

**EARLY DUBLIN: A LIST OF  
THE REVOLUTIONARY  
SOLDIERS OF DUBLIN, N.H.**

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Early Dublin: A List of the Revolutionary Soldiers of Dublin, N.H. by Samuel Carroll Derby

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**SAMUEL CARROLL DERBY**

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OF DUBLIN, N. H.

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SAMUEL CARROLL DERBY

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*Ad gloriam priorum*

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COLUMBUS, OHIO  
1901

## PREFACE

THE general purpose of the following lists is to help preserve the memory of the men of my native town who took a strenuous part in those early "times that tried men's souls." My intent at first was of narrower scope.

Bartholomew Goyer, a picturesque Frenchman of unknown antecedents who was the first settler on Derby Hill, had been, according to family tradition, a Revolutionary soldier. His name was not found with those of other such soldiers in the History of Dublin. This omission led me to search the "Revolutionary Rolls" of New Hampshire for his military record. The quest proved that tradition was correct and suggested that further examination of those volumes of New Hampshire State Papers might reveal other unknown soldiers of the struggle for independence. Enough additional names were discovered to double the number given in the History of Dublin. That honor may be given "to whom honor is due," it has seemed best to print the complete list of Revolutionary soldiers, together with a short statement of the service of each. In some cases brief additional items of family history have been given, and would gladly have been inserted in others, had the facts been known to me. The short notices of captains and colonels under whom Dublin soldiers served have cost more labor than their fragmentary nature would suggest. Corrections with regard to any fact or name in the following pages will be gratefully received.

S. C. DERBY.

Columbus, O., January 1, 1901.

## DUBLIN SOLDIERS IN THE REVOLUTION

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IT is now forty-five years since the History of Dublin appeared. Its list of Dublin men who served in the Revolutionary War is probably trustworthy as far as it goes. So much may be presumed from the character of the committee who published that work, Levi W. Leonard, D. D., Jonathan K. Smith, Lawson Belknap, Thomas Fisk and Henry C. Piper. They had personal acquaintance with many of the survivors of the struggle for independence, were men of marked sobriety of judgment, and not at all prone to admit unfounded claims. Still, it is now possible to revise and increase their roll of Revolutionary soldiers from Dublin, though none who took part in that war survive to-day, and its very traditions are growing dim.

Several important sources of information upon this question have become available since 1855. Most important of these are the Reports of the Adjutant General of New Hampshire for the years 1866 and 1868, and more recent, the New Hampshire Provincial and State Papers, of which twenty-nine volumes have now appeared.

Volumes XIV-XVII inclusive, of the State Papers bear the sub-title "Revolutionary Rolls," and contain copies of all the muster rolls and other lists of Revolutionary soldiers which could be found. Unfortunately much is missing; for example, towards the end of 1775 nearly 2000 New Hampshire militia were sent to take part in the siege of Boston. Of these thirty-one companies the names of the commissioned officers only have been found. Other important documents are also missing, so that a complete list of continental soldiers from New Hampshire can hardly be hoped for. The register which is given here is based upon a careful examination of the Revolutionary Rolls of New Hampshire.

While it would be presumptuous to claim that it is absolutely correct or complete, many names appear in it which—so far as I am aware—have not previously been published. Further examination of the various sources of information may add a few names or facts to those which follow.

It must not be forgotten that some who served from Dublin and are credited to it, served from other towns, also, at a later date; while still others entered the army from neighboring towns, or from an adjoining state, before removing to Dublin and entering the army from that town. The tax lists and census reports show that there was an active movement and growth of population in Dublin and neighboring towns before, during and immediately after the revolutionary period.

