

BOYD AND PARKER

Members of Leicester Fire Department who took part in the parade: William McConnon, John Lynch, Charles Waring, Ralph Van Tyne, Samuel Redman, James Gill, Leslie Brown, Edward Fitzgerald, Hugh McDowell, Arthur Gage, Ronald Gage, William Wood, Vernon Hills, Nathan Turney, Carl Mahoney, Leon Rudgers, Edward Welch, William Welch, Clarence Curtis, Leon Strobel, Elvin Brough, Harry Olmstead, Frank Burch, James McAvoey, James Pendergast, Jr., L. C. Starr, Harry Gibson, Carl Wooster, Frank Emery, Douglas Wooster, Earl Redman, Herbert Barkley, Lee Morrison, John Jennings, David Wiley, William Alexander, Howard Pendergast, Benjamin Reynolds, Harold Fitzgerald, B. E. Brophel.

LIMA

Francis M. Dalton Post No. 282, American Legion—Float, "Washington Plans to Send an Expedition Against the Iroquois" (Robert Wheeler as Washington; H. M. Salmon in charge).
Daughters of the American Revolution, Ska-hase-ga-o Chapter—Float, "Scene in Ska-hase-ga-o Village" (Mrs. Fannie Blankenhorn in charge).
American Legion Auxiliary—Float, "Peace" (Miss Frances Webb as Peace; Mrs. Arthur D. Crouse in charge).
Lima Fire Pumper—Frank McDonald, Chief.
Boy Scouts—Sam Bonner in charge.
Town Board—D. I. Francis, Supervisor.
Village Board—E. M. Gillett, President.
Lima Grange—Herman Baldwin, Master.

LIVONIA

Harrison-Lee Post No. 283, American Legion—Float, "Boyd Bids Farewell" (Marian Costello, Frederick Day, Frederick Brisbane, Joseph Morrissey, Howard Reed, Elwood Driscoll, Stuart Finlay, Bradley Adams).
Float prepared under direction of R. R. Marshall, principal Livonia High School, with the assistance of teachers and students.
Others who aided: W. E. Lowe, Mrs. Peter Campbell, Miss Ruth Barber, T. H. Alvord.

MT. MORRIS

Marshal: Arthur D. Craig.
Harvey L. Brady Post No. 354, American Legion—Float, "Butler and British Officers in Council" (in charge of F. D. Kane).
Belwood Lodge, I. O. O. F.—Float, "Trials of the Pioneers in the Genesee Country." A covered wagon, accompanied by scouts and horseback riders armed with flint-lock rifles and horse pistols. One of the guns carried had been used by Chief Long John, Seneca Indian.
The covered wagon, 80 years old, was loaned by William Feiock. The float was designed and built under the supervision of George S. Haywood and William Feiock, these two leading the expedition as scouts, followed by these mounted cowboys and Indian-fighters: S. H. Bush, Cecil Whitney, A. N. Moyer, Archie Giltner, E. H. Kellogg, Loren Kellogg, William Gibbs, Fred Stone, William McTarnaghan. In the wagon with the driver, H. D. Walden, were: Charles F. Suckles, Mrs.

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THE HISTORICAL PARADE

H. D. Walden and granddaughter Mary Agnes Duffy, Miss Agnes Bean, Mrs. C. F. Sickles, Spencer Calkins. The horses were loaned by J. Howard Whitmore, and a team of mules by S. H. Bush.
Starlight Rebekah Lodge—Float, representing the lodge in an outdoor setting. Chairman: Miss Freeda Kellogg.

Chamber of Commerce—Float, "The Makers of Mount Morris." Chairman: Mrs. William Dickey.
Town and Village Officials, led by Mayor William DeCamp.
American Legion Band—Dr. John Weimann, Leader, Scott D. Allen, Drum Major.
Others who aided: H. M. Rolison, Raymond Haywood, R. G. Conklin.

NUNDA-DALTON

Marshal—Denton D. Robinson.
Nunda Lodge of Odd Fellows No. 908—Float, "The Early Pioneers," a log cabin, in charge of Clarence Twist.
Cecil Seager Post No. 333, American Legion—Float, "Little-Beard and Warriors Plan Attack" (James Kernahan as Little-Beard, Edwin Hewitt, Quentin Van Nostrand, Kermit Van Nostrand, Howard Beardsley).
W. W. Woolworth—Fire Chief.
Neptune Hook and Ladder Chemical Company No. 2—Fire trucks, new and old.
Hope Hose Company No. 4—Fire Truck, with old pumper furnished by William Duryea.
Boy Scouts—Ernest Carter, Scoutmaster. Had first-aid tent. Delos Paine was in charge of Scouts.
Sons of Veterans.
Others who aided: Frank Wager, Homer Pitts, Edward Crane, L. O. Willard, Harry Cummings, Clayton Havens.

