

## THE BATTLE OF PLEASANT POINT.

But on the very day when this movement should have been executed, (October 10<sup>th</sup>), the Indians in force, headed by the able and brave chief of the Shawanese, Cornstalk, appeared before the army, determined then and there to avenge past wrongs and cripple vitally the power of the invaders. Delawares, Iroquois, Wyandotts and Shawanese,\* under their most noted chiefs, among whom was Logan, formed the army opposed to that of Lewis, and with both the struggle of that day was one of life or death. Soon after sunrise, the presence of the savages was discovered; General Lewis ordered out his brother, Col. Charles Lewis, and Col. Fleming to reconnoiter the ground where they had been seen; this at once brought on the engagement. In a short time Col. Lewis was killed and Col. Fleming disabled; the troops, thus left without commanders, wavered, but Col. Field with his regiment coming to the rescue, they stood firm; about noon Col. Field was killed, and Capt. Evan Shelby took the command, and the battle still continued. It was now drawing toward evening, and yet the contest raged without decided success for either party, when General Lewis ordered a body of men to gain the flank of the enemy by means of Crooked creek, a small stream which runs into the Kanawha about four hundred yards above its mouth. This was successfully done, and the result was the retreat of the Indians across the Ohio.†

The loss on the part of the whites in this battle, was seventy-five men killed and one hundred and forty wounded, about one-fifth of their entire number. The loss of the enemy could not be fully ascertained, as, until they are driven from the field they carry off their dead. Next morning, Colonel Christian explored the battle field, and found twenty-one Indians lying dead, and subsequently twelve others concealed by brush and logs.

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\* These Indians were formerly mainly from western Pennsylvania, having been driven from their lands by the settlers, or the purchases spoken of in Land Titles.

† American Pioneer, American Archives, Border Wars.