



John Beattie Junior was a commissioned ensign in the Virginia militia of Washington County. According to Lyman Draper and Lewis Summers, Beattie was in Captain Andrew Colville's company at the Battle of Kings Mountain where he was killed. Some Beattie family sources say that he was in his brother David Beattie's company. His brother in law, James Dysart was also a captain at BKM. Militia company assignments were interchangeable. John Beattie might well have served under several captains.

Depending upon which clerk was recording Beattie was variously spelled Beatie, Beaty, Beatty, and Batey.

**Quotation:** "I have nothing but contempt for anyone who can spell a word only one way."

**Variations:**

1. "You should never trust a man who has only one way to spell a word."
2. "Pity the man who can spell a word only one way."
3. "I never met a man so narrow that he can spell a word in only one way."

Variouly attributed to Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, and Mark Twain.

Andrew Colville's company was reinforced by brothers Joel and James M Lewis from Major Winston's detachment. Colonel Campbell tasked this company with dislodging the main guard

post from Indian Knob, the “spur of the boot” at the west end of Kings Mountain. It was the opening action of the Saturday afternoon battle. It was likely during this attack to remove Ferguson’s professional soldiers from the highest point on the battlefield that John Beattie was killed.

John Beattie Senior and his brother Francis Beattie lived in Augusta county in the area between New Providence Presbyterian and Raphine near the current Rockbridge County line in the 1740s. In 1771, David and John Beattie lived near Ebbing Spring and were among the Presbyterians to call pastor Charles Cummings.

The John Beattie Senior and wife Ellen family were:

Mary (1741-1841) Beattie married David Sayer (1733-1819) of Wythe County, New River, Virginia. She lived to the advanced age of one hundred years, and raised a large family.

David (1744-4/25/1814) Beattie married cousin Mary Beattie. David was a captain at BKM.

Martha (ca1748-ca1785) Beattie married James Gilmore.

John (1752-10/7/1780) Beattie Junior never married. He died 07Oct1780 at BKM.

Nancy (1754-1833) aka Agnes married Captain James Dysart of BKM.

Jane married James Robert Buchanan

Sarah Ellen (1758-1790) aka Elinore married James Logan.

William (ca1760-4/4/1860) private in brother David’s company at BKM.