The fourth Provincial Congress of New Hampshire, held at Exeter, May 17, 1775, divided the state into seventeen districts, each of which was organized as a regiment under the command of a colonel whose duty it was to see that the quota of soldiers required from his command was duly furnished. These colonels were selected from the most prominent citizens of the several districts and in many cases took the field for shorter or longer periods. The able-bodied male inhabitants between the ages of sixteen and fifty years formed the town's "Training Band." Each member of that force, which was intended for active service, was required to provide himself with the following accoutrements: "a good fire arm, good ram rod, a worm, priming wire and brush, and a bayonet fitted to his gun, a scabbard and belt therefor, and a cutting sword or tomahawk or hatchet, a pouch containing a cartridge box that will hold fifteen rounds of cartridges at least, a hundred buck shot, a jack knife and tow for wadding, six flints, one pound of powder, forty leaden bullets fitted to his gun, a knapsack and blanket, a canteen or wooden bottle sufficient to hold one quart." The "Training Bands" were required to muster eight times a year. The completeness and efficiency of this military organization were such that New Hampshire was more than once enabled to render notably prompt and effective aid in the emergencies of the struggle for independence.

The following table gives the name and residence of the several commanding officers and the number of male persons of military



DUBLIN REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS.

age (16 to 50), belonging to each district. This organization apparently remained unchanged for several years, except in the case of a few colonels :

	Colonel.	Residence.	
1.	WM. WHIPPLE, . . . .	Portsmouth, . . . .	1,561 men.
2.	STEPHEN EVANS, . . . .	Dover, . . . . .	1,666 "
3.	JONATHAN MOULTON, . . . .	Hampton, . . . . .	787 "
4.	NICHOLAS GILMAN, . . . .	Exeter, . . . . .	1,665 "
5.	JOHN WEBSTER, . . . .	Chester, . . . . .	609 "
6.	MATTHEW THORNTON, . . . .	Londonderry, . . . .	712 "
7.	JOSIAH BARTLETT, . . . .	Kingston, . . . . .	1,120 "
8.	MOSES NICHOLS, . . . .	Amherst, . . . . .	1,252 "
9.	DAVID MOORE, . . . .	Bedford, . . . . .	1,132 "
10.	JOSEPH BADGER, . . . .	Gilmanton, . . . . .	803 "
11.	THOMAS STICKNEY, . . . .	Concord, . . . . .	1,345 "
12.	DAVID HOBART, . . . .	Plymouth, . . . . .	378 "
13.	SAMUEL ASHLEY, . . . .	Winchester, . . . . .	1,080 "
14.	ENOCH HALE, . . . .	Rindge, . . . . .	959 "
15.	BENJAMIN BELLOWS, . . . .	Walpole, . . . . .	675 "
16.	ISRAEL MORRY, . . . .	Orford, . . . . .	347 "
17.	JONATHAN CHASE, . . . .	Cornish, . . . . .	492 "
		Conway, . . . . .	33 "
		<u>Total, . . . . .</u>	<u>16,710</u>

Dublin was included in the fourteenth military district. Col. Enoch Hale of Rindge was appointed its commanding officer, November 2, 1775. The thirteenth and fourteenth regiments replaced the one previously commanded by Col. Josiah Willard. The towns which composed the fourteenth regiment, with the number of male persons of military age (16 to 50) in each were :

Rindge, . . . . .	143 men	Dublin, . . . . .	64 men
New Ipswich, . . . . .	188 "	Stoddard, . . . . .	49 "
Jaffrey, . . . . .	88 "	Washington, . . . . .	35 "
Temple, . . . . .	112 "	Marlboro, . . . . .	68 "
Peterborough, . . . . .	102 "	Nelson, . . . . .	47 "
Fitzwilliam, . . . . .	40 "	Sharon, . . . . .	23 "
	<u>Total, 959.</u>		

The first commissioned officer of Dublin is believed to have been Thomas Morse, who was commissioned as Captain of the eighth company of the sixteenth regiment, by Gov. John Wentworth, June 2, 1774. His successor in command was Moses Adams. The date of his commission and the term of his service

have not been ascertained. He was followed by Samuel Twitchell who saw active service on several occasions and held higher rank than any other man who served from Dublin and did duty for it in the Revolutionary War.

