

David La Vere. *The Tuscarora War: Indians, Settlers, and the Fight for the Carolina Colonies*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013. 262 pp. \$30.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-1090-0.

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On the morning of September 22, 1711, several Native American tribes including the Tuscarora, Core, Neuse, Pamlico, Weetock, Machapunga, and Bear River Indians attacked settlements along the Neuse River in an event known as the Tuscarora War. David La Vere opens his book on this important historical event by laying out some of the contributing causes of the war. These included the weakened defense systems in place to protect the European settlements; conflicts over hunting grounds; the utilization of Indian slaves by wealthy plantation owners; and mutual distrust between Native American tribes and European settlers. Readers are also introduced to individuals who would eventually play a key role in the conflict such as Christopher de Graffenried, John Lawson, Colonel John Barnwell, Tuscarora chief King Hancock, and Colonel James Moore. The story of de Graffenried's capture and Lawson's murder is part of the narrative. Christopher de Graffenried, a wealthy Swiss baron, John Lawson, North Carolina Surveyor General, and several slaves were captured by Tuscarora warriors on September 11-12, 1711 and taken before Tuscarora Chief King Hancock. Ultimately, de Graffenried was able to negotiate his release from captivity, but John Lawson was killed. Later, the military campaigns of both Colonel John Barnwell (December 1711-July 1712) and Colonel James Moore (December 1712-August 1713) were begun to defeat the entrenched Tuscarora Indian warriors. By the time hostilities ceased, these expeditions had produced numerous casualties on both sides. Despite their early military successes against the Europeans, the Tuscarora Indians and their allies would succumb as factors such as disease and power struggles between competing factions led to their eventual decline. The royal colony of North Carolina also faced challenges, namely government officials with competing political agendas and a lack of usable deep-water ports.

This book was written to depict the series of events leading up to one of the biggest skirmishes between Native American tribes, led by the Tuscarora, and the European settlers in North Carolina during the eighteenth-century. It is divided into seven chapters, each centered on one or more of the major actors: de Graffenreid, King Hancock and Core Tom, William Brice, Col. John Barnwell, Thomas Pollock, King Tom Blount, and Col. James Moore. The book contains a modest number of illustrations as well as detailed maps and an extensive bibliography of both primary and secondary sources.

David La Vere is a faculty member in the History Department at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Besides *The Tuscarora War*, he has written other published works, including *Contrary Neighbors: Southern Plains and Removed Indians in Indian Territory* (2000), and *The Lost Rocks: The Dare Stones and the Unsolved Mystery of Sir Walter Raleigh's Lost Colony* (2010).

This book provides valuable insights into the complex and strained relationship between Native American tribes and settlers in North Carolina in the early eighteenth-century. Because of its specific scope and subject matter, this work would be suitable for inclusion in a public, academic, or any special library with a Native American history focus.

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