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Writings of Ida M. Tarbell

Notes, Research Materials

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Notes: Mrs. Kerenhappuck Turner

Tarbell, Ida M.

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Mrs. Kerenhappuck Turner

From photograph loaned by Joseph M. Morehead, President of Guilford Battle Ground Company, and great-grandson of Mrs. Turner. Monument unveiled in 1902 at the Guilford (N. C.) Battle Ground. Claimed to be the first monument erected in America to a revolutionary heroine. Mrs. Turner was living in Maryland at the beginning of the Revolution. Her sons all joined the Continental Army and at the Battle of Guilford CourtHouse, March 15th, 1781, one of her boys was wounded. On hearing the news, she rode on horseback from her home in Maryland to the battlefield, where she nursed the boy to health. The tradition is that Mrs. Turner cured her son by means of a curious and original water treatment. She suspended from the rafters of the cabin, where he lay, tubs in which small holes had been bored. These tubs were filled with water and the continual dripping on the inflamed wounds finally allayed the fever and gave the wounds opportunity to heal.