Little has been generally known of the origin of a race of mountain people locally known as the "Jackson-Whites" until, in quite recent years, a study of the racial heritage of these people was made by Mr. John C. Storms of Park Ridge, N. J. and at a recent meeting of the Passaic County Historical Society his address on this subject developed that American Indians, German Soldier peasants, English soldiery and prostitutes, West Indian negroes, Italian immigrants and Dutch settlers have all contributed a share to the bloodstream of this strange race.

The first element in the found of this people traces to American Indians of Tuscarora ~~new~~ NATION living in North Carolina, where, in the early 1700's there arose dispute between German settlers ~~of~~ and the neighboring Indians. A peace treaty was signed by the Indians after the South Carolina whites had helped to subdue them, but the terms of this treaty were so unsatisfactory that the Tuscaroras left there and came north to join the Iroquois, of which they were a member nation. Reaching the Ramapos, in 1714, they stopped here for a time but later the strong men of the tribe continued on into upper New York state, while the old men and the women and children remained here.

During the American Revolution 12,C54 Hessians from German peasantry were sent to America to assist the British. They were really the slaves of the British soldiers in America. Resenting their ill treatment, many of them deserted and found their way to the Ramapo mountains. This was the second element in the founding of the Jackson Whites.

At this time, during the Revolutionary War, the British soldiers in New York became lonesome and it was decided to ship women from England to New York for them. History records that

some 3,500 women of ill repute were gathered together by a man named Jackson, who paid a sum of something like ten dollars each to get them to America. Since most of the boats were in use by the army, this shipment of ~~women~~ HUMAN cargo had to take to rejected ships and on the way across one boat was lost. So that there would be no shortage in his contract, Jackson sent one vessel to the West Indies and brought back a load of negresses to New York. Rivington's Gazette records an article that speaks of a certain group of soldiers visiting with "Jackson's whites," then lodged in what is now Greenwich Village. It is through this ~~distinction~~ DESIGNATION that the name of Jackson-Whites is derived.

After the war these women left their quarters, about 500 of them going up the Hudson River, and about 3,000 others going across the Hudson, through Hackensack, and Saddle River, together with some renegade soldiers, and ~~seeking~~ SAUCHT refuge in the Ramapo mountains. Here they found the Hessian deserters and the Tuscarora Indians and they all settled together.

Italy also enters into the picture, since two brothers, Jim and Joe Castilone came from Italy, and Jim married one, Delilah Sniffen and his brother wed Libby De Fries, both couples going back into the mountains to live.

Some time during this period the Dutch element was introduced, when a man named DeGroat married a Tuscarora woman. Their daughter had her father's complexion and fine features and her mother's supplemess and SHE became "the belle of the mountains." She married a negro named Charles Mann and bore 13 children, 12 of whom lived and had families of their own.

It is estimated that in this section and in the region extending from Hook Mountain at Nyack as far west as Budd Lake

in Sussex County, New Jersey, there are now about 5,000 of this unique race.

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