The Battle at Crying Rock: A Turning Point in the American Revolution

Putney's War: Battle at Crying Rock by D. Preston Davidson

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The Battle at Crying Rock, also known as the Battle of Putney's Mill, was a significant engagement in the American Revolutionary War. Fought on February 14, 1781, in Greenville, South Carolina, the battle was a victory for the British and Loyalist forces over the Patriot militia.

The battle's name comes from a nearby rock where women and children sought shelter during the fighting. The rock was said to be covered in tears from the women and children who had witnessed the horrors of the battle.

The Battle at Crying Rock was a turning point in the American Revolution. The British victory gave them control of the upcountry of South Carolina, and it helped to strengthen their hold on the colony.

Background

The Battle at Crying Rock was part of a larger campaign by the British to regain control of South Carolina. In 1780, the British had captured Charleston, the colony's capital. However, the Patriot militia continued to resist the British occupation, and they controlled much of the upcountry.

In February 1781, the British launched a campaign to crush the Patriot resistance in the upcountry. A force of about 1,000 British and Loyalist troops, led by Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton, marched into the upcountry and began to attack Patriot strongholds.

The Battle

On February 14, 1781, Tarleton's force encountered a group of about 400 Patriot militia at Putney's Mill, near Greenville. The Patriots were led by Colonel Andrew Pickens.

The battle began with a British cavalry charge. The Patriots were able to repel the charge, but they were outnumbered and outgunned. The British and Loyalists eventually forced the Patriots to retreat.

The Patriots suffered about 100 casualties, while the British and Loyalists lost about 50. The British victory gave them control of the upcountry of South Carolina, and it helped to strengthen their hold on the colony.

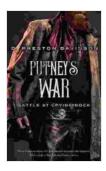
Aftermath

The Battle at Crying Rock was a turning point in the American Revolution. The British victory gave them control of the upcountry of South Carolina, and it helped to strengthen their hold on the colony. The Patriot militia continued to resist the British occupation, but they were unable to regain control of the upcountry. The British eventually evacuated Charleston in December 1782, and the war in South Carolina came to an end.

Legacy

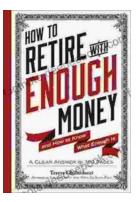
The Battle at Crying Rock is remembered as a turning point in the American Revolution. The battle helped to strengthen the British hold on South Carolina, and it led to the eventual defeat of the Patriot militia.

The Crying Rock is still standing today, and it is a popular tourist destination. The rock is said to be covered in tears from the women and children who witnessed the horrors of the battle.



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