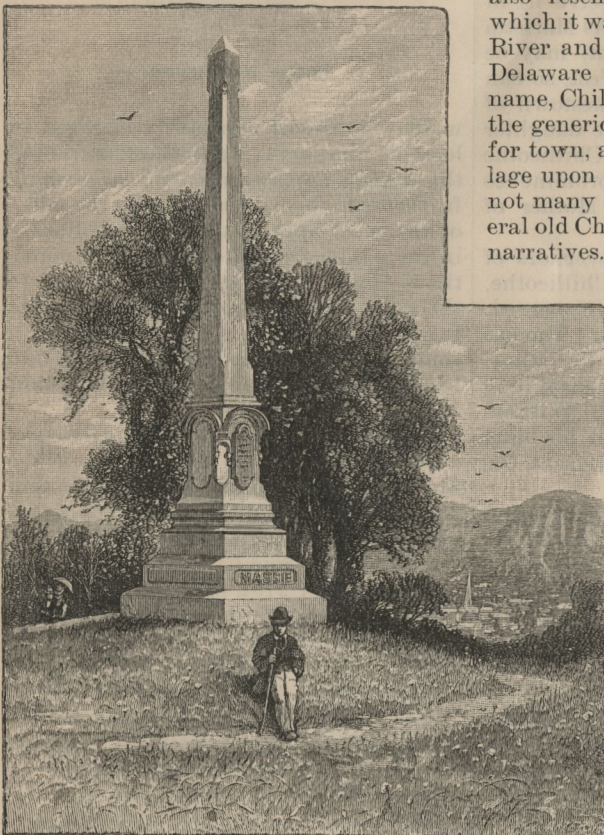


possible. Accordingly in the spring of 1795 we find a company of about sixty men met by appointment to penetrate the romantic wilds north of the Ohio. They reached a point near the site of Chillicothe, and there their progress was checked by a party of hostile Indians. As it was impossible to retreat with safety, they gave them battle, and the Indians, on being attacked, fled, leaving two of their number dead, and several wounded. Only one man of the Kentucky company was killed, and a white man who had long been a prisoner among the Indians made his escape to his own people. After gathering up all of the peltries left by the Indians, and plundering their camp, the whites retreated toward the Ohio, and, as they apprehended, were attacked the next morning by the pursuing and reinforced party of Shawanese. In the spring of 1796, Massie rendezvoused the same or essentially the same company

of men, and dividing them into two equal parties, again sought the favored locality in which he hoped to see a great town grow up. One division of the colony went by land, and the other up the Scioto in pirogues, carrying implements of husbandry, and those few articles which were indispensable to the pioneer. They landed at the mouth of Paint Creek (Oolomon Sepung), below the site of Chillicothe, at what has since been known as "the Station Prairie," and soon thirty ploughs had turned up three hundred acres of the fertile bottom-land, and it was planted in corn. Massie proceeded to lay out the town which a few years later became the scene of so many events important to the scattered settlers of the West. He was the owner of the tract on which the town was laid out, and he gave to each of the first settlers a lot within the plot, and a hundred acres of land near by. The town was laid out after the plan of Philadelphia, and in fact the situation also resembles much that of the city which it was sought to imitate, the Scioto River and Paint Creek representing the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. The name, Chillicothe, chosen by Massie, was the generic name among the Shawanese for town, and although they had no village upon the site chosen, there was one not many miles distant—one of the several old Chillicoths celebrated in Indian narratives. The settlement thus estab-

lished, the one furthest advanced toward the interior, increased very rapidly in population, and the surrounding country soon received large numbers of settlers. The influx of immigrants was something wonderful for those days of slow travel and slow growth. Men of great ability, energy, and foresight were attracted to Massie's settlement by the fame of his exploits and the *éclat* with which the pioneer village sprang into existence, as well as by the flattering prospect which the richness of the region warranted. In 1798, there came among the immigrants from Virginia three men who were



THE MASSIE MONUMENT, IN THE CHILLICOTHE CEMETERY.