

**Kings Mountain and Its Heroes** by Dr. Lyman C. Draper, LL. D., 1881, Peter G. Thomson; reprinted 1969 by The Overmountain Press, Johnson City, Tennessee.

## Chapter XIII

### Lt. Col. John and Col. Patrick Moore

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Whether Colonel John or Patrick Moore is the one referred to, is not certain—probably the former, as Colonel Ferguson seemed not to have formed a good opinion of the conduct of Patrick Moore in failing to defend Thicketty Fort the preceding July. Moses Moore, the father of Colonel John Moore, was a native of Carlisle, England, whence he migrated to Virginia in 1745, marrying a Miss Winston, near Jamestown, in that Province; and in 1753, settling in what is now Gaston County, North Carolina, eight miles west of Lincolnton. Here John Moore was born; and being a frontier country, when old enough he was sent to Granville County, in that Province, for his education. When the Revolution broke out, he became a zealous Loyalist; and led a party of Tories from Tryon County, in February, 1779, to Georgia, and uniting with Colonel Boyd on the way, they were defeated by Colonel Pickens at Kettle Creek. Boyd was mortally wounded, and Moore escaped to the British army in that quarter; and is said to have participated in the defence of Savannah. In December following, he was in the service near Moseley's Ferry, on the Ogeechee.

He subsequently returned to North Carolina, a Lieutenant-Colonel in Hamilton's corps of Loyalists, and prematurely embodied a Tory force, near Camp Branch, about half a mile west of his father's residence; thence marched about six miles north to Tory Branch, and thence to Ramsour's Mill, on the South Fork, where he was disastrously defeated, June 10th, 1780, escaping with thirty others to Camden. His regiment, the Royal North Carolinians, participated in Gates' defeat, losing three killed and fourteen wounded—among the latter, Colonel Hamilton. It is doubtful if Moore participated in the action, as he was about that time under suspension, threatened with a court martial for disobedience of orders in raising the Loyalists at Ramsour's before the time appointed by Lord Cornwallis; but it was at length deemed impolitic to bring him to trial. Escaping from King's Mountain, we next find him with Captain Waters, and a body of Tories, defeated by Colonel Washington at Hammond's Store, South Carolina, December 28th, 1780. Though a family tradition coming down from a sister to her grandson, John H. Roberts, of Gaston County, represents that Moore went to Carlisle, England, and was lost track of yet the better opinion is founded on a statement by a North Carolina Loyalist, published in the *Political Magazine*, London, April 1783 that he was taken prisoner by Colonel Wade Hampton near the Wateree, and hanged. He left no family.

A few words about Colonel Patrick Moore may not be inappropriate in this connection. He was of Irish descent, and a native of Virginia. He early settled on Thicketty creek in the north-western part of South Carolina where he commanded Fort Anderson or Thicketty Fort which he surrendered, without firing a gun to Colonel Shelby and associates. He was subsequently captured by a party of Americans according to the tradition in his family, near Ninety Six, and was supposed to have been killed by his captors as his remains were afterwards found and recognized by his great height—six feet and seven inches. His death probably occurred in 1781. He left a wife who survived many years, a son and three daughters; and his descendants in South Carolina and Georgia are very worthy people.