

Dedication of the Litchfield Civil War Memorial

June 14, 1907



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A HANDSOME MONUMENT

Dedicated at Litchfield to Memory of Civil War Dead

Litchfield Plains, ME, June 16 (Special) – The dedicating exercises of the Soldiers' Monument which occurred Friday afternoon was a most pleasant occasion to the citizens of Litchfield and friends. The day was all that could be desired and a large company of people were present. The assembly was called to order by H.M Starbird, who introduced the president of the day, G.W. Earle. Prayer was offered by Rev. E.C. Stover. Mr. Earle then made appropriate remarks. The president of the Relief Corps, Mrs. L.E. Shorey, unveiled the monument and in choice words surrendered it to the Post for dedication. H.M Starbird gave the dedication service, Commander R.S. Maxwell responding. The guard of honor, detailed for the occasion by the Adjutant was Mrs. Perry, Mrs. McManus, Mrs. Tozier and Mrs. Rowe of the Relief Corps, who were conducted to their stations by the officer of the day.

The Post Chaplain, Samuel Smith, read the dedicatory prayer. E.P. Springer spoke on the part of the town and Samuel Smith for the Post. Judge A.M. Spear of Gardiner gave a most excellent address, which was followed by an interesting poem by Mrs. Etta Taylor.

The speaker of the day, Rev. Smith Baker, was then listened to with pleasure. His address was elegant in every sense.

Much credit is due the Relief Corps for this beautiful monument which they began to build for in 1904 with less than \$40 in the treasury. The town appropriating \$500 gave new inspiration and friends far and near who knew of the noble record made by the sons of Litchfield, in the great Civil War, cheerfully contributed towards it. The surviving Grand Army veterans are truly glad that at this time the town makes public recognition of her heroes, although she has never been unmindful of their bravery.

The Boys Band of Lewiston, who furnished music for the occasion, was the admiration of all.