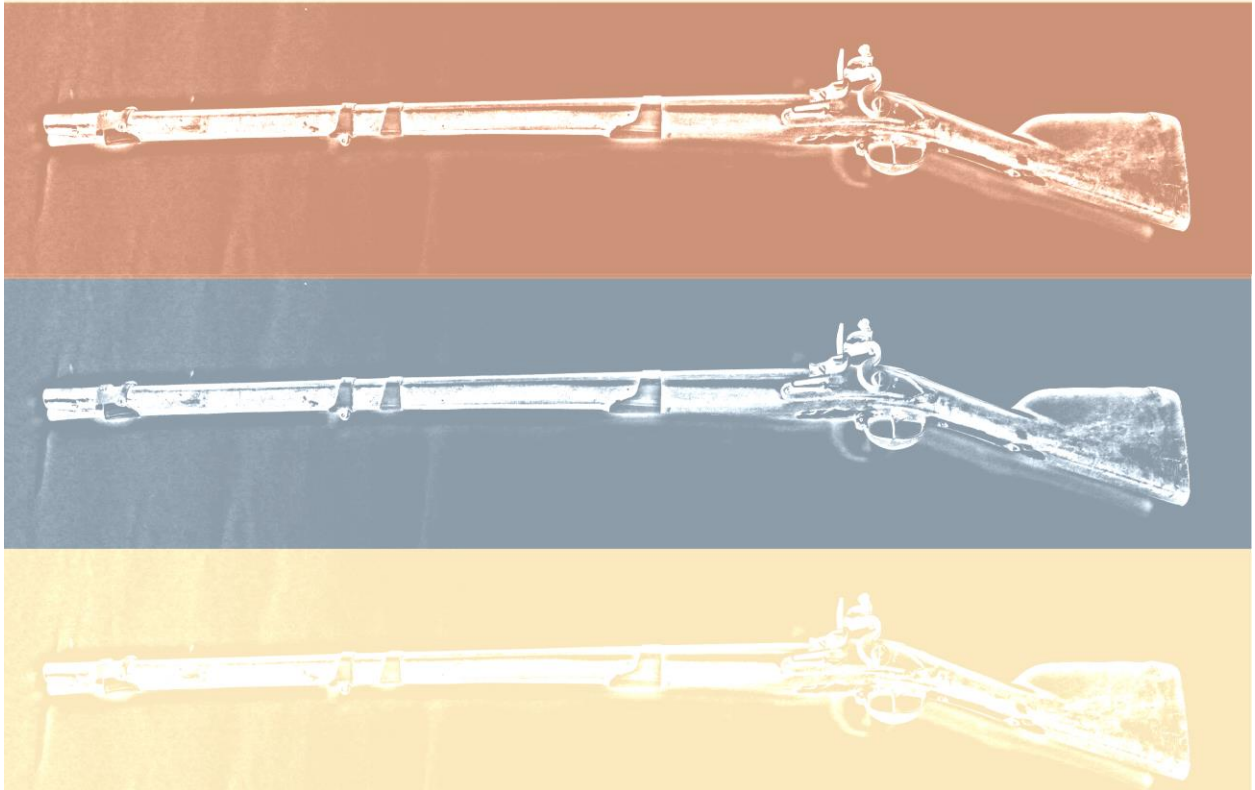


BUNKER HILL

PVT. SIMPSON AND HIS MUSKET





**Note: This booklet was created for the owner
of the musket only, and may not be reproduced
in any form or offered commercially.**

**Jonathan Holstein
2016**

BUNKER HILL:

Private Simpson and His Musket



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The Battle of Bunker Hill



Pvt. Simpson and His Musket

The first battle of the American Revolution occurred on April 19th, 1775, when British regulars, attempting to find and confiscate military stores amassed by colonial militiamen, were attacked by colonists at a number of places in Middlesex County of the Massachusetts Bay Province. The siege of Boston, in which Massachusetts militiamen cut off land access to the city, began that day. The British, stationed in Boston, thus had to rely on the sea and Boston's harbor for material communications.

The second battle occurred some two months later. On June 13th, the colonists learned that the British intended to establish positions on the strategic hills overlooking Boston that would give them control of its harbor. Moving quickly, the colonists responded on June 17th by occupying two of them, Bunker Hill and nearby Breed's Hill, establishing positions that would have allowed them to bombard Boston with artillery. By the morning

of the 17th the British had become aware of the occupations, and assembled a force to expel the militiamen.

The colonists' force numbered 1,200 men under the command of Col. William Prescott. Lines were established on both Bunker and Breed's Hills. The latter, however, closer to Boston, was considered the most strategically important, and the main colonists' redoubt was established there, ultimately bearing the brunt of the fighting.

At Breed's Hill, Prescott's Massachusetts men were reinforced by militia members from both Connecticut and New Hampshire, the latter's 1st and 3rd Regiments, with Colonel John Stark commanding the 1st and James Reed the 3rd. Included in the ranks of Stark's 1st was a company commanded by Capt. Henry Dearborn, and in that company was Private John Simpson. Simpson, a Deerfield, New Hampshire resident, had enlisted in the company formed by Dearborn when news of the conflict in Massachusetts reached his town.

