the sources used. There was, for example, no "Kickapoo confederacy" during the early French contact period (p. 13), but simply a war between the Fox Indians and the French. The Kickapoo were not on the warpath in 1805 and 1806 (pp. 55, 57), but were very friendly with their white neighbors during that period. They did not participate in the Pigeon Roost massacre at all and they did not play the leading role in the attack on Fort Harrison (pp. 67-69). The O'Neal massacre took place in Missouri Territory, not in Illinois (p. 64), and so on.

The materials for writing a definitive history of the Kickapoo Indians are available, and in fact are listed in Gibson's extensive bibliography, but that history is still waiting to be written.

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Benjamin Logan, Kentucky Frontiersman is much more than a biography of an early settler who became one of the founding fathers of the commonwealth of Kentucky. It relates Logan's family background in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and later in the Holston Valley of eastern Tennessee before he moved to the Kentucky Bluegrass in 1775, just as that region was being settled. It then tells the story of his life in Kentucky until his sudden death from apoplexy in 1802. But Logan participated so much in the political and military life of Kentucky that his biography almost of necessity becomes a history of Kentucky from 1775 to 1802. The emphasis in this volume, however, is on the period from 1775 until 1792 when statehood was achieved.

Talbert gives much attention to Indian affairs, the prolonged Kentucky statehood movement, and the relations between residents of Kentucky and the Spanish who controlled the lower Mississippi. According to Talbert, the concern of Kentuckians about the ability and willingness of the government of the United States to protect them from the Indians and to protect their interests regarding trade down the Mississippi delayed the achievement of statehood. But Kentuckians were reassured and their ties to the Union strengthened by the failure of Congress to approve a trade treaty John Jay negotiated with the Spanish during the mid-1780's which would have closed the lower Mississippi to American trade for a quarter of a century and the increased responsibility which the United States assumed in protecting frontier settlers from Indian attacks during the late 1780's and early 1790's. Talbert apparently regards the possibility that Kentucky might not have entered the Union upon her detachment from Virginia as a potentially serious problem which never developed into significant proportions. He indicates that Kentucky's admission to the Union resulted in no small degree from the substantial understanding and patience, to say nothing of aid and support, which Virginia afforded Kentucky settlers, who were citizens of the Old Dominion until 1792.
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Benjamin Logan is presented by Talbert as a soldier-politician who possessed great courage, much common sense, and considerable understanding of public affairs. A landowner who was also a slaveholder, Logan frequently sensed and served the public interest. He was a delegate in various of the ten conventions which Kentucky had in its transition from being a part of Virginia to becoming the first western state. Logan alternately served in Indian campaigns and in conventions considering statehood. Service in the Indian campaigns by Logan and others at times delayed the deliberations regarding statehood and it also increased the desire of Kentuckians for assurance that the United States would afford adequate protection against the Indians. Though James Wilkinson implicated Logan—and various other Kentucky leaders—in the Spanish Conspiracy, Talbert finds “little evidence that would connect him [Logan] with an attempt to separate Kentucky from the Union” (p. 237). During the last decade of Logan’s life he was twice defeated in campaigns for governor.

Talbert has done much digging to produce this useful account of the life and times of Benjamin Logan. Use has been made of the Draper Collection, but the author shows an awareness of limitations involved in its use. The citations and bibliographical notes indicate that a significant amount of pertinent primary and secondary material also has been effectively used. Through the years Logan has been less well known than George Rogers Clark and Daniel Boone. Talbert’s volume should make Logan more widely known and enhance his reputation as one of the top-ranking men among the early settlers of Kentucky.

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A motorist crossing Missouri these days on Highway 66 may turn south at St. James and in a very few minutes come to Maramec Spring, a pleasant park in which to break his journey. After admiring the mammoth spring and the trout pools which it feeds, the traveler will doubtless cross the road and wander through the partially restored ironworks which is the park’s other principal attraction.

Today the reconstructed furnace and the sites of the forges and casting house lie in a peaceful meadow where children romp and picnic baskets are opened. A very different scene greeted the traveler of a century ago. Then the roaring furnace and the noisy forges were surrounded by warehouses, stables, carpenter and blacksmith shops, workers’ cabins, a grist mill, and a general store. The “pungent smell of burning charcoal pits” saturated the air, while a hundred to two hundred workmen and their families moved among the buildings. “Iron plantations” such communities were called in colonial days; “company towns,” in the nineteenth century.