

RELIC OF THE 17TH CENTURY

Old Bugle Owned by Beaver Family Said to Have Sailed with
Mayflower in 1620

First Gained Great Renown at the Jollification of the Boston
Tea Party

R. W. Bever residing in Hillsboro is the possessor of a historic old bugle which is perhaps the only one of the kind in existence.

The instrument is three feet long and is made of red cedar wood. It is made in two large individual sections and are glued together. It is about three inches in diameter at the base and tapers uniformly to a point. Around the horn are placed ten crude rings, made from sections of a buffalo's horn, which gives the horn as a whole a very crude appearance.

The old instrument has a very interesting history connected with it. It is said to have been made in England during the early part of the seventeenth century and was brought to America in 1620 by the Pilgrims. Here traditions say it was used by the early Puritan fathers as a trumpet to collect the little band of soldiers for military service and was carried by the army of Standish, the Captain of Plymouth, in his expeditions against the Indians, and may have taken a leading part in grand charivari given to John Alden and Priscilla in the honor of their marriage day.

While traditions claim so much for the interesting old instrument, and there is no reason to dispute the authenticity of such, the earliest authentic account of the instrument's first appearance in public dates back to the good old colonial days that tried men's souls. It was at the jollification of the Boston Tea Party at which the citizens of Boston ratified the action of the patriots in emptying the British tea into the harbor, that the old bugle first won its great renown.

The participation in the Boston Tea Party jollification was only to be the beginning of the life's history of this subject of ours. Following in close touch with every Revolutionary movement, the old cedar bugle witnessed the bloody Boston massacre in which the first Americans gave their lives in defense of their country. And it was carried by the minute men in the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill; and it is said that at the battle of Bunker Hill the bugler stood near the spot where General Warren, the Boston patriot, fell. In the thick of the battle the instrument was struck by a British musket ball and a portion of the end torn away, and it bears the marks of the musket ball to this day. Keeping pace with the other military movements of the Revolution, it was found at the siege of Yorktown and gave vent to the final surrender of Lord Cornwallis and the entire British army in 1781.

After the war was over the old bugle was never lost sight of. It figured conspicuously at the inauguration of General Washington, the first president of the United States, and it has taken part in the jollification of the election of every president from Washington to Wilson.

The old relic has been handed down as an heirloom from one generation to another and has always been in the Bever family. Mrs. Mikel Bever, the great grandmother of the present owner, died in Taswell county, Illinois, forty-five years ago at the ripe old age of 104 years. She came into possession of the bugle when a very small girl, and she had collected a very full history of it, but since her death all written accounts have been lost trace of. Upon her death the old heirloom fell into the hands of Joseph Bever, the old tanner of Hillsboro. Joseph Bever died some forty years ago and it then passed into the hands of L. L. Cooper and wife, of Waynetown, where it has since been given shelter. R. M. Bever came into possession of it about ten years ago.

Mr. Bever came to town a few days ago and the Blue Pencil office was honored with his call. He is very enthusiastic over being the owner of so rare a relic and takes great pride in its preservation.

Relic of the 17th Century

Old bugle owned by the Beavers family, said to have sailed with the Mayflower in 1620. First gained great renown at the jollification of the Boston Tea Party.

This bugle is perhaps the only one of its kind in existence. It is about 3 ft long, made of red cedar wood. Cut in two parts and glued together. The rings placed at intervals around the ~~bugle~~ are made of buffalo horns which gives as a whole a very crude appearance.

It is said to have been made in England during the early part of the 16th century and was brought to America in 1620 by the Pilgrims. Here it was used by the early Puritan fathers as a trumpet to ~~collect~~ ^{summon} the little band of soldiers for military service, and was carried by the army of Standish then captain of Plymouth in his expedition against the Indians; also took part in grand ^{charivari} given to ^{plu}adamas and Priscilla in honor of their wedding day.

It was carried by Geo F umwalt one of the minute men who took part in the battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill - In the thick of the battle the brass band about 6 inches wide was shot of leaving it's

mark in the wood. Keeping pace with the other military movements of the Revolution, it was found at the siege of Yorktown and gave vent to the final surrender of Lord Cornwallis and the entire British Army in 1781.

The bugle figured conspicuously in the inauguration of General Washington the first President of the United States. It took part in the solemnities of the election of every President from Washington to Woodrow Wilson.

The bugle came in the possession of Margaret Furswalt, who married Michael Bever my great great grand father. She was a very small child when she was made owner of the bugle. She collected ~~was~~ a very full history of it, since her death, these accounts have been lost.