantry, attached to the 4th Sub-legion.

April 20; France declares war on Austria, beginning the French Revolutionary Wars.

Don Zenon Trudeau replaces Manuel Perez as lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana at St. Louis.

May 21; Pierre Vial sets out from Santa Fe for St. Louis, hoping to open trade connections with Upper Louisiana.

June 1; Kentucky, separated from Virginia, is admitted to the Union as the 15th state.

June 13; Pierre Menard marries Therese Godin at Kaskaskia.

July 5; five-year-old Katy Sage is abducted from Elk Creek Valley, Virginia, by an enemy of her family. She is subsequently presented as a gift to the Wyandots from the Cherokee.

Thomas Jefferson proposes an expedition overland to the Pacific to the American Philosophical Society.

August 10; attempting to flee France, Louis XVI is taken into custody and eventually charged with treason.

September 22; the French Republic is proclaimed.

October 3; Pierre Vial's exploring party arrives in St. Louis.

In October, a multi-tribal council is held at Au Glaize (present Defiance, Ohio) on the Maumee River, including not only the tribes of the Northwest Confederacy but also Joseph Brant and representatives of the Six Nations from Canada. The question of war with the United States is debated, but any final decision is held pending a forthcoming conference with American commissioners.

December 5; George Washington is reelected President.

1793 -

January 21; Louis XVI of France is beheaded by guillotine.

March 2; birth of Samuel "Sam" Houston, son of Sam and Elizabeth Paxton Houston, near Lexington, Virginia.

Birth of Joseph Parks, Shawnee, in Michigan.

Legislation is passed in Upper Canada freeing any slave coming into the province, whether brought by a slaveholder or as an escapee. The bill also provides for the gradual manumission of slaves already resident in the province (a provision Matthew Elliott strongly resists).

June 14; Pierre Vial and two companions leave St. Louis to return to Santa Fe.

July 13; Jean Paul Marat is killed in his bath by Charlotte Corday.

July 21 - August 17; three American commissioners - Benjamin Lincoln, Timothy Pickering and Beverly Randolph, with Moravian missionary John Heckewelder as advisor - confer with the tribes of the Northwest Confederacy in council at the mouth of the Detroit River. The chiefs do not take direct part, but three Indian delegates - Cat's Eyes, a Shawnee, Savaghdawunk, a Wyandot, and Simon Girty - speak for the Confederacy. Joseph Brant urges peace, but the majority refuses to yield on the Ohio River remaining the boundary between Indian lands and the United States. The conference ends in failure.

July 22; Alexander Mackenzie, with a party of eight Canadians and two Indian guides, reaches the Pacific Ocean at the mouth of the Bella Coola River in the present British Columbia, in the first overland crossing of the continent.

August 23; the American commissioners arrive back at Fort Erie.

September 2; the French National Assembly institutes harsh measures to repress counter-revolutionary activities. Beginning of the Reign of Terror.

September 3; Secretary of War Henry Knox writes to Governor Mifflin of Pennsylvania, informing him of the failure of the peace conference and suggesting that Pennsylvania look to the defense of its frontier.

September 18; the cornerstone is laid for the United States Capitol, with President Washington presiding.

October 7; under orders from President Washington, Maj. Gen. "Mad Anthony" Wayne leaves Fort Washington near Cincinnati with his Legion, building a chain of forts as they advance into Ohio. Fort Greenville (present Greenville, Ohio) is established 80 miles north of Cincinnati.

October 17; a supply detachment of Wayne's Legion is wiped out at Ludlow Spring by a war party led by Little Turtle.

November 15; Vial's party reaches Santa Fe.

1794 -

February 4; the French Republic abolishes slavery.

February 17; his first wife having died, Pierre Chouteau marries Brigitte Saucier at St. Louis.

March 14; Eli Whitney receives a patent for the cotton gin. By making large-scale cotton farming profitable, the invention inadvertently leads to the development of a single-market economy and the expansion of slavery throughout the South.

March 22; Congress prohibits American ships from carrying slaves to other countries.

April 9; birth of Isaac R. Walker, Wyandot, third child of William and Catherine Rankin Walker, at Gros Roche near Brownstown, Northwest Territory.