PORTAGE-HUNT

Community Float—"The Spirit of '76" (Forest Laughlin, Harry Davis, Edward Weaver, Mrs. Walter Davis).
Float was made possible by the following, all of Hunt, N. Y.: Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Stockweather; Mrs. Daisy L. Gelsner, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Stockweather; Mrs. Forest Laughlin, Mrs. E. A. Smith, Mrs. Maude Howe. The truck, loaned by Rowe and Kennedy, was driven by Walter Davis.

RETSEOF-YORK

Eollo Noble Post No. 955, American Legion—Float, "Assembly of the Victorious Patriots."
York Fire Company—Dean Simpson, Chief.

OTHER ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

For courteous co-operation, James S. Wilkin, District Commercial Manager, Rochester Telephone Corporation, Mt. Morris, and Miss M. Alpha Sonne, Chief Operator, Dansville. The excellent historical costumes for the Boyd and Parker floats were obtained through Karl Middleton, theatrical producer, Dansville.

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FROM OUT OF THE PAST

By Lockwood R. Doty

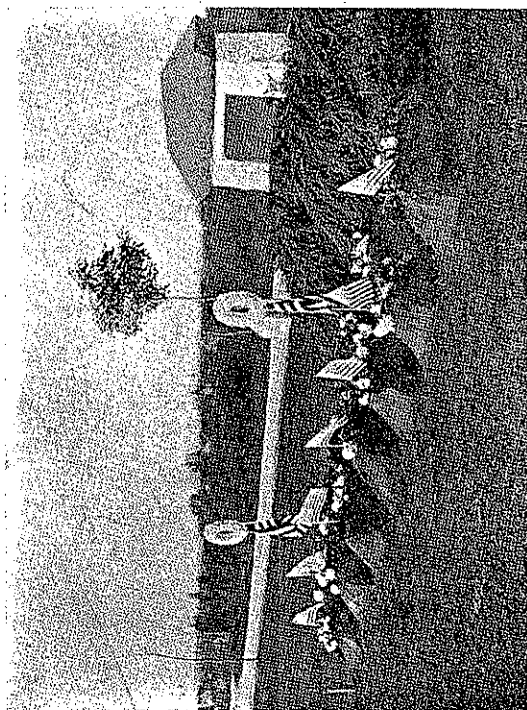
Removal of the Remains of Sullivan's Men

WHILE the patriotic ceremonies described were proceeding at the place where these heroes of the Revolution made their last sacrifice and were buried by their companions-in-arms, their remains rested in distant graves.

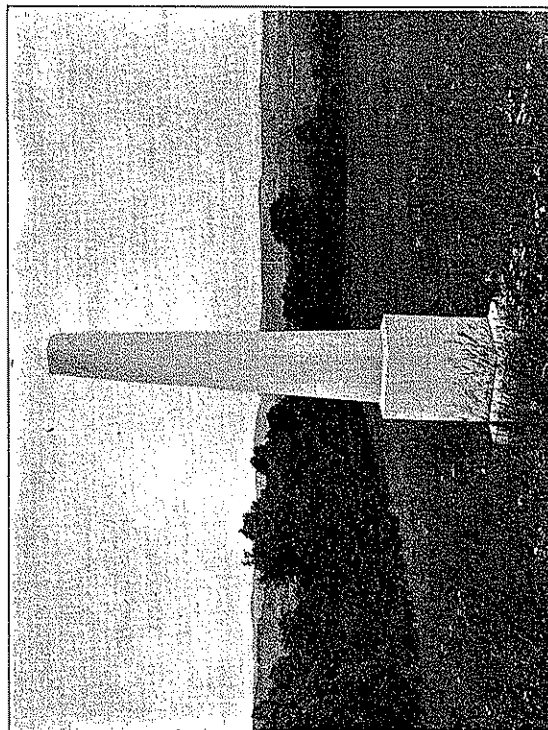
The sentiments declared in the address of Mr. Foreman elsewhere printed in this book, regarding that unfortunate circumstance, must be reflected in the consciousness of everyone; he says: "As a representative of the Rochester Historical Society, to-day I express belated regrets that eighty-six years ago these sacred graves of your heroic dead should have been desecrated by over-zealous citizens of the counties of Monroe and Livingston, to make a civic holiday under a great show of patriotism. Prior to his death in 1873, Colonel Lockwood L. Doty called these graves 'the first patriotic landmarks of Livingston County'; and in his manuscript which he left, he referred to the removal to Rochester in these words: 'Though these rites evince the reverence in which the patriot dead were held, yet a just feeling would dictate that their remains should have been allowed to sleep, uncoffined, in the rude graves beneath the sod moistened by their life-blood, where they had been placed two-thirds of a century before'; and Colonel Doty added: 'Let us raise a fitting memorial to mark the spot which must forever be dear to us and our posterity, that whosoever, in all coming time, shall turn his eyes hither, may behold that the place is not undistinguished.' These exercises to-day are a consummation of Colonel Doty's exhortation, and to him credit is due."

