Address By William H. Stevenson.

I greatly regret the absence of Senator William C. Sproul, president of the Historical Commission, the author of the bill permitting the Commission to expend the money for the purpose of preserving and marking historical places, who would like very much to have been with us but found it impossible to do so. Hampton L. Carson, a distinguished member of the Commission, has also been unable to come. We have, however, the two other members, Hon. A. E. Sisson and Dr. George P. Donehoo, and also Dr. T. L. Montgomery, the Commission's curator and the State librarian, all of whom you will have the pleasure and privilege of hearing.

The Commission requested the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania to hold this dedication under its auspices and we are therefore here to unveil this beautiful marker which commemorates the camp of Gen. Anthony Wayne's famous Legion, and the nearby historic Indian village of Logstown made memorable by the visits of George Washington and other notables in Colonial days.

Here where we are now assembled Gen. Wayne established the first training camp ever undertaken by our federal government, it being the precursor of the camps which in the present war have proved so efficient in quickly transforming undisciplined civilians of all walks of life into well trained soldiers. Gen. Wayne started to organize his Legion at Fort Fayette, which stood at the corner of Penn Avenue and Ninth Street (as those thoroughfares are known today) in Pittsburgh, in the summer of 1792. There he gathered together a motley crowd, mostly adventurers from the larger eastern towns and cities. The terrible defeats of Harmar and St. Clair and the reports of Indian atrocities committed on their troops served to deter voluntary enlistments, and Wayne was compelled to take what he could get. Soon he discovered that the environment of Pittsburgh was not conducive to the mainte-
nance of good discipline. Pittsburgh was but a frontier post infested with the usual evils attendant on such places. Wayne did not have the present day power of creating prohibition zones, and he soon found that Monongahela whiskey and military discipline didn't mix. So he very wisely in the fall of the year removed his troops and their equipment down the river on flatboats to the open country at this spot, which came to be known as Legionville, where the men were largely free from the temptations of the frontier town.

At this camp Wayne put his men through a thorough school of military training. He put into effect the lessons he had learned in the Revolution from Baron Steuben, and which he had his troops so effectively employ at Stony Point when he captured that place with the bayonet. He taught the Legion all the drill of the regular soldiery. He showed them how to lower their muskets and charge direct at the enemy with the terrifying yell just as our boys are being taught in our many training camps today. They were impressed with the duty of implicit obedience and with confidence in their officers, who then, as now, led and did not follow their men. Wayne is said by historians to have been an ideal leader of men and the most capable drill-master under whom the American army had served.

Wayne's spirit of patriotism and fair play to soldiers deserving promotion is illustrated in this autograph letter given by Mrs. Joseph Beardsley, of Bridgeville, Pa., to the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. In writing to Maj. Gen. Knox, then Secretary of War, Wayne says: "I cannot think of committing the lives of good men and the interests of my country and my own honor into hands of men devoid of military ambition who are novices in the profession of arms." As a result of Wayne's work, his men, when put to the test, were not found wanting, and their glorious victory over the Indians at Fallen Timbers on August 19th, 1794, was the most emphatic vindication of his wise leadership. That victory opened the way to peace with the savages and made sure the retirement of the British from the posts in our territory which they had held
without warrant since the close of the Revolution. It made possible the settlement of our Northwestern Territory out of which were carved half a dozen great states.

Here on this spot Wayne raised the first flag of the United States with its 13 stripes and stars, it being the herald of freedom and civilization to a vast extent of country on and beyond the Ohio. Wayne did not long survive his great victory which brought much joy to the sorely tried Washington and to all the American people. He died at Erie November 17th, 1796, but his memory is still green in the hearts of our people. It has been said that "the path of glory leads but to the grave," but in the case of Wayne it has led to immortal fame. As the ages lengthen and the importance of his work becomes more and more evident to the eye of the discerning and impartial historian, the value of his deeds and services to his country grows, and Anthony Wayne's place in the American Hall of Fame becomes more and more secure.