

Samuel Newell to Gov. David Campbell 04Aug1823

To Col. D^d Campbell, Abingdon Va
Pulaski County KY August 4th 1823

Sir,

Yours of July 12th is received, but I am not able fully to comply with your request. Both my physical and mental powers are much impaired. My memory particularly is very much failed as that in a lapse of forty three years it cannot be expected I can give a very correct detail of particulars. I remember the morning after the battle that the return of the killed and wounded was shown to me and that the number from the Virginia regiment was fifteen killed and twenty wounded. Thomas McCulloch and James Laird did not die until the next Wednesday night, consequently were numbered with the wounded in the return referred to above. The officers killed were Captain Wm Edmondson, Lieut. Commandant Reece Bowen, Lieut. Robert Edmondson, Lieut. Wm Blackburn, and Lieut Thomas McCulloch (died with his wound) Ensigns John Beattie and Nathaniel Dryden. Officers wounded were Capt James Dysart, Samuel Newell, first lieut, Robert Edmondson Jr 2nd Lieut, Ensign James Hill. There were thirteen commissioned officers killed and wounded from our regiment, but the names of two subalterns (probably from some remote part of the county, and with whom I was not intimate) I can not at this time recollect. Privates killed that I recollect Richard Gist, James Curry, James Laird,

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James Phillips, Andrew Edmondson, Henry Hinnegar. Here is lacking four privates killed whose names I cannot recollect. James Laird at the time I saw the return was not dead. Privates wounded and recollect: Wm Moore, Charles Kilgore, Frederick Fisher, Philip Bullen, Lenoard Hyce, Israel Hayter, _____ Bannan (first name not recollect). Here is lacking nine privates whose names I do not recollect. They perhaps were but slightly wounded, and not much with the hospital department to which I was confined.

The officers of the Virginia regiment that went on that expedition were Colonel Wm Campbell, Major Wm Edmondson, Captains James Dysart, Wm Edmondson, David Beattie, Andrew Colvill, Robert Craig, and Wm Neal. Capt Neal was left with the foot. Dysart, Edmondson, Beattie, Colvill, and Craig were in the action. I am unable to give a correct detail of the subalterns and their arrangements. Andrew Kinkannon was Captain Dysart's first lieutenant, and perhaps Thomas McCulloch, second, but of this I am not certain. Robert Campbell was Dysart's ensign and could correct this statement if wrong. Robert Kinkannon Sr was Captain Edmondson's first lieutenant and Robert Edmondson Jr second. I do not recollect who was Capt. Edmondson's ensign. Nathaniel Dryden I believe was Captain Beattie's ensign. I don't remember his other subalterns. Samuel Newelle was first Lieutenant, Wm Davidson, second, and John Beattie, ensign in Captain Colville's company. In Captain Craig's company, Wm Blackburn was first lieutenant, Wm Bartlett, second,

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And Andrew Goff ensign. Lieut. Bowen came in late, was not attached to any company, but commanded the party he brought as captain. Lieutenant James Hill was his ensign. I do not remember what subalterns or if any were left with Captain Neal with the foot. Wm Russell was Neal's Lieutenant, and commanded the horsemen of Neal's company and was in the action.

We were under a forced march from the time we started until the battle, which gave little time for acquaintance in other regiments. I do not know of any field officer in Colonel Shelby's regiment, but himself, unless his brother Evan Shelby acted as major. His Captains that I recollect were John Sawyers, George Maxwell, James Elliot, and Wm Pemberton. In Colonel Sevier's regiment, Colonel Charles Robertson was second in command and the captains I remember were Valentine Sevier, Robert Sevier, Christopher Taylor, and John Paterson. I do not recollect any of the subalterns of either regiments. Colonel William Russell of Fayette County Kentucky I should suppose could give a fuller and more accurate account of the events and arrangements of the army on that expedition than I can possibly do. He escaped without injuries, continued with the army through the whole route, consequently had a better opportunity of knowing and retaining passing events than I had, who was confined after the action and left the army the
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sixth day afterwards.

I am sir with the highest respect your &c

Sam'l Newelle

P.S. On casting my eye over what I have written I see it is in very confused order. My age and infirmity must be my apology. I cannot undertake the drudgery of transcribing and correcting.
S.N.

[Ed. Note:

1. Newell's brother Joseph Black was conspicuously absent from his remembrance. Capt Black is listed by L.P.Summers as Lt under Capt Dysart at Kings Mtn. Maybe McCulloch was the other Lt in Neal's company? Or perhaps Joseph Black tended the fort instead of going to BKM?
2. On page 304 Draper quoted Newell's report except that
Newell said Private Richard Gist was killed and
Draper said Ensign Nathaniel Gist was killed.
Newell said Philip Bullen was wounded
Draper said William Bullen was wounded.

<http://bkmp.com/ovta/muster-ground/>
click on Muster map link.