It will add interest to this book, it is believed, to give a brief account of the proceedings attending the transfer of the remains to Mount Hope, much of which is bor-

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Graves of members of the Boyd and Parker scouting party, in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Rochester, N. Y.



Monument erected in 1899 on Groveland hill, on the spot where the scouting party under Lieutenant Boyd was ambushed.

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rowed literally from Colonel Doty's manuscript, already mentioned.

At a County celebration held in Geneseo on the 4th of July, 1841, it was decided that on the next national anniversary day the work of erecting a monument in honor of Boyd and Parker, and those who fell in Groveland, should be commenced; but further action did not take place. The citizens of Rochester in laying out the beautiful cemetery grounds of Mount Hope a short time previous to this date, had assigned an elevated spot therein, called by them Revolutionary Hill, for the interment of all soldiers who had died or should die in western New York. A request was accordingly made to the citizens of Livingston County to deliver up the remains of their heroic dead for that purpose. By a portion of our people this request was favorably entertained, while others preferred that the venerated relics should remain where they had been placed by their soldier companions.

To decide the question a county meeting was convened at the Court House in Geneseo on the 14th of August. A committee here selected reported through Allen Ayrault, favoring the removal, and advising that the remains be delivered to the Rochester authorities at Cuylerville; and thirteen leading citizens were designated to carry out this conclusion. These were Calvin H. Bryan, William T. Cuyler, Daniel H. Bissell, Reuben Sleeper, John Henderson, Horatio Jones, John R. Murray, Jr., Allen Ayrault, Samuel Treat, Jr., Edward R. Hammatt, William W. Weed, William H. Stanley and Daniel P. Bissell. Two days afterward, several of these gentlemen proceeded to Groveland where they obtained the bones there buried. A delegation also visited the grave of Boyd and Parker near Cuylerville.

The following letter was addressed by E. R. Hammatt, the secretary of the Livingston County committee, to Mr. O'Reilly, chairman of the Rochester committee:

GENESEO, August 16th, 1841.

DEAR SIR:

By this mail I send you a copy of our village paper containing a sketch of the order of arrangements on the part of this county, for

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doing honor to the remains of the gallant Boyd and his associates. At a subsequent meeting we shall mature our plans, the result of which I will send you by Thursday's mail.

To-day a delegation of our committee have been to Groveland and after a vigorous search succeeded in finding a portion of the remains interred there. After digging over a small space of ground, they were eminently successful in their search, having found quite a number of bones in a tolerable state of preservation, others more decayed. Before leaving the ground, however, all doubt was removed by the discovery of four lead or pewter buttons, in excellent preservation and distinctly marked "U. S. A." These, with the remains, have been brought to our village; and to-morrow we purpose to prosecute the search still further. Our committee learned from some old settlers who were present that the ground had been explored some thirty-four years ago and at that time many bones were discovered which were either removed at the time or left exposed to the action of the atmosphere and consequently soon decomposed. Many relics were also carried off at the time, such as buttons, &c. I will communicate the result of our further search.

We understand that letters have been addressed by your committee to two nephews of Lieutenant Boyd residing in Pennsylvania. Will you please communicate the substance of their replies, in order that our orator may avail himself of any incidents that they may communicate. You will notice by the paper I sent, that our committee propose to accompany the remains to Mount Hope. As there will be but few of us, could we not do so in one of the boats that will come up with the Rochester delegation.

We have written to Major Van Campen requesting him to assist at the ceremonies, but, as yet, have not received his reply.

E. R. HAMMATT,
Secretary.

STATEMENT

We, the undersigned, inhabitants of Cuylerville, in Livingston County, deem it proper to make the following record of the proceedings connected with the removal to Mount Hope of the remains of the party sent from Sullivan's Army to reconnoitre the savages in the Genesee Valley, in the Revolutionary War.

