

Editor's Note

The two articles that follow both deal with the murder of Indians that occurred in 1824 on Deer Lick Creek in Madison County. The first by Brian M. Doerr presents the fullest description thus far of that unfortunate incident in early Indiana history. Doerr's treatment is notable for his meticulous recounting of the slaughter itself and for his examination of the events that followed. Though the murders on their face seem entirely consistent with the lamentable history of Indian-white relations generally, the pursuit, prosecution, and trial of the murderers add a measure of complexity to an otherwise conventional story. And it is a good story, well told and important for a fuller picture of life in the Indiana backcountry as the frontiersmen made the transition to more settled conditions. In the second piece R. David Edmunds comments more broadly on the events by tracing the Indian hunters from their Ohio homes and describing the historical background of the episode.