The following list of Dublin Revolutionary Soldiers does not include those who removed to that town after peace was declared, 1783. Some names about which there is more doubt are placed at the end of the roll. Additions and corrections, based upon documentary evidence, are desired :

1. ELISHA ADAMS, served in Capt. Jason Wait's company, Col. Enoch Hale's regiment in 1778, and was then 20 years old. He was one of the six months' men raised by New Hampshire in 1781 to reinforce the continental army at West Point after Arnold's treason. He removed to Maine. Elisha Adams's brother Joseph served from Holliston, Mass., and not long ago a fragment of the diary which he kept during the siege of Boston was found in Dublin and is now in possession of Mr. A. L. Ball.

2. THOMAS ALDEN, who came to Dublin as early as 1773, was a private in Capt. Joseph Parker's company, Col. Enoch Hale's regiment, mustered July 18, 1776. He joined the Northern army at Ticonderoga. He removed from Dublin subsequent to 1787.

3. HART BALCH saw much service. From April 23 to August 1, 1775, he was a member of Capt. William Walker's company, Col. James Reed's regiment. The members of this company were from Dunstable and vicinity. In Col. Enoch Hale's return, 1777, he is described as a nine months' man, 26 years old, from Jaffrey. June 29, 1777, he went in Capt. Roger Gilmore's company, under Lieut. Col. Thomas Heald, to reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga, and served 14 days. May 14, 1778, he enlisted for one year in Capt. Caleb Robinson's company, Col. Nathan Hale's regiment. April 24, 1781, he enlisted from Dublin for three years and was a member of the 9th company of Col. Joseph Cilley's regiment. He m. September 27, 1779, Dorcas, dau. of Isaac and Abigail (—) Simes, who came to Dublin, 1777. July 17, 1782, the selectmen of Dublin, Joseph Greenwood, Moses Adams and Reuben Morse, made Hart Balch bearer of a letter to the New

Hampshire Committee on Claims, then in session at Exeter. He was "warned out" of town, 1779. Hart Balch resided in Dublin for several years after the war; to what town he removed is not known.

4. NATHANIEL BATES, who was a tax payer in 1771 and bought his farm in 1774 from Bartholomew Goyer, was returned by Dublin, April, 1777, as in Capt. Jason Wait's company. He was then 39 years old. He was a member of the 3d company, Col. Joseph Cilley's regiment. He was killed at the first battle of Stillwater, Sept. 19, 1777. His widow sent the following petition:

"To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the House of Representatives assembled and Convent at Exeter: State of New-hampshire &c:

"The memorial of abagil Bates widow of the Late Nathanel Bates of Dublin Decd Humbly Sheweth that ye memorialist was Left a widow with two small children and only a New Lot of Land containing forty one acres only and but five acres Improved Labour and Provisions being scarce and Dear Renders it Impossible to manetane hir self and children without selling said Land—These are therefore humbly to Solicit your Hon<sup>rs</sup> to take it into your wise Consideration and give orders that the same might be sold &c, &c.

"Octr 28-1778

ABAGILL BATES.

"N. B. Said Nathaniel Bates was killed at Stillwater Last year by Generall Birgines army."

Nathaniel Bates lived on the north side of the Derby Hill. The later history of his family is unknown. John Stroud appears to have been the next occupant of Nathaniel Bates's little farm and to have come to Dublin about 1778.

5. NATHANIEL BELKNAP, whose name appears upon the tax list of Dublin first in 1775, was a corporal in the company of Capt. Daniel Emerson (Hollis), Col. Hercules Mooney's regiment, raised July, 1778, for service in Rhode Island. Mr. Belknap served six months and two days, and received, pay and bounty, £148 4s 7d. He died in Dublin.

6. ASA BULLARD was in Capt. Othniel Thomas's company, Lieut. Col. Daniel Reynolds's regiment. May 5, 1786, he gave receipt to Dublin authorities for rations and traveling money to Springfield, Mass., in 1781. Probably he was an older (b. 1743) brother of Simeon Bullard. He became a physician and settled at Mt. Vernon, N. H., where he died about 1826.