Excavations made during several days resulted, on the 7th of August, in the discovery of some remains at the junction of the streams where historical and traditional accounts state that the bodies of Boyd and Parker were buried, after they were tortured to death, they having been taken prisoner when their twenty comrades were killed in battle. These streams unite at Cuylerville by the site of the Indian settlement formerly known as Little-Bears-town, the chief point against which Sullivan's Army directed their operations in the Genesee Valley, and their junction is midway between Geneseo and Moscow, a few rods from the main road. They were found partly overgrown by the roots of decayed plum-trees, within a few feet of the edge of the bank of the united streams. They were disinterred in the presence of between twenty and thirty persons, including Captain David Shepard, of Geneseo, Henry O'Reilly,

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Lieutenant Cheney of the Rochester Grays, and George Byington, of the same city. The remainder of the spectators were residents of this town, along with us. The relics as disinterred were examined particularly by Doctor Garlock, formerly of Canandaigua and now of this place, who recognized most of them as parts of two skeletons which, from the position in which they were found, left not a doubt in the minds of anyone present as to their being the remains of the ill-fated Boyd and Parker. These remains were kept in this village in charge of one of the Livingston County Committee, from that time until the 20th of August, being from time to time examined during that fortnight, by many persons from the neighboring towns who called to witness the erection of the mound at the junction of the streams where these brave men met their fate. On the mound raised at the junction, we hope soon to erect a monument. It should be added that the thousands of people who were present at the ceremonies, estimated at from six to eight thousand persons, consummated the proceedings of the occasion by passing by acclamation the resolution that the spot should be still more effectively marked by naming the streams Boyd's Creek and Parker's Creek, as a perpetual memento of the fate of those brave soldiers at the furthest west point to which the American Army pursued the British and Savages during the Revolutionary War.

SEYMOUR L. PHELPS
EDWARD MUNSELL
A. H. NIVEN
W. T. CUYLER

CUYLERVILLE, September 1841

This preliminary action aroused enthusiasm and touched the popular heart; and the spirit in which the after ceremonies were conducted reflects lasting credit upon the counties of Livingston and Monroe. Scottsville, Geneseo and other corporations took formal action on the subject. Mount Morris provided a breakfast for the military and civic delegations from Rochester. Official bodies also took action. The State Senate, then in session at Buffalo as a court for the correction of errors, were invited to participate. In reply they "resolved, that the Senate duly appreciate and fully approve of this patriotic movement of their fellow citizens, but that public duties now resting upon them forbid their joining therein."

The municipal authorities and military companies of Rochester left that city in a flotilla of five canal boats on the evening of the 19th of August. The military companies consisted of Williams Light Infantry, under Captain Gibbs; Union Grays, under Captain Swan; City Cadets,

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under Captain Tucker; Rochester Artillery, under Captain Davis, and German Grenadiers, under Captain Klein. Bonfires were kindled at the principal villages along the route, and crowds of people at each stopping place testified the public reverence for the memory of those whose deeds were about to be so conspicuously honored. At Scottsville, Captain Elnathan Perry, of Rush, one of Sullivan's men and a fellow soldier of Boyd, joined the party.

On reaching Cuylerville a procession was formed and proceeded to Boyd and Parker's grave. The bones of these men had been already placed in an urn, and the relics from Groveland had just arrived in a sarcophagus under escort of a procession of citizens of the County, formed at Geneseo, nearly a mile in length. While the two cavalcades halted a few rods from each other, and the Rochester military companies were drawn up on two sides of the passageway, the committee of arrangements and the survivors present of Sullivan's army ascended to the summit of the mound raised over the grave of Boyd and Parker, the band meantime playing a dirge. The urn was next raised, borne to the hearse, and placed in the sarcophagus by Major Van Campen. The two processions then united, and, to the sound of muffled drums, moved slowly toward a beautiful grove on Cuyler's farm near by, where a platform had been erected for the ceremonies. An audience of 5,000 persons had here gathered from the surrounding country, and everything evinced the deep feeling which the occasion excited. The venerable Major Moses Van Campen, of Dansville, now about eighty years old, an officer of the Revolution, a schoolmate and companion-in-arms of Boyd, presided. Paul Sanborn, who discovered the headless remains of two of the martyrs, occupied a seat on the platform; as likewise did Lemuel Richardson and Captain Perry. Other Revolutionary soldiers took part.

An eloquent oration, replete with special historic interest, was delivered by Judge Samuel Treat, and at its close the venerable President of the Day formally surrendered the relics to the Rochester authorities in an address which reads as follows:

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Major Moses Van Campen at the age of 90 years.

Fellow citizens: We no longer hear the war-whoop of the savages. We are no longer alarmed by the martial drum calling us to arms. We no longer hear the roaring of cannon, or the din of small-arms. We are no longer shocked by the cries of the wounded. We no longer see the fertile fields of the country stained with the blood of your fathers. But we see the relics, to-day, of those patriotic youths who shed their blood for the rights of man, deposited in that urn before you.

Gentlemen of the committee: citizens and soldiers of the counties of Monroe and Livingston: you have conferred upon me the honor of presiding on this day, on this important and interesting occasion. I confess I want ability to discharge the duties connected with the deep interest felt on this occasion, yet I feel happy in aiding what I can to commemorate the scenes this day brought before us.