The Simpson family's first American immigrant was Andrew Simpson, born in Scotland in 1697. A linen weaver, he and his wife Elizabeth Patten and their son Thomas, the first of seven children, settled first in Boston in 1725. Thomas was schooled in Boston and became a surveyor. The Simpsons purchased a farm and settled in Nottingham, New Hampshire. There was an Indian attack on the settlement in 1747, during which Elizabeth and a baby were killed. Thomas had settled in Deerfield by 1742, and he and his brother Andrew, who had also become a surveyor, were hired to establish the line between Nottingham and Deerfield. Thomas became the first parish clerk of Deerfield.

He was evidently married three times, a not-unusual occurrence at that time of early mortality. With his third wife, Sarah Morrison, whom he married in 1747, he had two children, Sarah, born in 1751, and John, born three years before her in 1748. John was thus 27 when he marched with his New Hampshire company to Boston.

The defensive position established on Breed's Hill by Col. Prescott comprised a classic fortification of the period, a square with each side about 65 yards long, protected with piled-up earth walls and a defensive ditch. There was a secondary position established at a rail fence behind the main position, closer to the Mystic River, on the left flank. It was there that the three New Hampshire regiments were stationed, with Moore's Company, including John Simpson, some 150 men, on the far left. Col. Stark, commander of the 1st New Hampshire Regiment, placed a stake about 35 yards in front of their position, telling his men not to fire until British soldiers had reached it.

The British, who had ferried their troops to a convenient assembly point, began their assault, thinking to overcome the left flank of the colonists' position. As the British formation approached, Simpson, disobeying Colonel Stark's orders, fired the first shot of the battle before the British had reached the marker. Simpson was an accomplished hunter and marksman and evidently could not resist the temptation of firing at a British officer, whom he knew he could, and did, hit.

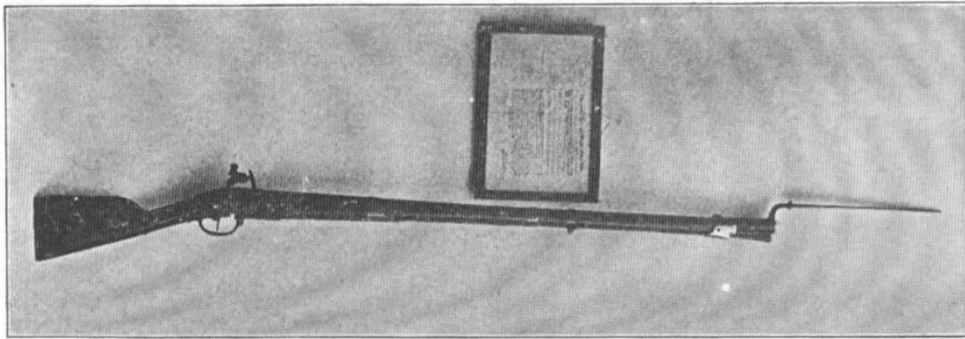
The British pressed their attack against the New Hampshire line, suffering severe casualties and not breaking it. Other battles were going on along the colonists' other positions. Eventually the militia forces ran out of ammunition and were forced to retreat, which they did very successfully because the New Hampshire men had held their ground, keeping the British from encircling the colonial troops.

After the battle, charges were placed against Simpson for disobeying orders by firing that first shot, and a court martial was convened "...but his punishment was light, for none of his superiors felt like censuring an act that they knew was simply the outbreaking of devotion to country." (See entire passage, next page.) In 1778 he was commissioned a lieutenant in a company formed by Simeon Marston, a unit in a New Hampshire regiment commanded by Col. Stephen Peabody. (A transcript of his commission is in Appendix A.) With his regiment, he fought in the Battle of Rhode Island. Simpson left the army as a major in 1777, retiring to his farm, which he operated until his death in 1825. He was the great grandfather of Meriwether Lewis, who led the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and the grandfather of Ulysses S. Grant.

Simpson's musket was of Dutch make, manufactured circa 1750-70. (See pictures, a description of the Simpson musket and related information in Appendix B.) Affixed to one side of the stock of the musket is an article from the Kansas City Star regarding the ownership of the musket by a Simpson descendent who lived there. (An enlargement of the article and a transcription are also included in Appendix B.)

As the Revolution proceeded, finding arms was a major preoccupation. Though there was some small domestic production, the bulk came from abroad. The Dutch were major arms manufacturers and traders in Europe, and many Dutch firearms had found their way to the American colonies since the first settlements, long before the Revolution. Contrary to popular myth, not every colonist living on the frontier had a firearm. They were expensive, and difficult to maintain (finding parts when they broke, and people to repair them, was a major problem.) We know, however, because of his pre-Revolutionary reputation as a keen hunter and crack shot, that Simpson must have owned his own musket, that he would have taken it with him to Breed's Hill, and that it then descended to the current owner. (See information on the Simpson family, Appendix C.)

An account of Simpson's first shot and a picture of the musket and his commission as Lieutenant in the New Hampshire's 1st Regiment were published in Chellis Vielle Smith's *Major John Simpson*, in Volume II of the Granite State Magazine, July to December, 1906. The picture, facing pg. 17, is reproduced below.