In the spring, the British build Fort Miami on the Maumee River in northwest Ohio, in violation of the Treaty of Paris. The tribes view this as a commitment of support to their cause.

The Spanish grant Auguste Chouteau \$2,000 and a six year monopoly on trade with the Osage, in exchange for a promise to build a fort among them (Fort Carondelet) and help keep them peaceful. Pierre Chouteau spends much of the next six years with the tribe.

June 30; Indians with a handful of disguised white Canadians (including Ensign Thomas McKee) make an unsuccessful attack on a detachment of Wayne's forces at Fort Recovery, erected at the headwaters of the Wabash near the site of St. Clair's defeat.

July 28; Wayne's Legion sets out from Fort Greenville, continuing the northward advance into Ohio. (William Clark and Meriwether Lewis are serving together in the same division of the Legion.)

That same day, French revolutionary leader Maximilien Robespierre, overthrown and arrested the day before, is himself executed by guillotine. End of the Reign of Terror.

July - November; the Whiskey Rebellion breaks out among farmers in western Pennsylvania. They oppose a tax on whiskey, which is the only practical way they have of getting their back-country corn crop to market. With the Legion engaged in Ohio, President Washington sends Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton to put down the rebellion.

August 13; the tribes of the Northwest Confederacy hold Grand Council on the banks of the Maumee River. Little Turtle urges caution, but is overruled in the debate by the Shawnee war chief Bluejacket.

August 20; the Battle of Fallen Timbers. General Wayne with 900 men defeats a combined force of 2000 Delaware, Miamis, Pottawatomies, Shawnee and Wyandots led by Bluejacket. Reportedly all the participating Wyandot chiefs except Tarhe are slain, and the Wyandots' Deer clan nearly wiped out. The British in Fort Miami refuse the Indians assistance after the battle. Unable to spark further resistance, Simon Girty returns to his home at Amherstburg.<sup>4</sup>

Wayne remains below the Maumee Rapids for three days, destroying crops and buildings (including a trading house and stores belonging to Alexander McKee) but leaving Fort Miami untouched.

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<sup>4</sup> Canadian histories state that Girty, McKee and Elliott were present as "observers" rather than combatants.



August 27; Wayne's Legion returns to Fort Defiance at Au Glaize, laying waste to the countryside as they march.

September 14; Wayne leaves Fort Defiance to ascend the Maumee into northeastern Indiana

October 18-22; Wayne establishes Fort Wayne (present Fort Wayne, Indiana) among the Miami villages on the upper Maumee.

November 2; Wayne returns to Fort Greenville, his campaign against the Northwest Confederacy an unqualified success.

In the wake of their defeat, more Shawnee remove to the vicinity of Cape Girardeau in Spanish territory, though many still remain in Ohio with their chief Catahecassa, or Black Hoof. There is also a small group of Delaware in the Cape Girardeau area, having split from the main group perhaps as early as 1789.

The U.S. erects a house for Bluejacket on the bank of the St. Mary's River near Fort Wayne, where he remains in semi-exile for several years.

November 19; the Jay Treaty. Great Britain and the U.S. sign a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, including matters affecting boundary claims, the free passage of travel and trade across the U.S.-Canada border, and extradition. Britain agrees to yield the forts in the Northwest.

At the end of the year, Alexander McKee is appointed Deputy Superintendent and Deputy Inspector General of Indian Affairs, in charge of Indian affairs for Upper Canada.

1795 -

January 4; the Baron de Carondelet, governor of Louisiana, grants the Shawnee and Delaware near Cape Girardeau a tract of land 25 miles square.

February 5; Ensign Thomas McKee is promoted lieutenant, 60th Foot.

August 3; the Treaty of Greenville. Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne concludes a treaty with the tribes of the Northwest Confederacy - Wyandots, Delaware, Shawnee, Ottawa, Ojibwa, Pottawatomi, Miami, Eel River, Weas, Kickapoo, Piankashaws and Kaskaskia. Wyandots are given the place of honor as "Bearers of the Calumet," and Tarhe's son-in-law Isaac Zane acts as interpreter. Tarhe still supports the principal of all Indian lands being held in common, but is the first to sign the treaty and is loyal to the Americans thereafter. The Ohio lands of many tribes are ceded to the American government.