It will not be necessary for me to say much after the interesting and eloquent address we have just heard, yet I must say I little expected again to see the bones of my companions in Sullivan's forces, whose lives while yet in the bloom of youth, were taken by the Indians—whose blood was shed in the glorious struggle for independence, and shed on the soil of Livingston County, and whose patriotic remains for sixty-two years were mouldering in this place.

How different do they appear to me now, from what they did, sixty-two years ago, when I saw them in the vigor of life and in the bloom of youth! Aye, my noble Boyd—could your mortal spirit witness the scenes of this day, methinks it would rejoice to see your old friend and companion making the surrender of your mortal remains and those of your brave men who fell a sacrifice to the tomahawk, to the honorable committee and associates from Rochester who have prepared for you a resting place till you are called from the slumbering dust by the voice of your God.

And you, gentlemen, that have taken so honorable a part in the scenes of this day—your names are worthy of a page in the history of our country, for this act of patriotism.

Gentlemen, I now with these, my worthy companions and the only two surviving members present of the army of General Sullivan, and in the name of the committee of the county of Livingston, surrender to you these sacred relics for an honorable interment at Mount Hope where you will pay to them the highest respect. Gentlemen, they are yours.

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An hour before sunset the military corps, charged with the custody of the remains, started northward. Their arrival at Rochester next morning was announced by the firing of cannon and a great multitude of spectators lined the banks and landings. At ten o'clock, the procession was formed on the north side of Buffalo (West Main) Street, with their right resting on Elizabeth Street facing the boats in the Erie Canal, and moved towards Mount Hope. In the escort were Governor Seward and military staff, several noted army officers and other prominent men, city officials, committees and civic and fire companies. Arrived at Revolutionary Hill, Governor Seward was presented by Chancellor Whittlesey, and made a short address from which we quote:

We see in this event a brief record of what our fathers suffered in the achievement of our independence: their sufferings in the wilderness, death in battle and death by torture. The bones before us are the remains of some of those who thus suffered. We know not all their names. No history has put on record their names or their deeds. We simply know that they fell in defence of their country; and, knowing this, we see here the proud spectacle of a whole people—a free people—assembled to do honor to these dry bones, gathered from among the clods of the valley. . . . It is because they did their duty and fell in doing their duty, that we are doing honor to their mouldering remains. God forgive the man, who does not feel his blood grow warmer at the recollection of the daring, the devotion, the patriotism of those who thus acted and fell!

After formally dedicating the grounds to their peculiar use, the Rev. Elisha Tucker read the burial service of the Episcopal church and closed with the following remarks: "This beautiful spot on Mount Hope has been generously presented to your committee of arrangements as a cemetery for the mortal remains of Revolutionary soldiers who have died or may hereafter die in the valley of the Genesee, and we do therefore, on behalf of the citizens of Rochester and of this valley, in the name of our country and of our country's God, most solemnly appropriate this ground to that sacred purpose."

The last solemn acts of sepulture were thus performed in the presence of high officers of the State, and other honored functionaries and a great concourse of the people.

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BOYD AND PARKER

LETTERS OF MAJOR VAN CAMPEN

(To *Samuel Treat, Esquire*)

DANSVILLE, August 9th, 1841

DEAR SIR:

Yours of the 7th inst. I have received; the Subject on which you address me I have a deep Interest in, and should be happy to wait on you at any time you should make me a visit. I was acquainted with Lieut. Boyd and his family, his Mother was a Widow & lived in the Village of Northumberland, Northumberland County, State of Pennsylvania. She had three sons, John, William & Thomas. She was a woman of strong mind and a member of the Presbyterian Church, of that place. When the war had Spread fire & sword over our Land when the repose of our Defenseless Inhabitants on our frontier Settlements was disturbed by the War whoop of the Savage, the Tomahawk and the Sculping knife had began the work of death, Without any distinction for age or Sex then Mrs. Boyd gave her three sons to go and her Country with this Injunction Never to dishonor or disgrace their Swords with any Spot or Stain of Cowardice which was fulfilled Lieut. William Boyd fell on Sept. 1777 in the Battle of Brandewine Lieut. Thomas Boyd Sullivan Campaign. Capt. John Boyd in April 1781 fell into the hands of a Large party of Indians after a Severe Battle his men was nearly all killed. Capt. Horatio Jones was a Volunteer belonged to his Command & made a prisoner In Aprile 1782 I fell myself a Second time into their hands and met with Capt. Boyd a prisoner in Lower Canada.

(To *Samuel Treat, Esquire*)

DANSVILLE, Aug. 16th, 1841

DEAR SIR:

Mr. Smith informed me this Morning that you Wished to know of me if our whole army crossed the genesee River to little Beards town. When our Army arrived at the genesee River it had reached its point of destination & was then under allowance of provisions we had a great work to do to destroy their Cornfields for Several miles along the Valley of the genesee River if my Memory is Correct I think about two thousand Crossed over to Little beards' Town, they destroyed all the Cornfields in the Neighborhood Morris &c while the remainder of the army was destroying their Crops about the genesee flats & downwards I think it was a Work of about three days.

