

# Gabriel Neville

WRITER • RESEARCHER • SPEAKER

## The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment (1775-1778)

### Virginia and the Frontier in the Revolutionary War Era



Gabe Neville has been researching the history of the Revolutionary War's 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment and related topics for more than 20 years. He gives speeches, maintains a blog at [8thVirginia.com](http://8thVirginia.com), and publishes essays on the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia, the Revolutionary War, the early frontier, and the founding era. He also writes occasionally on public policy issues. A former journalist and congressional staffer, he is a Senior Advisor at Covington & Burling, a Washington-based international law firm. He was raised in Chester County, Pennsylvania and now lives with his family in Fairfax County, Virginia. He can be reached at [GabeNeville@8thVirginia.com](mailto:GabeNeville@8thVirginia.com).

### Published Essays

- "The Fort Gower Resolves." *American Battlefield Trust*, August 3, 2002.
- "Virginia's Independent Frontier Companies, Part One: 1775-1776." *Journal of the American Revolution*, March 17, 2021.
- "Virginia's Independent Frontier Companies, Part Two: 1776-1778." *Journal of the American Revolution*, March 18, 2021.
- "Stolen Valor in Georgia." *Emerging Revolutionary War Era*, May 25, 2020.
- "A Portrait of John Cuppy." *Emerging Revolutionary War Era*, January 15, 2020.
- "Shenandoah Martyr: Richard Campbell at War." *Journal of the American Revolution*, December 3, 2019.
- "The Tragedy of Henry Laurens." *Journal of the American Revolution*, August 1, 2019.
- "The Last Vestige of the Clove Road." *Journal of the American Revolution*, July 16, 2019.\*
- "A Forty Year Bond: William Darke and George Washington in Politics, Business and War." *Magazine of the Jefferson County Historical Society*, 84 (2018): 23-38.
- "The B Team of 1777: Maxwell's Light Infantry." *Journal of the American Revolution*, April 10, 2018.
- "He's the Lee in Ft. Lee." *Philadelphia Inquirer*, March 2, 2014.
- Introduction to Bruce Mowday, *September 11, 1777: Washington's Defeat at Brandywine Dooms Philadelphia* (Shippensburg, Pa: White Mane Publishing, 2002). (Ghost written for Congressman Joe Pitts.)

“History of the Diagnothian Literary Society of Franklin & Marshall College.” *Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society*, 93 (1991): 94-111.

\*Selected for annual best-of volume.

## Book Reviews

(Titles as given at 8thVirginia.com.)

“What Are Unalienable Rights?” *Religious Liberty and the American Founding* by Vincent Phillip Muñoz (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2022). *Journal of the American Revolution*, January 23, 2023.

“Catholics and the Founding.” *Our Dear-Bought Liberty: Catholics and Religious Toleration in Early America* by Michael D. Breidenbach (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2022). *Journal of the American Revolution*, June 27, 2022.

“Disestablishment: The Separation of Faith from Government Power.” *Religion and the American Revolution: An Imperial History* by Katherine Carté. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, 2021). *Journal of the American Revolution*, February 14, 2022.

“Three Centuries of Violence.” *Anatomy of a Massacre: The Destruction of Gnadenhütten, 1782* by Eric Sterner. (Yardley, Pa: Westholme, 2020). *Emerging Revolutionary War Era*, March 9, 2021.

“Greene Eludes Cornwallis.” *To the End of the World: Nathanael Greene, Charles Cornwallis, and the Race to the Dan* by Andrew Waters. (Yardley, Pa: Westholme, 2020). *Journal of the American Revolution*, January 25, 2021.

“A Revolutionary War Dream Team.” *The 10 Key Campaigns of the American Revolution*, Edward G. Lengel, ed. (Washington, D.C: Regnery, 2020). *Journal of the American Revolution*, October 19, 2020.

“Mounting the Soldier Second.” *General Peter Muhlenberg: A Virginia Officer of the Continental Line* by Michael Cecere. (Yardley, Pa: Westholme, 2020). *Journal of the American Revolution*, August 10, 2020.

“The Mighty Oaks of the Forest: George Rogers Clark and William Croghan.” *George Rogers Clark and William Croghan: A Story of the Revolution, Settlement, and Early Life at Locust Grove* by Gwynne Tuell Potts (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2020). *Journal of the American Revolution*, June 3, 2020.

## Selected Blog Posts

“The ‘Grand Division Standard’ of the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia.” *The 8th Virginia Regiment*, June 20, 2022.

“The Battle of Drake’s Farm.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, February 1, 2022.

“The Need for Freedom: How Religious Liberty Helped Win the War.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*. 8thVirginia.com, August 16, 2020.

“Lost in the Fields: Lewis & Clark and the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, April 5, 2020.

“Three Germans: The Regiment’s Field Officers.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, January 10, 2020.

“The Murder of Joseph Carman.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, December 26, 2019.

“From Canada to Florida? Yes, and Maybe.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, December 15, 2019.

“What Were They Thinking?” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, July 7, 2019.