THE GUN THAT FIRED THE FIRST SHOT AT BUNKER HILL

For a picture of the commission, along with its text, as noted, see Appendix A. The magazine's account credits Simpson with owning his own musket. For the entire Granite State article, see Appendix D. Some excerpts:

"When the news of the fight at Concord and Lexington reached in a remarkably short time this remote place, John Simpson, as many another patriot did, shouldered his gun and started to join others in the defense of his country." (Smith 15)

It notes the formation of a company on Deerfield parade, and that the assembled group, under Capt. Daniel Moore, marched to Boston, some 60 miles, in 16 hours.

"He was mustered into service, and his company occupied a position close to that of the regiment down by the rail fence under command of General Stark." (Smith 17)

It recounts the circumstance of Simpson's disobedient shot.

" 'Don't fire yet—till the word is given!' was passed along the line as the men grew impatient. In the midst of the suppressed excitement, one of the soldiers under Captain Dearborn suddenly leveled his musket at a British officer and fired. The man was seen to reel and tumble from his seat, but before the incident could be discussed by the men behind the ramparts the battle was on. Colonel Prescott was routed, but Stark with his New Hampshire men retreated only when the last grain of powder was gone, and then in perfect order.

An inquiry was made the next day to ascertain who fired the shot against orders, and John Simpson was placed under arrest and he suffered a court martial, but his punishment was light, for none of his superiors felt like censuring an act that they knew was simply the outbreaking of devotion to country. So the man who fired the first shot at Bunker Hill was allowed his freedom, with a larger measure of honor than any of them dreamed." (Smith 17)

Simpson's court martial is noted in a number of places. Unfortunately, the bulk of America's early military records, including those of the Revolution, were lost in several

fires, one during the war of 1812, and it would now likely be impossible to find a written record of the event.

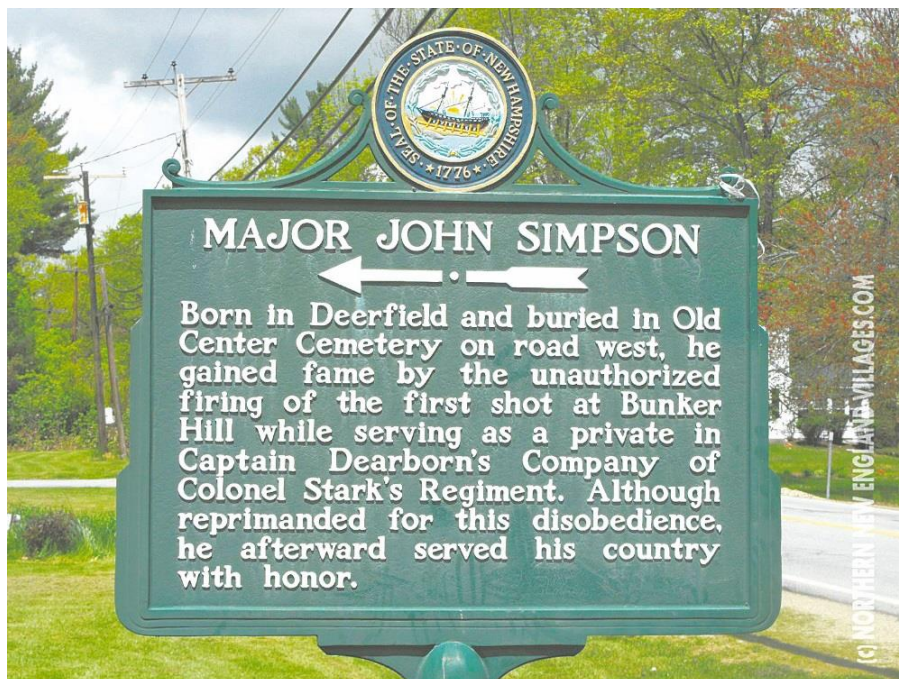
Several other people have been put forward as having fired a first shot in the conflict.

One, Lieutenant James Dana, claimed it was he who in fact fired the first shot. See the account delivered at the 18th meeting of the Cambridge Historical Society, Cambridge, Massachusetts, on November 9th, 2012, Appendix E.

The other person mentioned is Joseph Spalding, a Chelmsford, New Hampshire man. Spalding also claimed to have shot Major Pitcairn, a pivotal British officer in the engagement. See Appendix F.

While either of the men's claims might be true, both were made by the claimants themselves and have little or no surrounding substantiation, whereas the narrative involving Simpson was not declaimed by him and had significant external support, including references to the court martial that occurred after the event to consider his disobedience in firing before the order was given.

The narrative of Simpson's over-eager first shot has been noted in many places. His native state of New Hampshire has posted an historical marker near where he is buried in Deerfield, New Hampshire.



A note about the sign from www.newhampshire.com (Major John Simpson 1995):

Major John Simpson

Route 107 and 43
Deerfield, NH

Marker Number: 25

Name and date established: Deerfield 1964

Description: Born in Deerfield and buried in Old Center Cemetery on road west, he gained fame by unauthorized firing of the first shot at Bunker Hill while serving as a private in Captain Dearborn's Company of Colonel Stark's Regiment. Although reprimanded for this disobedience, he afterward served his country with honor.