DANSVILLE, Sept. 10, 1841

To the Hon. Committee at Rochester, associated for the purpose of paying honors to the remains of Boyd and his companions in arms, who fell with him in the campaign of Sullivan, 1779:

GENTLEMEN:

After the various remarks of approval that you have received for your praiseworthy exertions in accomplishing the removal, with appropriate ceremonies, of the relics of Boyd and his gallant associates, to the cemetery of Mount Hope at Rochester, it may not be out

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FROM OUT OF THE PAST

of place for me to express the pleasure which I felt in being permitted to take a part in the doings of that interesting occasion.

That place, where Boyd and his companions met with their sad fate, has been associated in my mind, ever since the year '79, with the events of Sullivan's Campaign; and upon coming in sight of the mound which had been constructed by your orders, I felt assured that this must be the spot which had been identified in my own mind, not only by reports which were given at the time, but by the assertions which I afterward received from those acquainted with the burial of Boyd as being the very ground where his remains were deposited.

Major Parr, who was an intimate friend of mine, and who commanded the rifle corps belonging to Clinton's Brigade (which, with General Hand's Brigade was sent across to Little-Beardstown to destroy whatever vestige of living they could find belonging to the Indians—to destroy their corn and burn their village), gave me an accurate description of the place where Boyd was buried. I afterwards received a description of the place from prisoners that had been given up after the treaty of peace with the Six Nations, and which corresponded exactly with that given by Maj. Parr. I learned that same, also, from one of my own soldiers, Elijah Hunt, who had been a prisoner at Little-Beardstown two years, and who was well acquainted with the place of interment. They all agree in saying that it was at the junction of a small run [stream] with Little-Beard's Creek, in a break of the bank of that creek near a cluster of plum trees. Whenever my eye, therefore, rested on the mound which you had constructed, and when I beheld the formation of the ground upon which it was placed, and the above-named junction, I felt that the spot was sacred, and that it was, indeed, the place which (as was said at the time) had been chosen that it might be afterwards remembered as the resting place of the noble Boyd.

I might say here, that Boyd belonged to Major Parr's Rifle Corps, and that he, Parr, was present at Boyd's burial. Mr. Sanborn who was present with me at the surrendering of his remains, and who had belonged to Sullivan's Army, was the first that found Boyd's corpse.

I wish also to express, Gentlemen, the pleasure which I felt in seeing that the small detachment under his command, which fell by the tomahawk of the savage, and which were buried on Groveland Hill, was not left unremembered upon that occasion. All of these, though the names of most may have perished with them, were brave men. They deserved well of their country, and it was befitting that they should have the honorable tribute which was paid to them on that day. I was acquainted with them all; and I could hardly express the feelings which came over me, when reflecting that, after the lapse of sixty-two years, they had been brought forth to receive the gratitude which was felt for the services which they had rendered to their country.

I owe many thanks to the gentlemen of the several committees who were present, for their kindness on that occasion, and especially the liberality of Col. Cuyler, in providing a repast for the aged and the weary. It would have given me much pleasure, gentlemen, to have accompanied you to Rochester, but my age and the fatigues of the day, prevented.

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Mary Jemison's Account of Boyd's Torture

The narrative of Mary Jemison who, at the time of the Sullivan campaign, was living in Little-Beardstown, contains a reference to the cruelties to which Boyd was subjected. She says that when Sullivan had arrived at Canandaigua Lake and finished his work of destruction there, it was believed that he was about to march to the flats about Little-Beardstown; the Senecas in the neighborhood had resolved to give him battle on the way; they sent all their women and children into the woods a little west of Little-Beardstown, in order that they might make a good retreat if it should be necessary. She thus describes the treatment of Boyd:

The Indians . . . fell in with a small detachment of Sullivan's men with whom they had a sharp but severe skirmish, in which they killed a number of the enemy, took Captain or Lieutenant Boyd and one private prisoners, and brought them to Little-Beardstown, where they were soon afterwards put to death in the most shocking and cruel manner. Little-Beard, in this as in all other scenes of cruelty that happened at his town, was master of ceremonies and principal actor. Poor Boyd was stripped of his clothing and then tied to a sapling, where the Indians menaced his life by throwing their tomahawks at the tree, directly over his head, brandishing their scalping knives around him in the most frightful manner and accompanying their ceremonies with terrific shouts of joy. [Further details of the torture are too gruesome for repetition.] He was then beheaded, his head was stuck upon a pole and his body left on the ground unburied. The other prisoner was, if I remember distinctly, only beheaded and left near Boyd.

