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LIFE

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to another western county.

One hundred years ago in North Carolina "in state matters there were just two parties—the eastern and the western." (Hill's History).

Therefore, since another county in the western section meant another vote in favor of the west, the representatives from eastern North Carolina were not enthusiastic about the bill presented by Rutherford's Dr. W. J. T. Miller and supported by Lincoln's Micheal Hoke and John Bynum, asking for the erection of a new county to be called Cleaveland, the county seat of which was to be called Shelby.

Finally, Dr. Miller won over the opposition. Though some of the eastern representatives figuratively turned up their aristocratic noses, and said, "O, let them have the county! They're nothing but a bunch of ignoramuses!"

The following is quoted from Sherrill's Annals of Lincoln County:

CLEVELAND COUNTY ERECTED

"On January 11, 1841, the General Assembly finally passed the bill . . . creating the County of Cleaveland . . . The bill reads:

"Cleaveland County is to be composed of parts of the counties of Rutherford and Lincoln. Beginning at a point in the South Carolina line, and running a North course so as to tap within fourteen miles east of Rutherfordton until it strikes the Burke county line; thence with the dividing line of Burke and Rutherford to the Lincoln line; thence to the 13-mile post on the Lucas ford road; thence with the 12-mile post on the new Post road, leading from Rutherfordton to Lincolnton; thence to the 12-mile post leading from Lincolnton to Quinn's Ferry; thence to the 12-mile post leading from Morganton to Yorkville, S. C.; thence with the road tapping Abernethy's store by the Gold Mine at Kings Mountain to the South Carolina line; thence with it to the beginning. (The area of the county is approximately 420 square miles, a little less than 300,000 acres).

"The bill also provides that Judge Robert Burton, Alexander McCorkle, Henry Cansler, Eli Hoyle, of Lincoln county, together with Ed Bryant, Achilles Durham, John McDowell, Samuel Andrews, and David Gray, of Rutherford county, be a committee to designate some point in said county of Cleaveland not more than four miles from Thomas Wilson's mineral springs (now Cleveland Springs), which shall be the county seat of the said county.

"The county was named for Col Benjamin Cleaveland of Wilkes county, who was one of the gallant officers in the Battle of Kings Mountain, on October 7, 1780."