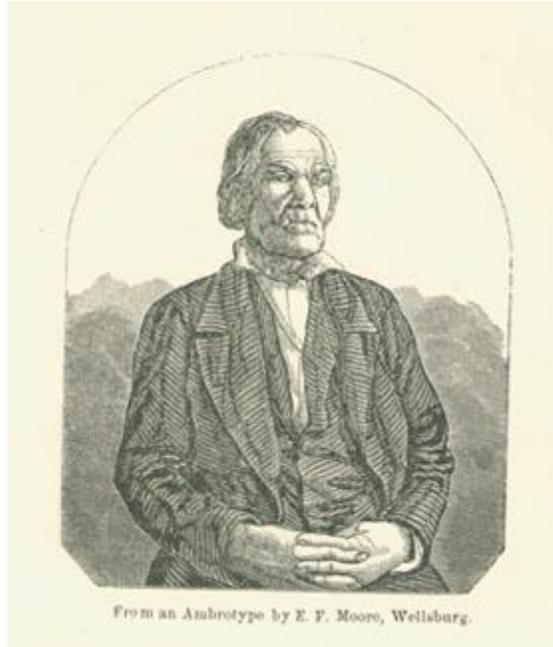


### ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY SEPTEMBER 9



Patrick Gass of Wellsburg, the first to publish an account of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and the last surviving participant

**On September 9, 1803, Meriwether Lewis departed from Wheeling on the first leg of the Corps of Discovery's expedition to explore western lands purchased from France.**

**CSO: SS.8.13, SS.8.20**

**Investigate the Document: (*Lewis and Clarke's Journal to the Rocky Mountains; 917.8L6750*)**

1. Using the map, can you determine on which river Lewis and Clark's expedition began?
2. The Lewis and Clark camp near the boundaries of Ohio-Virginia-Pennsylvania was located a short distance from *this* city, well-known for the sieges during the American Revolution a few decades prior.

**Think Critically:** Without the knowledge and maps provided by the Lewis and Clark expedition, would western expansion have been possible in the 1800s?



*The Beaver Dam.*

LEWIS AND CLARKE'S  
**JOURNAL**  
TO THE  
**ROCKY MOUNTAINS**

In the years 1804,-5,-6;

AS RELATED BY

**PATRICK GASS,**

ONE OF THE OFFICERS IN THE EXPEDITION.

New Edition with Numerous Engravings.

**DAYTON,**

PUBLISHED BY ELLS, CLAFLIN, & CO.

**1847.**

34253

to go with me as far as Wheeling—the articles were not as much injured as I had supposed.—about two miles above my camp passed the line, which divides the States of Virginia and Pennsylvania on the east side of the river and on the West that of Pennsylvania from the State of Ohio; this line is made vi[sible] from the timber having been felled about sixty feet in width, the young timber has sprung up but has not yet attained the height of the other that it can with ease be traced with the eye a considerable distance—it passed the Ohio River at the mouth of mill Creek. The water is so low and clear that we see a great number of Fish of different kinds, the Sturgeon, Bass, Cat fish, pike, &c. we fixed some spears after the indian method but have had too much to attend to of more importance than gigging fish.<sup>1</sup> September 5<sup>th</sup>

Again foggy, loaded both my canoes and waited till the fogg disappeared set out at 8 O'Cl. had some difficulty in passing several riffles today but surmounted it without having recourse to horses or oxen—rained at six this evening and continued with some intervals through the night to rain pretty heard; took up at the head of Brown's Island;<sup>2</sup> it grew very dark and my canoes which had on board the most valuable part of my stores had not come up, ordered the trumpet to be Sound[ed] and they answered.—they came up in a few minutes after; the stores in the canoes being well secured with oil cloth I concluded to let them remain on board and directed that the water which they maid should be bailed out of them occasionally through the night, which was done—they still leaked considerably notwithstanding the repairs which I had made on them; we came 16 miles this day. September 6<sup>th</sup> 1803.

The fogg was as thick as usual this morning detained us untill  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7. O'C. when we set out—observed the Thermometer in the air to stand at 71° Water 73°—the fogg continued even with [this] small differences between the temperature of the air and water [s]truck on a riffle which we got over with some difficulty and in the distance of two miles and a half passed 4 others three of which we were obliged to drag over with horses; the man charged me the exorbitant price of two dollars for his trouble.—got on

<sup>1</sup> The night's camp was at, or in the vicinity of, East Liverpool, Ohio, now the center of important pottery and tile manufactures.

<sup>2</sup> Still called Brown's Island, its head, and the night's camp, six miles above Steubenville, Ohio. For an interesting sketch of "Squire" Brown, from whom it takes its name, see *Early Western Travels*, IV, 105–6.