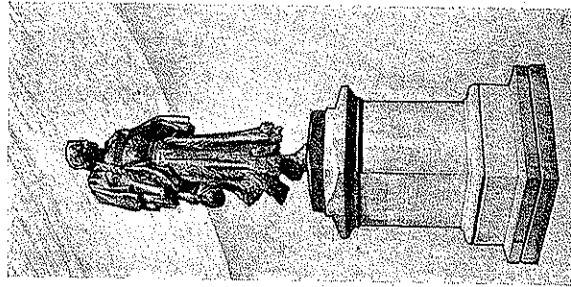
This tragedy being finished, our Indians again held a short council on the expediency of giving Sullivan battle if he should continue to advance, and finally came to the conclusion that they were not strong enough to drive him nor to prevent his taking possession of their fields, but that if it was possible they would escape with their own lives to preserve their families, and leave their possessions to be overrun by the invading army. The women and children were then sent still further toward Buffalo to a large creek (Stony Creek which empties into Tonawanda Creek near Varysburg, Wyoming County), . . . accompanied by a part of the Indians, while the remainder secreted themselves in the woods back of Byerstown, to watch the movements of the army.

At that time I had three children who went with me on foot, one who rode on horseback and one whom I carried on my back. Our corn was good, that year, a part of which we had gathered and secured for winter. In one or two days after the skirmish at Conesus Lake, Sullivan and his army arrived at the Genesee River where they de-

stroyed every article of the food kind they could lay their hands on. A part of our corn was burned, and they threw the remainder into the river. They burned our houses, killed what few cattle and horses they could find, destroyed our fruit trees and left nothing but bare soil and timber. . . . Having crossed and re-crossed the river and finished the work of destruction, the army marched off to the east.

Our Indians saw them move off, but suspecting that it was Sullivan's intention to watch our return and then take us by surprise, resolved that the main body of our tribe should hunt where we then were, till Sullivan had gone so far that there would be no danger of his returning to molest us. This being agreed to, we hunted continuously until the Indians concluded that there would be no risk in our once more taking possession of our lands. Accordingly, we all returned; but what were our feelings when we found that there was not a mouthful of any kind of sustenance left, not even enough to keep a child one day from perishing with hunger.

The weather by this time had become cold and stormy, and, as we were destitute of food, I immediately determined to take care of my children and look out for myself without delay. With this intention, I took two of my little ones on my back, but the other three followed, and the same night arrived on the Gardeau Flats, where I have ever since resided.



Statue of Mary Jemison,
Letchworth State Park.

Transfer of the Remains of Sullivan's Men

The remains of the Sullivan men, buried on Revolutionary Hill in Mount Hope with so much pageantry, were not destined to remain there undisturbed. It appears that this portion of the cemetery belonged to the city of Rochester and had become very valuable and the cemetery officials were permitted by the Common Council in 1864, "to grade and improve the portion of the ground in said cemetery heretofore set apart by the Council for the burial of Revolutionary soldiers and also to sell that part of same not required for the purposes specified." As a result of this action, the remains of the Sullivan men were removed to the potter's field in the cemetery, and there lay in unmarked graves until through the patriotic interest of the Irondequoit Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, they were transferred to another part of the cemetery which, it is devoutly hoped and believed, will remain their final resting place.

Mrs. Josephine G. Chappell, the Historian of the Irondequoit Chapter, by whose diligence and perseverance the remains were after long search located, wrote the following letter to the compiler of this book to describe how she found them:

Decoration Day, 1897, flowers and flags were placed on all graves known to contain Revolutionary soldiers in Mt. Hope Cemetery. Mrs. Clinton Rogers (Fanny Rochester) placed a flag at the grave of Rev. Ebenezer Vining. She afterwards said to me, "Mrs. Chappell, what is a man of the Rev. Ebenezer Vining's standing and a soldier who fought under Gen. Washington, doing in the poor grounds?" She said, "I found some graves close by without stones but do not know who they are," so it rested there.

I had been asked by the Historical Society to read a paper on the Revolutionary soldiers, at the February 25th, 1898, meeting, which (Revolutionary soldiers) were scattered around Monroe County. I could not, some way, forget about Rev. Vining, so one day I went up to Mount Hope and over to the old clover field, to where in my childhood I used to go and look at those graves said to contain victims. I soon found on the southern slope of the hill, just beyond the ravine in Section 6, between Glen and Grove Avenues, the grave of Rev. Ebenezer Vining, and close beside him some three other graves. About ten feet from there, three more graves which were mounded, though the grass was not cut. I felt that those beside Rev. Vining were Sullivan's men, so set about finding out. I first took a picture

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of these graves, locating Rev. Vining's on Mount Hope records of interment (which see)—register of interment, Mount Hope, Aug. 25, 1843.—page 22: "Rev. Mr. Vining buried Revolution Hill David A. Allen, sexton, 1864, removed to poor grounds."