Location: Located on Route 107 and 43, at Meetinghouse Hill Road, .6 miles south of the junction of Route 107 and 43.

The incident is recounted in a number of places.

From: <http://www.usgennet.org/usa/nh/county/rockingham/deerfld.html>



[USGenWeb Project](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/nh/county/rockingham/deerfld.html)

A Brief History of Deerfield

"The first minister was Reverend Timothy Upham (Congregational), ordained in 1773, and died in 1811. A Freewill Baptist church was formed in 1799. The first settlers were John Robinson, Jacob Smith, Isaac Shepard and Benjamin Batchelder in 1756. The first parish (town) meeting was held at the house of Samuel Leavitt, Wadleigh Cram, was chosen moderator, Thomas Simpson clerk, Samuel Leavitt, John Robinson and Eliphalot Griffin select men. Among the early settlers were Josiah Prescott, John James, Nathaniel Weare, David Haines, Samuel Hilton, Jeremiah Eastman and Thomas Jeaness. The town was a favorite resort for deer, and while a petition for a charter was pending, a Mr. Bachelder and Josiah Prescott killed a deer and presented it to Gov. Wentworth, and he granted the charter under the name of Deerfield. During the French and Indian War, the inhabitants lived in garrison, but no serious injury was ever experienced from the Indians. Major John Simpson, of Deerfield, fired the first gun on

the American side, at the battle of Bunker Hill. Col. Stark instructed the men in his line not to fire until the British had arrived at a certain point designated by him, which was within 40 paces of the American works. But when the red coats had advanced to within the distance the major (then a private), called a good shot for a deer, he could not withstand such a good chance, and fired and dropped his man. On this the fire commenced along the whole line. When Simpson was reproved for disobeying orders, he replied, he could not help firing when game, which he was after, came within gun shot. Major Simpson died Oct. 28, 1825.”

Another:

From https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/American_Revolution/Ticonderoga_and_Bunker_Hill

From: Frothingham, Jr, Richard (1851). *History of the Siege of Boston and of the Battles of Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill*. Second Edition. Boston, MA: Charles C. Little and James Brown. OCLC 2138693, pp. 141-142

“The Colonists, seeing this activity, had also called for reinforcements. Troops reinforcing the forward positions included the 1st and 3rd New Hampshire regiments of 200 men, under Colonels John Stark and James Reed (both later became generals). Stark's men took positions along the fence on the north end of the Colonist's position. When low tide opened a gap along the Mystic River along the northeast of the peninsula, they quickly extended the fence with a short stone wall to the north ending at the water's edge on a small beach. Gridley or Stark placed a stake about 100 feet (30 m) in front of the fence and ordered that no one fire until the regulars passed it. Private (later Major) John Simpson, however, disobeyed and fired as soon as he had a clear shot, thus starting the battle. The battle of Bunker Hill, had begun.”

And another:

John Simpson's grave in Deerfield, New Hampshire, along with a marker recounting the history (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=40424311>):

Maj John Simpson

- [Memorial](#)
- [Photos](#)
- [Flowers](#)
- [Edit](#)
- [Share](#)

Death: Dec. 1, 1748, USA
Oct. 28, 1825
Deerfield
Rockingham County
New Hampshire, USA

Major John Simpson is credited to have fired the first shot at The Battle of Bunker Hill of [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Simpson_\(soldier\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Simpson_(soldier)) Bunker Hill.

Family links:

Spouse:
[Mary L Simpson \(1754 - 1814\)*](#)

Children:
[Joseph L Simpson \(1787 - 1808\)*](#)
[John Simpson \(1790 - 1868\)*](#)
[Mary L Simpson \(1795 - 1832\)*](#)
[Hannah Simpson \(1797 - 1872\)*](#)

*[Calculated relationship](#)

Burial:
[Old Centre Cemetery](#)
Deerfield
Rockingham County
New Hampshire, USA
Plot: Tier VIII Lot 8