- “George Slaughter: Louisville’s Forgotten Founder.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, September 2, 2018.
- “Winchester’s Final Home for the Brave.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*. 8thVirginia.com, August 4, 2018.
- “A Frontier Cabin Restored.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, August 15, 2017.
- “A Tory Quotes the Bible.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*, August 6, 2017.
- “The Fourth of July Through Soldier’s Eyes.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*. 8thVirginia.com, July 3, 2016. (Regarding the first reading of the Declaration of Independence in Charleston, SC.)
- “8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Men in Maxwell’s Light Infantry.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*. 8thVirginia.com, June 19, 2016. (Regarding 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia men detached to Maxwell in 1777.)
- “Pittsburgh Men at the Battle of Princeton.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*. 8thVirginia.com, January 2, 2016.
- “Not So Fast, William Eagle!” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*. 8thVirginia.com, November 13, 2015. (Correcting a West Virginia state historic marker.)
- “Enemy Number One: The Mosquito.” *The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment*. 8thVirginia.com, November 5, 2015. (Regarding the impact of malaria during the southern campaign of 1776.)

## Speeches, Interviews & Presentations

- The Kentucky History Podcast*. [Recorded January 17, 2023] (8th Virginia veterans in Kentucky.)
- The Kentucky History Podcast*. [Recorded December 30, 2022] (James Knox in Kentucky.)
- “The Amazing Life of Abraham Bowman,” Strasburg Heritage Association. June 5, 2022.
- “Virginia’s Own Revolution,” *Revolution Road with the Journal of the American Revolution* (Sirius-XM Radio). June 3, 2022.
- “Capt. William Croghan’s Detachment and the Ten Crucial Days.” George Washington Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, Alexandria, Va. Zoom presentation, April 10, 2021.
- “Peter Muhlenberg and Religious Freedom.” Plano, Texas Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. Zoom presentation, March 2, 2021.
- “Gen. Peter Muhlenberg in Painting and Sculpture.” Eleanor Wilson Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Washington, D.C. Zoom presentation, February 20, 2021.
- “The Grim Days of 1791: Col. William Darke at Cincinnati.” Cincinnati Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. Zoom presentation, September 16, 2020.
- “From Minutemen to Mountaineers: Culpeper Soldiers in the Revolution.” Culpeper Minutemen Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. Culpeper, Va., September 14, 2020.
- “The Revolution in the West.” *Rev War Revelry*. Emerging Revolutionary War Era. Online panel discussion, August 23, 2020.
- “An Evening with General Muhlenberg.” *Rev War Revelry*. Emerging Revolutionary War Era. Online panel discussion, August 2, 2020.
- “Maj. Peter Helphenstine and the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia.” James Wood II Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. Winchester, Va., June 27, 2020.
- “Militia and Continentals.” *Rev War Revelry*. Emerging Revolutionary War Era. Online panel discussion, May 10, 2020.
- Dispatches: The Podcast of the Journal of the American Revolution*. October 5, 2019. (The Clove Road.)
- “Germanna and the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment.” Hitt Archeology Center. Germanna Foundation. Locust Grove Va., September 12, 2019.

- “Maxwell’s Light Infantry and the Battle of Cooch’s Bridge.” Cooch’s Bridge Chapter, Daughters of the America Revolution. Wilmington Del., November 17, 2018.
- “The 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment and the Great Wagon Road.” Public Hearing on use of Courthouse Square. Woodstock Va., September 29, 2018.
- “Jonathan Grant and the Battle of Cooch’s Bridge.” Pencader Heritage Museum. Newark Del., September 9, 2017.
- “The Tragedy of Henry Laurens.” Faith and Law. Washington D.C., May 16, 2014.
- “Peter Muhlenberg and Christian Leadership.” Lancaster County Action. Lancaster Pa., July 13, 2013.

## Consulting and Service

- Journal of the American Revolution Book Award Committee. Beginning 2021.
- Hardy County, W.V. Convention and Visitors Bureau. On utilization of the Capt. Robert Higgins log house as a regional museum space. Beginning 2020. (West Virginia Humanities Council grant awarded 2021).
- Town of Woodstock, Va. On use of Court Square to memorialize the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment. 2018-2020.

## Other Biographical

- Senior Advisor, Covington & Burling LLP, 2015-Present.
- Board Member, Faith & Law, Washington, D.C., 2015-Present.
- Congressional Staffer, 1997-2015.
- Campaign Consultant, 1994-1997.
- Pennsylvania General Assembly Staffer, 1992-1994.
- Editor, *The Zephyr*, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 1990-1991.
- Editor-in-Chief, *The College Reporter*, Franklin & Marshall College, 1989-1990.
- Collegiate Correspondent, *The New York Times*, 1989-1990.

- Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., BA in Government, 1990
- Kimberton Farms School, Kimberton, Pa., 1985.

- Descendant of Lt. Absalom Autry (Fanning’s Rangers, a North Carolina Loyalist unit).
- Descendant of Jonathan Grant (Croghan’s Company, 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment).
- Descendant of Lt. Solomon Middaugh (Sussex Co., New Jersey Militia).
- Descendant of John Nevill (Maryland Flying Camp).