Chauncey Parsons, keeper in 1863, said there were some half dozen graves on top of the hill said to belong to Revolutionary patriots. When I went to Mount Hope that year something had to be done for lots, so the commissioners suggested moving Patriot Hill. I then went to the old file of death records, and also the county clerk's office, and copied the minutes for Lt. Boyd's removal to R. and the setting aside of a lot on the hill and then wrote up my paper. I then went up to see Mr. Morris, superintendent, who at first would give me no satisfaction, but after he learned what I had done, allowed that I was correct as far as the graves were concerned, being Revolutionary soldiers. Last May or June (1903) Mrs. Charles Potter was made chairman on Committee of Markers for soldiers' graves D. A. R. throughout the county of Monroe, and I was placed on her committee and alone gathered the 310 soldiers' names who had served in the war of the Revolution and which were published Oct. 22-23, 1903. While collecting these names, I had thought it a good time to work for my Sullivan men, whom I had not forgotten, so I wrote a petition asking that a lot be set aside for these sixteen soldiers of 1779. It was signed by Mrs. Caroline C. Little, New York State Regent, D. A. R.; Mrs. Susan Rogers Hoyt, Regent Irondequoit Chapter; Mrs. Charles Potter, Chairman Markers Committee; Mrs. Josephine Gregg Chappell; E. Vine Stoddard, President S. A. R., N. Y. S.; Clinton Rogers (Chairman same); Geo. May Elwood, Chairman on Markers.

Before I sent in this petition, I went to Mayor A. Rodenbeck, who was greatly interested, also to Mr. Henry B. Hathaway, Commissioner of Mount Hope, who sent me to see Mr. Keller as to what could be done about giving us a lot. He was interested and first suggested to me the petition which I sent in. When Mr. Frederick Cook came home from Europe a meeting of the three Commissioners was called, and soon after the lot set aside for us, and meager as it was, it has given me the greatest satisfaction of all my work on historical lines, to feel that those brave men have been found and removed from the poor grounds "to a spot which can never be disturbed." I think I wrote you about how we found the bodies or rather bones—in two boxes not directly under the mounds but between them. The three not identified at the time we removed them, have been since. Mrs. Elwood's paper is to be put in booklet form, and so was not in the paper. She gives me credit for the finding of these remains but does not tell how I found them. Anything in the papers which I have sent, you can use as you wish. I shall be glad to help you in any way. I have a piece of the box and a hand-wrought nail which I took when the remains were opened, which you can have for the Liv. Co. Historical Society.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPHINE G. CHAPPELL

One of the illustrations on page 84 shows the present burial place of the Sullivan men in Mount Hope.

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Centennial Celebration of the
Sullivan Campaign

On the 16th of September, 1879, the Centennial Celebration of the Sullivan Campaign was held at Geneseo, under the auspices of the Livingston County Historical Society. An elaborate program was provided, as a part of which there were speeches by Norman Seymour, the Secretary of the Society; W. H. Bogart, of Cayuga County; General A. S. Diven, of Elmira; George W. Patterson, a former resident of Leicester in this County and former Lieutenant-Governor of the State; and Rev. David Craft, of Wyalusing, Pa., who prepared the most complete and authentic account of the entire Sullivan Campaign. From the newspaper accounts of the day, it was a very successful celebration, and in every respect did justice to the occasion. It will be of interest to recall the names of the persons participating in the parade; they were as follows:

FIRST DIVISION

Chief Marshal Brig. Gen. James Wood and Aids, General Pratt, Major C. F. Wadsworth, and Otto Kelsey preceding the 54th Regiment and band, under the command of Maj. John N. Weitzel, with Lieut. F. W. Eikart of Company F, Adjutant.

SECOND DIVISION

Containing carriages with officers, speakers, distinguished guests and survivors of the War of 1812, prominent among whom was Doctor D. H. Bissell, with Aids Colonels Strang and Hyland, and Lockwood R. Doty.

THIRD DIVISION

Veterans of the late war, and a company of Calithumpians with Aids Majors Eldridge and Culbertson and Geo. S. Williams.

FOURTH DIVISION

Preceded by the Dansville Band and the different fire companies in attendance, with hose carriages, fire department of Geneseo, Cpts. Scott, Sackett, and Van Zandt as Aids.

FIFTH DIVISION

Lima Band with Pioneers and citizens generally. Capt. Chapin and R. A. Kneeland as Aids.

SIXTH DIVISION

Cuylerville Band and delegation from Normal School. The scholars of this institution had been trained in the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," which it was designed to sing while the procession was passing, but its progress was so rapid, that the first verse only was sung.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

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