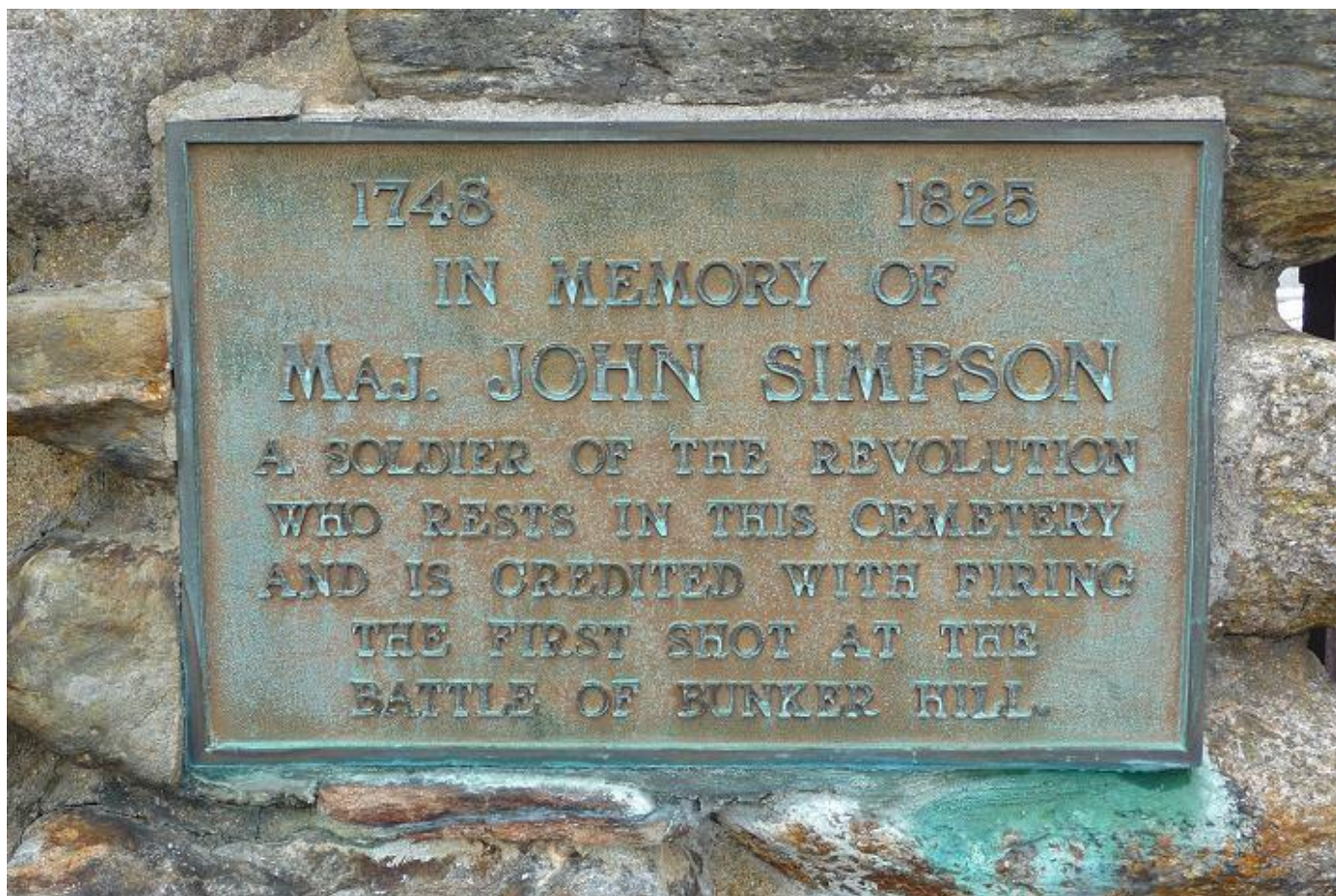
Created by: [Stan Garrity](#)
Record added: Aug 08, 2009
Find A Grave Memorial# 40424311



Added by: [Stan Garrity](#)



Added by: [Stan Garrity](#)



Appendix A

A Transcription and Image of the New Hampshire Regimental Commission of John Simpson as a Lieutenant

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE. (SEAL.)

THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF SAID STATE.
TO JOHN SIMPSON, GENTLEMAN: GREETING.

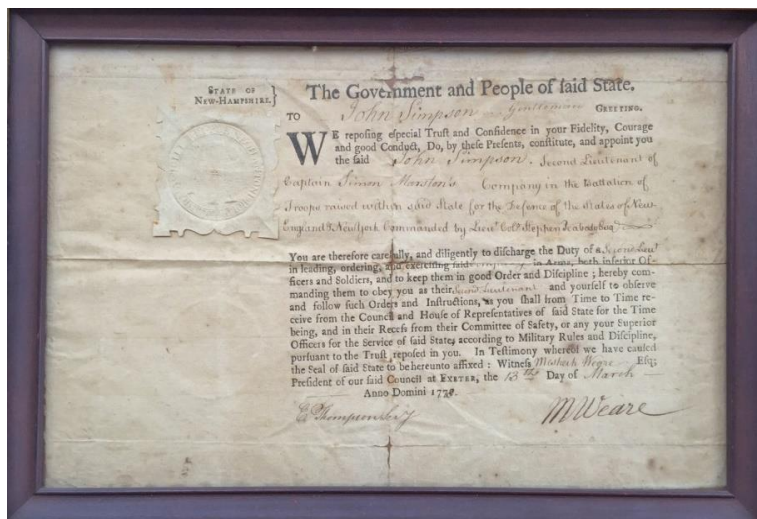
WE, REPOSING SPECIAL TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN YOUR FIDELITY, AND GOOD CONDUCT, DO BY THESE PRESENTS CONSTITUTE AND APPOINT YOU, THE SAID JOHN SIMPSON, SECOND LIEUTENANT OF CAPTAIN SIMON MARSTON'S COMPANY IN THE BATTALION OF TROOPS RAISED WITHIN SAID STATE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE STATES OF NEW ENGLAND AND NEW YORK, COMMANDED BY COLONEL STEPHEN PEABODY.

