

The Smithfield Review
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The *Smithfield Review* publishes book reviews. The editors plan for each issue to carry one to three reviews of books dealing with all periods of trans-Appalachian history and culture. We enlist active scholars and professionals to write the reviews. Review copies, requests to review books, and other inquiries may be addressed to:

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Proposals or manuscripts to be considered for publication are welcome. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Texts may be of varying length, but should ordinarily not exceed 8,000 words. Annotations should be collected as endnotes.

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In this issue —

However, after a few years of relatively harmonious effort, two distinct political factions had begun to form and foreshadow the two party system prevalent in later decades. . . . The issues uniting Federalists are discerned more easily in hindsight than they were in the early 1790s. In greatly simplified terms, they sought to lessen the importance and power of the states and to increase that of the federal government. They intended to use the new federal powers to create a much greater income for the federal government, build support for it among important elite groups, reorganize its finances, increase its lowly international status, and encourage large scale international commerce. —page 5

This single document provides a wealth of new information about the activities of George Draper and his family from 1745 through 1747. First, the manuscript clearly indicates that George was quite literate and familiar with legal terminology and functions, which may be one reason he was appointed constable. His handwriting is legible and his composition and most of his spelling are very good for the mid-eighteenth century. —page 32

At the time they made their trip from Staunton to Buchanan, Washington was 24 years old and Preston 27. One imagines that their two-day journey together might have been idyllic—passing through magnificent, old-growth forest, amid tall, well-spaced trees beginning to take on their fall colors, and with bison to be seen and flocks of passenger pigeons overhead. —page 53

In the decade prior to the Civil War, Smithfield Plantation experienced a time of prosperity and modest growth. Modes of transportation improved. By 1848, the Southwest Turnpike (the Great Road) was finally finished through Montgomery County. It was known as the “macadamized road,” a road with a finish of crushed rock over well-drained subsoil. Moreover, the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad extended its reach through Montgomery County by 1854, thus furnishing agricultural production a less expensive outlet to distant markets. —page 83

Spaniards were at Saltville in 1567, only 75 years after Columbus’s first crossing of the Atlantic. As summarized in Figure 1, their route led them north from Cuba, which they reached in 1514, to St. Augustine in 1565, to Santa Elena in 1566, and to Saltville (called Maniatique by the Spanish) the following year. —page 98