



## **Kentucky's War of 1812: Governor Charles A. Wickliffe**

*The Kentucky Historical Society's historical marker 1604 in Bardstown notes the home of Gov. Charles A. Wickliffe, one of several Kentucky governors who served in the War of 1812.*

Born near Springfield, Ky., in 1788, Wickliffe was a Bardstown attorney. There, he constructed Wickland, a house that became known as the "home of three governors" because his son became governor of Louisiana and a grandson, J. C. W. Beckham, became governor of Kentucky.

When the War of 1812 erupted, Wickliffe was serving in the Kentucky legislature, where he supported the war with Great Britain. He was also a staff aide to several generals.

In 1836, Wickliffe was Gov. James Clark's running mate. Gov. Clark died in office, and Wickliffe finished the remainder of Clark's term. Later, Wickliffe was U.S. postmaster general, and was active in the 1849 constitutional convention. During the Civil War, he was elected to the U.S. Congress. He died in 1869 and was buried in Bardstown.

Pictured: Gov. Charles A. Wickliffe. Image courtesy of the Kentucky Historical Society.