YOU ARE THEREFORE TO CAREFULLY AND DILIGENTLY TO DISCHARGE THE DUTY OF SECOND LIEUTENANT, IN LEADING, ORDERING AND EXERCISING SAID COMPANY IN ARMS, BOTH INFERIOR OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS, AND KEEP IN GOOD ORDER AND DISCIPLINE; HEREBY COMMANDING THEM TO OBEY YOU AS THEIR SECOND LIEUTENANT, AND YOURSELF TO OBSERVE AND FOLLOW SUCH ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS AS YOU SHALL, FROM TIME TO TIME, RECEIVE FROM THE COUNCIL AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SAID STATE FOR THE TIME BEING, AND IN THEIR RECESS FROM THEIR COMMITTEE OF SAFETY, OR ANY OF YOUR SUPERIOR OFFICERS FOR THE SERVICE OF SAID STATES ACCORDING TO THE MILITARY RULES AND DISCIPLINE, PURSUANT TO THE TRUST REPOSED IN YOU.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF WE HAVE CAUSED THE SEAL OF SAID STATE TO BE HEREUNTO AFFIXED.

WITNESS: M. WEARE, EXQ., PRESIDENT OF OUR SAID COUNCIL, AT EXETER, THE 13TH DAY OF MARCH ANNO DOMINI, 1778.

E.I. THOMPSON, SECRETARY.



Appendix

B

The Simpson Musket

The musket is a Dutch Type III musket, generally said to have been made between 1750 and 1770 (see the National Rifle Association article in this appendix.) Their distinguishing characteristics include the three or four brass barrel retaining bands and some features of their locks and cocking mechanisms. The Simpson musket, in the configuration and measurements of its parts, its design and associated parts, is essentially identical to all of the noted characteristics of the Type III muskets. (See the excerpted portion of George D. Moller's *American Military Shoulder Arms, Vol. I: Colonial and Revolutionary War Arms*, included in this appendix.)

Below, pictures of the Simpson musket along with its associated bayonet and powder horn, and following, some details of the musket. For more detailed picture see the online photo album: <https://fourscore.smugmug.com/Musket/n-jd8sjQ/i-SMSvrijj>









As noted in the several articles and portions thereof attached, large numbers of Dutch muskets were sent to the Colonies by the British.



By George C. Neumann

On June 17, 1775, Patriot New Englanders faced the might of the British Army in a battle known today as Bunker Hill. Included among their muskets—often without bayonets or lugs at this stage of the war—were arms of English, French, American and Dutch origin. Dutch muskets were common from the very beginnings of the American Revolution and were employed through the end of the epic conflict.

When it comes to arms used by American colonists during the Revolutionary War, the names Brown Bess and Charleville are well known. But “Dutch/Liege” arms played a significant role in winning our Independence, a role that dated back to the start of New World colonization.

As the known world expanded through intense exploration and spawning settlements in North America during the 1600s, the most dynamic traders encouraging this phenomenon were the Dutch. Made up of an association of seven “United Provinces”—of which Holland was the largest—they followed claims based upon the travels of Henry Hudson in 1609, to establish their primary trade fort (later New Amsterdam) in the New World on the present site of New York City in 1614, six years before the Pilgrims landed in Massachusetts. Moving up the Hudson River, they then built Fort Orange (Albany, N.Y.) in 1624, which penetrated the lands of the Iroquois and Canadian tribes to establish the base for a major fur-trading network.

At the same time, as English settlements proliferated along the northeast and mid-Atlantic seacoasts, the aggressive Dutch also forged lasting commercial ties with them. To coordinate these activities the Netherlands created the Dutch West India Company with a monopoly of control over their trade throughout the Americas in 1621. After Britain finally occupied New Amsterdam in 1674, the Dutch continued to advance this flow of

goods. Even facing England's Navigation Acts and other restrictions, they were not averse to following the common practice of smuggling on an impressive scale when advantageous.

Importance Of Firearms: A critical item in this trade, especially with frontier colonists and Indians, was the firearm. Although such arms sales were officially restricted in many areas to discourage hostilities, the ongoing willingness of the Dutch to deal in guns and ammunition continued up through the American Revolution. The prime motivation of their aggressiveness was to stimulate trade rather than build domestic manufacturing. Thus, although they established a sizeable arms industry in Amsterdam, Maastricht and Rotterdam, they commonly subcontracted much of their needs to outside sources, such as Liege, Solingen, Suhl or Zella. Of these, Liege, an independent principality on the Meuse River now in modern Belgium and probably the largest private contractor in the world at that time (70 to 80 gunmaking workshops in 1788), was their major back-up supplier. Because of this close association, American collectors today often refer to unmarked Low Country guns from this period as "Dutch/Liege" arms.

New Focus as Merchants: By the time of the American War for Independence in the 1770s, however, the tough Dutch traders had prospered and become the comfortable merchants and bankers of continental Europe. Responding to the urgent demands from Washington to equip his army, France supplied large amounts of arms before and after it declared open war itself in 1778. This was followed by Spain's entry in 1779. The Netherlands, however, struggled to remain neutral in order to generate profits from selling to both sides.

The Dutch were already strongly attached to Great Britain as a long-term ally in war. Moreover, William III of Orange had married Mary, the daughter of England's James II. They, in turn, became the rulers of Britain as "William & Mary" following the "Glorious Revolution" in 1688. William's surviving impact on his adopted country was widespread even to the visible Dutch influence in the ultimate design of the Brown Bess muskets. Records indicate that Britain regularly ordered shipments of Dutch arms to supplement her needs during the early 1700s, including the purchase of as many as 18,000 obsolete "Dutch/Liege" muskets in 1741 for distribution to her worldwide colonies. At least 4,500 of these are known to have been supplied to America prior to and during the French & Indian War (1754-1763).

