

Excursus
Notes from the Journal of Francis Asbury
related to Asbury Memorial UMC

- [November 8, 1800] Tobias Gibson had given notice to some of my being at Buncombe court house, and the society at Killian's in consequence of this, made an appointment for me on Tuesday, 11. We were strongly importuned to stay, which brother Whatcoat felt inclined to do. In the meantime we had our horses shod by Phillip Smith: this man, as is not unfrequently the case in this country, makes wagons and works at carpentry, makes shoes for men and for horses; to which he adds, occasionally, the manufacture of saddles and hats. (Vol. 2, 262-263).
- [Wednesday, October 7, 1801] We made a push for Buncombe court house:¹ man and beast felt the mighty hills. I shall calculate from Baker's to this place one hundred and twenty miles; from Philadelphia, eight hundred and twenty miles. Friday, 9. Yesterday and to-day held quarterly meeting at Daniel Killian's near Buncombe court house. I spoke from Isaiah lvii, 6, 7, and 1 Cor. vii, 1. We had some quickenings. (Vol. 2, 308-309).
- [Sunday, November 7, 1802] We had preaching at Killian's. William M'Kendree went forward, upon "As many as are led by the spirit of God, they are the sons of God": my subject was Heb. iii, 12, 13. On Monday I parted from dear William M'Kendree.² (Vol. 2, 367).
- [Wednesday, October 26, 1803] We called a meeting at Killian's and a gracious season it was: my subject was 1 Cor. xv, 38. Sister Killian and sister Smith, sisters in the flesh, and kindred spirits in holiness and humble obedience, are both gone to their reward in glory. On Thursday we came away in haste, crossed Swannanoa at Thomas Foster's, the French Broad at the High Shoals, and afterward again at Beard's bridge, and put up for the night at Andrew Mitchell's: we passed two large encamping places of the Methodists and Presbyterians; it made the country look like the Holy Land. (Vol. 2, 412).
- [Wednesday, September 24, 1806] We came to Buncombe: we were lost within a mile of Killian's and were happy to get a school house to shelter us for the night; I had no fire, but a bed wherever I could find a bench; my aid, Moses Lawrence, had a bear skin, and a dirt floor to spread it on. (Vol. 2, 517-518).
- [October 18, 1807] On Saturday we rode to Killian's. Sabbath, 18. At Buncombe court house I spoke from 2 Kings vii, 13-15. The people were all attention. I spent a night under the roof of my very dear brother in Christ, George Newton, a Presbyterian minister, an Israelite indeed. On Monday we made

¹ Buncombe court house is now Asheville, North Carolina. Buncombe County then extended to the Tennessee, Georgia, and South Carolina lines and covered most of the mountain area of Western North Carolina.

² William McKendree, presiding elder of the Kentucky district of the Western Conference, had traveled with Asbury from the conference which was held at Strothers meeting house in Sumner County, Tennessee, on October 2. Leaving the bishop at Daniel Killian's near Asheville, McKendree returned to his district.

Fletcher's; next day dined at Terry's, and lodged at Edward's. Saluda ferry brought us up on Wednesday evening. (Vol. 2, 558).

- [October 29, 1809] Saturday brought us to Killian's. Eight times within nine years have I crossed these Alps. If my journal is transcribed it will be as well to give the subject as the chapter and verse of the text I preached from. Nothing like a sermon can I record. Here now am I, and have been for twenty nights, crowded by people; and the whole family striving to get round me. (Vol. 2, 618).
- [Saturday, December 1, 1810] Last night I was strongly afflicted with pain. We rode, twenty-five miles, to Buncombe. (Vol. 2, 654).
- [Wednesday, December 2, 1812] We went over the mountain, twenty-two miles, to Killian's. Thursday, 3. Came on through Buncombe to Samuel Edney's; I preached in the evening. We have had plenty of rain lately. Friday, I rest. Occupied in reading and writing. I have great communion with God. I preached at Father Mills's. (Vol. 2, 714).
- [October 24, 1813] Sabbath, 24. I preached in great weakness. I am at Daniel Killian's once more. (Vol. 2, 744).