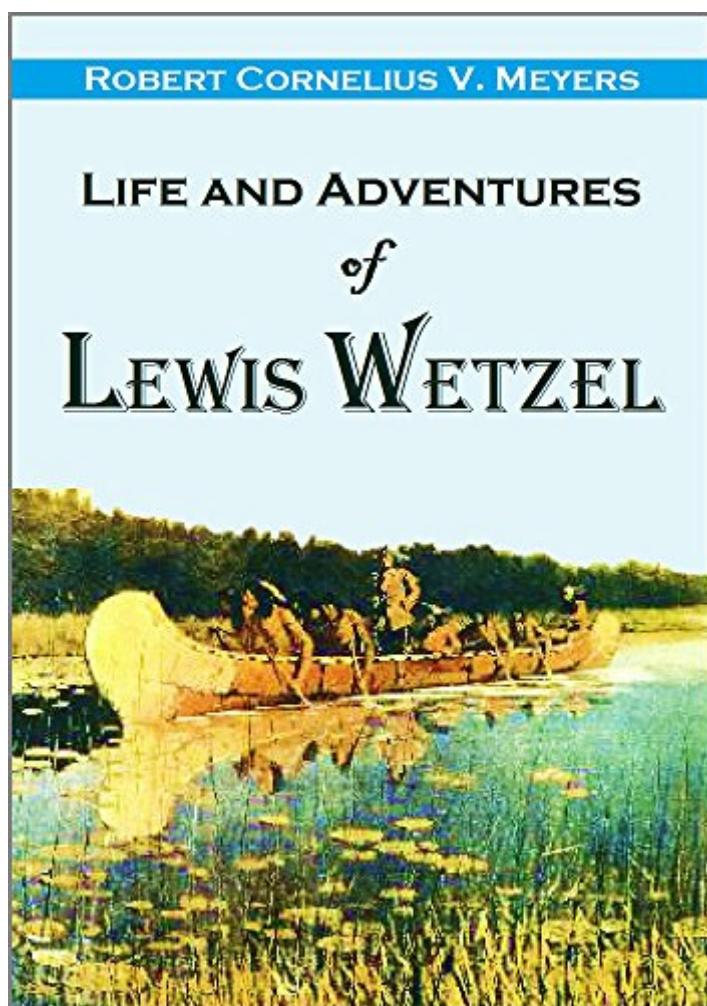


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# Life And Adventures Of Lewis Wetzel: The Renowned Virginia Rancher And Scout (1890)



## Synopsis

Lewis Wetzel (1763 – 1808) was a frontiersman and Indian fighter who roamed the hills of western Virginia and Ohio. Wetzel County, West Virginia, is named for him. Zane Grey, the great Western novelist, wrote about Wetzel in his books *Spirit of the Border*, *Betty Zane*, and *The Last Trail*. Wetzel is regarded as a hero by many Americans, a lesser-known version of Daniel Boone. He was accused in 1788 of the murder of peaceful Indians, but he escaped and there was no trial. In 1777, Lewis, then 13, and his brother Jacob, 11, were taken prisoner by Indians, but managed to escape. Lewis was shot in the leg during the capture. The young man vowed to avenge his family. Lewis and Jacob managed to return to the location of what is now Wheeling, West Virginia, which was then called Fort Henry. Lewis played an active part in the defense of that fort in the first siege of Fort Henry a couple of weeks after his escape. Wetzel later participated in some of the military campaigns against the Indian tribes in the Ohio region. The author of this book wrote the story of Lewis Wetzel in almost novel-like form which makes for very interesting reading and he attempts to keep the middle ground as to whether Wetzel was a hero or a villain. He has left it up to you, the reader, to decide.

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## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

There's too many spelling errors - some likely from some spell-checking the copy was likely subjected to. The prose is tiresome as well - such was popular I suppose in 1890. It's not all that interesting after reading work by Eckert.

I really enjoyed this book because it gave details about the life of Lewis Wetzel that I didn't know. He was really a man that was shaped by the tragedy of his fathers death, and the way it destroyed his family. His loss led him on a lifelong quest for revenge on all native Americans, innocent or guilty. In due time, his skills as a scout and woodman improved to the point that he was without parallel in his time. The downside to this book is that it is written in the vernacular of the 16th century, so the casual reader may not enjoy it as much as a history buff would. It is a good book, nonetheless.

I first learned of Lew Wetzel in the Zane Gray series Then I found out that there really was a Lewis Wetzel. So naturally I was drawn to this book. I am almost finished with it and it pretty much mirrors Zane Grays story. So now I am wondering if the connection to the Zane family is also real. I have seen a marker for Lew on the internet near Steubenville Ohio. I would recommend this book highly

I especially like reading because Wentzel is part of my family lineage

Very interesting

If like me your a fan of early American frontier history then this is a good book for you. True story of a young man scarred by the gruesome killing of his father by the indians. He becomes a ruthless Indian hunter on the frontier and his story is both sad and unamaiginable. Early America was a tough place for a daring settler.

Zane in his novel spirit of the border gave a more interesting look at wetzel although a snippet of his life

A good littoral representation of an obscure individual form the past. What Louis was really like is a mystery. I want to thank the author for his kind perspective of this man so blinded by his hatred to spend his life perusing revenge. Apparently An otherwise kind soul.

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