As the Revolutionary War progressed, however, the Netherlands made valuable contributions to the rebel cause. In addition to the sale of their own arms, many shipments from European sources supplying the colonists were routed through the Low Countries for transportation in their "neutral" vessels to evade the British naval blockade of France and Spain. As a result, the Netherlands was torn between the opportunity for wartime profits, which attracted the governing class (Regents) and the working masses whose memories of the sacrifices for their own freedom favored the struggling Americans.

Colonial agents in Europe encouraged this sympathy at every opportunity. When John Paul Jones, for example, left on his *Bonhomme Richard* from France to raid England, Benjamin Franklin urged that, if successful, he should return to a Dutch port. Thus, following his victory over the HMS *Serapis* and the loss of his own ship, Jones brought his prize into Texel, Holland, to the great acclaim of its populace.

Importance of St. Eustatius: Beyond their material aid, the ultimate Dutch contribution to the winning of America's freedom was the establishment of a conduit or supply route by which critical European aid could safely reach the rebels. In 1756 they had declared their small island of St. Eustatius ("Statia") in the leeward group of the West Indies a free open port. Because the Dutch were neutral it could not be attacked, so the island now became the principal depot for the transshipment of goods to and from the American colonies. In 13 months from 1778-1779, for example, 3,182 ships cleared the island (i.e. 7 to 8 a day) while American vessels delivered 12,000 hogsheads of tobacco plus 1,500,000 ozs. of indigo and large amounts of rice in payment. The rebels then returned to their colonies loaded with wartime goods and arms. This arrangement permitted various suppliers in Europe to ship cargoes directly to St. Eustatius or to the English, French, Spanish or Danish islands in the West Indies for transshipment to neutral "Statia," which circumvented interference from Britain's navy.

It also offered a special opportunity on November 16, 1776, to directly further the American cause. On that

date the rebel brig-of-war *Andrew Doria* entering the port of St. Eustatius had its customary cannon salute unexpectedly answered by Fort Orange. More than a simple act, this was the first acknowledgment by a European power of the American colonies as a nation.

War is Declared: Understandably Britain was deeply upset by the Netherlands' participation in American aid traffic and searched for a proper opportunity to end it. Finally in 1780, Henry Laurens, the former President of the Continental Congress who had just been appointed representative to The Hague was on his way to the Netherlands in the ship, *Mercury*, when it was captured by the British cruiser, *HMS Vestal*, off Newfoundland. At that time he properly emptied his diplomatic papers into a bag, which was weighted by shot, and threw it overboard. Regrettably the air remaining inside allowed the bag to float and be recovered by his captors. He was imprisoned in the Tower of London, and Britain used his documents as evidence to declare war against the Dutch in 1780.

The English Admiral Sir George Rodney quickly attacked St. Eustatius. The 130 vessels he captured in the port included 50 armed American ships and 2,000 of our seamen. Moreover, records he confiscated implicated many leading European merchants (including 57 English firms) who were transshipping contraband to the rebels through Statia and the West Indies. By that late stage of the war, however, the bulk of the aid had been delivered.

Lists of the total number of Dutch arms and supplies sent to the New World colonists are incomplete, but their ships carried a substantial share of the European tonnage and the obscure island of St. Eustatius was a vital rendezvous in its traffic pattern. Of equal importance to America's destiny was the granting of four major loans by the Netherlands from 1782-1788, which probably saved our young nation from bankruptcy and possible economic collapse at the end of the war. The contribution of "Dutch/Liege" arms to America's early history is evident from the large number of surviving examples in our collections as well as their reused components on many of the guns locally assembled by the colonists.

Firearm Characteristics: The wide variety of firearm patterns traced to the Netherlands reflects their emphasis on fulfilling contracts to satisfy varied customers worldwide as well as their own internal needs. Most of the Dutch fowlers and muskets have round barrels of .75 to .80 caliber, which were usually pinned prior to the 1750s by which time three or four bands became typical. Their furniture was usually brass while the walnut stocks included a heavy buttstock with a raised comb plus teardrop and arrowhead carving surrounding the lock, sideplate and barrel tang. Broad rounded locks predominated early and late in the 1700s, as opposed to the less expensive flat/faceted edge form which was favored c.1720-1770. The majority of ramrod pipes accompanying the pinned barrels were faceted, and one or two visible screws usually held the extended butt tangs. Such features were popular with the American colonists and were incorporated into their Hudson Valley fowler patterns being developed here as early as 1730.

Today these firearms continue to represent the survival of our early settlers struggling through incredible hardships to establish their dreams of freedom thanks in large part to the aggressive Dutch traders who early realized the potential of the New World and contributed mightily to our success.

Sincere appreciation is given to Joseph C. Devine for his generosity in photographing the collection for this article at his J. C. Devine facilities and to the photographer, Jerry Desmarais.