The Society of Friends (Quakers) appoints George Elliott and Gerald T. Hopkins missionaries to the Delaware, Shawnee and Wyandots.

October 7; Governor St. Clair appoints Pierre Menard major of a territorial militia regiment.

October 27; the Treaty of San Lorenzo. The United States and Spain agree to the free navigation of the Mississippi River and American access to New Orleans.

1796 - Elliott and Hopkins visit the Ohio tribes but fail to establish a Quaker mission.

February 20; Lt. Thomas McKee is promoted captain, 60th Foot.

March 9; Napoleon Bonaparte marries Josephine de Beauharnais.

Also in March, Col. Ebenezer Zane petitions Congress for permission to open a road through Ohio from Wheeling, Virginia, to Limestone, Kentucky.

May 9; President Washington signs an Explanatory Note to the Jay treaty of 1794, making clear that nothing in the Greenville treaty is intended to derogate the rights of free intercourse and commerce of either party. Canadian fur traders may continue to operate unhindered throughout the Northwest Territory.

May 14; English physician Edward Jenner administers the first smallpox vaccination to an 8-year-old boy.

May 17; Congress approves Zane's road and grants him three sections where the road crosses the Muskingum, Hockhocking, and Scioto rivers. He must blaze the road by January 1, 1797, provide ferries where it crosses the three rivers, and survey the three tracts at his own expense.

The settlement of Cleveland is begun on the south shore of Lake Erie by colonists from Connecticut as the chief city of the Western Reserve.

June 1; Tennessee, separated from North Carolina, is admitted to the Union as the 16th state.

In the summer, Matthew Elliott is appointed Superintendent of Indians and of Indian Affairs for the District of Detroit. On the recommendation of his father, Capt. Thomas McKee is made Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Northwestern District in Upper Canada.

July 1; William Clark resigns from the Army and returns to the family home at Mulberry Hill in Kentucky.

July 11; the British finally turn Detroit over to the Americans. To replace Detroit, Fort Malden is built near Amherstburg in Upper Canada some 20 miles to the south. Alexander McKee moves to a new home at the mouth of the River Thames.

Birth of Adam Brown Jr., Wyandot, son of Adam Brown Sr., at Brownstown, Northwest Territory.

In the fall, the men cutting Zane's Trace reach the Hockhocking, stopping at Tarhe's village. William McCulloch, member of the crew (and nephew of Col. Zane's wife Elizabeth), meets Tarhe's granddaughter Nancy Zane.

In October, Tarhe and several other Wyandot chiefs visit President Washington in Philadelphia as part of a large delegation of Indians from the Northwest Territory.

October 29; birth of Elizabeth Walker, Wyandot, fourth child of William and Catherine Rankin Walker, at Gros Roche near Brownstown, Northwest Territory.

November 8; John Adams (Federalist) is elected President, defeating Thomas Jefferson (Democratic-Republican), who thus becomes Vice President. The election campaign has turned the two former friends into bitter opponents.

December 15; death of Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne at Presque Isle (present Erie, Pennsylvania), on his return from the occupation of Detroit. His replacement at Detroit is his quarrelsome subordinate, Brig. Gen. James Wilkinson, a bitter enemy of George Rogers Clark.

1797 -

February 7; birth of Francois Gesseau Chouteau, eldest child of Pierre and Brigitte Saucier Chouteau, in St. Louis.

April 17; Capt. Thomas McKee marries Therese Askin, daughter of John Askin, at Petite Cote, Upper Canada (present Windsor, Ontario).

In the spring, Cranetown is moved from the Hockhocking River south of the Greenville treaty line to a site near the present Upper Sandusky, Ohio. Isaac Zane moves his family to Solomonstown (later Zanesfield, Ohio).

Nancy Zane, daughter of Isaac Zane and Myeerah, marries William McCulloch. They settle on their uncle Col. Ebenezer Zane's 640-acre tract at the crossing of the Muskingum.

July 10; the USS *United States*, a 44-gun frigate, is launched at Philadelphia.

Three Friends (Quakers) meet with the Wyandot Tribal Council to discuss the possibility of a mission.

