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Mark Spot Where British And Indians Fell in 1779

A monumental slab of white marble erected over the grave of British and Indians who died in the battle of Newtown on Aug. 29, 1779, was formally dedicated Saturday afternoon by Company E, Sons of Veterans Reserve. Present at the ceremonies were members of other patriotic societies and the Newtown Battle Reservation Commission. J. L. Fuller, commander of the Reserve, presided.

Abner L. Wright, county historian, in the dedication address said that after the battle the bodies of the British and Indians who fell were gathered together by Sullivan's men and buried in a common grave at the east end of the ridge south of the highway leading into Lowman. When the Junction canal was dug the bones were unearthed in the digging of a canal basin. The remains of the 19 men were taken westward and buried along the ridge beside a canal lock.

"In those days," remarked Mr. Wright, "this spot beside the canal lock was a more public place than along the highway over the ridge."

The British and Indians lay in ambush on the ridge, Mr. Wright explained. They were outnumbered by the Sullivan army and they knew that success lay in strategy. Their plan was to cut Sullivan's army in two by a dash from the ridge as it marched past. Seizure and dispersal of the horses and cattle would have stopped the army's advance.

Sullivan's scouts scented the danger. From the top of a tall tree in the vicinity of the Copley farm a scout saw the concealed ambush and gave warning. The Sullivan army did not fall into the trap, but outmaneuvered the foe and won a battle that was decisive in American annals.

The slab was unveiled by young Robert D. Burnham, a direct descendant of Asel Burnham, a soldier in the Sullivan Army. Robert's father Raymond D. Burnham is an officer of Company E.

A Reserve squad fired three volleys over the grave and "Taps" was sounded.

The marker is inscribed on two sides. On one is the following legend: "Our foe who fell here Aug. 29, 1779, lie here." On the back of the marker are the names of Abner

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C. Wright, donor, and J. L. Fuller, R. M. Burnham, F. C. Palmer, F. E. Doland and L. W. More, all members of Company E.

Among others called upon for brief remarks were Samuel Meddaugh, Fred J. Jones, Seymour Lowman, Chauncey Hammond, Calvin L. Vincent, C. E. Howell, Dr. B. O. Chapman, Frederick W. Swan, E. L. Lain, Mr. and Mrs. H. Q. Staver, Guy Griswold, George S. Crandall, B. Elwin Lowman, C. E. Howell Jr., Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Krotzer, Stephen Hillman, W. G. Fudge, Robert P. McDowell, Rev. A. B. Judson, Mrs. R. M. Burnham and J. L. Fuller and the Rev. Mr. Guiles of Wellsburg,

LOOK FOR EVERY MONTH THE OUTSTANDING VALUE OF THE WEEK

THRILL

Tuesday at RANGER .22 BOLT ACTION

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