

TWO "MOLLYS" OF REVOLUTION PROVED DISTINCT HEROINES

D. A. R. Disclaims Blame for Confusing Margaret Corbin, Whose Body Was Removed to West Point, With Molly Pitcher, of Monmouth Fame.

Margaret Corbin and Molly Pitcher of Revolutionary War fame were distinct personalities, and the New York State Daughters of the American Revolution were aware of that fact when they recently removed the remains of the former from Highland Falls, N. Y., to the cemetery at West Point.

The D. A. R. disclaims responsibility for "erroneous dispatches confusing the two." It was announced today by Mrs. Alton Brooks Parker, New York State chairman of the Margaret Corbin Research and Memorial Committee.

Ends Controversy.

Mrs. Parker's statement sets at rest the controversy that had arisen in local historical circles as a result of the reports that the D. A. R. had reinterred the body of "Margaret Corbin, the Capt. Molly Pitcher renowned for her valor in the Revolutionary War."

The New York Daughters have succeeded in establishing the fact, however, that Margaret Corbin was known during part of her lifetime as "Capt. Molly," and it was due to this coincidence that the subsequent confusion has arisen, it is believed. Heretofore the connection between Margaret Corbin, the heroine of the battle of Fort Mifflin on November 16, 1776, and "Capt. Molly," as she was known in the Hudson River highlands, had been obscure, it is pointed out.

"Molly Pitcher" was the name by which Mary Ludwig Hays, afterward Mary McCauley, the heroine of the battle of Monmouth, was known," Mrs. Parker declared. "In no way have the D. A. R. confused these two heroines—'Captain Molly' and 'Molly Pitcher.' No doubt the name 'Captain Molly' has left to the appellation of 'Molly Pitcher' to both these heroines.

"'Captain Molly' was a pensioner of the Government until she died in

Highland Falls about 1800. There are many letters regarding her maintenance in the archives of the library at West Point, written by Commissary William Price to Maj. Gen. Knox, first Secretary of War after the Revolution, and others, and he always referred to her as 'Captain Molly.' She has lain in her grave on the J. P. Morgan estate for 126 years, until recently the New York State D. A. R. undertook to verify for all time the tradition that she was really Margaret Corbin.

"I have succeeded in discovering the missing link among the unpublished papers of Gen. Knox, since when the remains of 'Captain Molly,' as Margaret Corbin, have been removed to the United States Military Cemetery at West Point, N. Y. The dedication of two memorials to her memory will take place on April 14, when a tablet will be placed in the Patriots' Corner of the Church of the Holy Innocents at Highland Falls, and a granite monument with bronze tablet of a woman firing a cannon will be unveiled at her new grave at West Point."

Cited by Congress.

"For Margaret Corbin's heroic deed we have the authority of no less a source than the Journal of Continental Congress of 1779, that on July 6 Congress resolved that Margaret Corbin, who was wounded and disabled in the attack on Fort Mifflin, whom she heroically filled the post of her husband (John Corbin, who was killed by her side serving a piece of artillery, do receive during her natural life or the continuance of said disability, the one-half of the monthly pay drawn by a soldier of these States; and that she now receive out of the public stores one complete suit of cloaths, or the value thereof in money."