September 7; the USS *Constellation*, a 44-gun frigate, is launched at Baltimore.

September 17; Washington's farewell address.

September 20; the USS *Constitution*, a 44-gun frigate, is launched at Boston.

In December, following complaints by the commandant at Fort Malden, Matthew Elliott is dismissed as Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Amherstburg. Alexander McKee orders his son Thomas to take on the office in addition to the superintendency of the Northwestern District.

1798 - April 7; Mississippi Territory is established. It includes the present states of Mississippi and Alabama, less Spain's coastal strip of West Florida.

June 25; Congress passes the Alien Act.

July 9; the U.S. begins an undeclared naval war against France because of French interference with American shipping and violations of American neutrality.

July 14; Congress passes the Sedition Act.

Late in the year, having lost his lands in title disputes, Simon Kenton leaves Kentucky for Ohio.

1799 - January 15; death of Col. Alexander McKee, Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs for Western Canada, at his home on the River Thames at the age of 64. His position is temporarily filled by James Baby, Alexander Grant, and his son Capt. Thomas McKee.

In March, the warrant to Baby, Grant and McKee is withdrawn, and William Claus succeeds to the office of deputy superintendent general.

Zanesville, Ohio, is laid out by Col. Ebenezer Zane on his tract where Zane's Trace crosses the Muskingum.

Tarhe sends a letter to the Society of Friends in Philadelphia to inquire as to why Quaker missionaries have not returned to the Wyandots.

In June, a Quaker delegation arrives at Upper Sandusky to discuss the proposed Wyandot mission. Unwilling to wait several months for the next tribal council meeting, they leave never to return.

In August, Col. Charles de Hault Delassus replaces Zenon Trudeau as lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana at St. Louis. A census conducted by the new lieutenant governor shows that the population of St. Louis has grown to 925 *habitants*.

In October, Daniel Boone arrives to great acclaim in St. Louis. At the invitation of the Spanish government, he leads a party of Boones, Callaways and other settlers to the Femme Osage district 40 miles west of the city. He is made syndic, or magistrate, and allowed to parcel out 400 acres to each family. (As they were never perfected into royal grants from the Spanish Crown, the claims are voided by the U.S. government following the Louisiana Purchase.)

November 9-10; Napoleon overthrows the Directory in a *coup d'etat* and becomes First Consul of the French Republic.

December 14; death of George Washington.

1800 -

Second U.S. Census establishes population at 5,308,483.

Auguste Chouteau's monopoly on trade with the Osage is extended for four years.

The Delaware move to the White River in central Indiana as provided at Greenville. With four principal towns and several smaller villages, their Principal Chief is Tetepachksit of the Turtle Band.

March 5; birth of William Walker Jr., Wyandot, fifth child of William and Catherine Rankin Walker, at Gros Roche near Brownstown, Northwest Territory.

April 24; the Library of Congress is established.

May 9; birth of John Brown in Torrington, Connecticut. The family subsequently moves to the Western Reserve in Ohio.

May 12; William Henry Harrison is appointed the first territorial governor of Indiana and Superintendent of Indian Affairs following the division of the Northwest Territory, with the territorial capital at Vincennes. Ohio, now a separate territory with its capital at Marietta, approaches its present boundaries. Arthur St. Clair continues as governor of Ohio Territory.

Lancaster, Ohio, is laid out on Col. Ebenezer Zane's second tract, where Zane's Trace crosses the Hockhocking River. The third tract, on the Scioto, lies opposite Chillicothe.

Birth of Thomas McKee Jr., Wyandot, son of Capt. Thomas McKee and Charlotte Brown, a daughter of Adam Brown Sr.

September 11; Canadian Wyandots give up the last of their lands at the Assumption Mission church (except for 61 acres near the church for use as an encampment) as the Huron Mission Reserve is ceded to the Crown. Much of the reserve is already occupied by the town of Sandwich, established for the resettlement of Loyalists from Detroit.

September 30; the U.S. naval war against France ends.

October 1; the Treaty of San Ildefonso. Louisiana is ceded back to France by Spain, the treaty kept secret until conclusion of a general European peace in 1803.