Dutch Arms From The American Revolution



1. DUTCH INFANTRY MUSKET, c. 1680-1700

European aid to the American rebels included obsolete and marginal arms from previous wars stretching back into the late 1600s, as with this circa 1680-1700 Dutch musket. The Netherlands manufactured firearms mostly in Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Maastricht. They also regularly placed supplemental contracts at Liege, Solingen, Suhl, and Zella. This economical example has a two-screw lock with a squared tail, a rounded frizzen top, a rectangular pan (no bridges), and a short frizzen spring lacking an end finial. The Amsterdam stamp appears on the octagon breech while an escutcheon, sideplate, tail pipe and buttplate are omitted, suggesting wartime production. Stocked to the muzzle, it required a plug bayonet.

Length: 59 1/4"

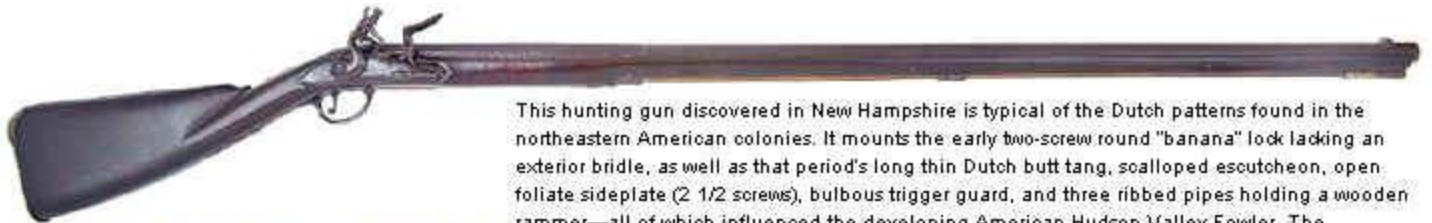
Lock: 6 1/2"x1 1/4"

Furniture: brass/iron

Barrel: 44 3/8", .79 cal.

Trigger Guard: 7 3/4"

Weight: 9 lbs.



2. DUTCH FOWLER/MUSKET, c. 1700-1720

This hunting gun discovered in New Hampshire is typical of the Dutch patterns found in the northeastern American colonies. It mounts the early two-screw round "banana" lock lacking an exterior bridle, as well as that period's long thin Dutch butt tang, scalloped escutcheon, open foliate sideplate (2 1/2 screws), bulbous trigger guard, and three ribbed pipes holding a wooden rammer—all of which influenced the developing American Hudson Valley Fowler. The substantial walnut stock extends to the muzzle. Of special interest is the "NH" marking on its octagonal breech that identified arms carried by New Hampshire line regiments during the Revolutionary War (indicating early use lacking a socket bayonet).

Length: 61 3/8"

Lock: 6 1/4"x1 1/4"

Butt Tang: 7"

Furniture: Brass

Barrel: 45", .77 cal.

Trigger Guard: 11"

Side Plate: 6 1/4"

Weight: 9.2 lbs.



3. DUTCH INFANTRY MUSKET, c. 1720-1745

Such long, pinned-barrel "Dutch/Liege" muskets were available in surplus amounts during the 1740s, and thousands were purchased by Britain for issue to American provincials participating in the French & Indian War (1754-1763). Notice how closely this example resembles the initial Brown Bess Long Land pattern of 1730. The Dutch favored a flat/beveled edge lock from c. 1720 to 1770 and employed heavy brass furniture on a substantial walnut stock. Also included are an unbridled faceted pan, a vase-like trigger guard finial, a long tapering butt tang (top screw), a sharp-shouldered sideplate, four faceted ramrod pipes (wooden rammer), a brass nose band, and raised teardrop carving around the lock, barrel tang and sideplate.

Length: 61 1/4"

Lock: 6 3/8"x1 1/8"

Butt Tang: 5 1/2"

Furniture: Brass

Barrel: 45 7/8", .78 cal.

Trigger Guard: 11 7/8"

Side Plate: 6 1/8"

Weight: 8.8 lbs.



4. DUTCH INFANTRY MUSKET, c. 1750-1770

In the 18th century it was common in Europe for earlier surplus arms to be purchased and reconditioned for resale to trading companies, overseas colonies and wartime allies. That practice is apparent in examining this banded design. It began as a musket of the pinned-barrel pattern shown in No. 3. The salvage contractor shortened the barrel by 5", removed the barrel pins in favor of four brass bands, narrowed the stock's butt (which altered the profile), and substituted a steel ramrod. The original lock, carving and most brass furniture were left untouched. This pattern saw use in the American colonies as early as the 1750s.

Length: 56"	Lock: 6 1/2"x1 1/4"	Butt Tang: 5 3/4"	Furniture: Brass
Barrel: 40 1/8", .78 cal.	Trigger, Guard: 11 7/8"	Side Plate: 6"	Weight: 9.3 lbs.



5. DUTCH INFANTRY MUSKET, c. 1771-1795

This banded pattern with simplified brass furniture and a resumption of the rounded lock was adopted by the Dutch at the beginning of the 1770s. It continued as their basic form through the years of the American Revolution until the Low Countries were overrun by the French in 1795. The lock is marked, "Kulenburg" (Amsterdam's Culemborg manufactory) and the breech is engraved, "GENERALITEIT" (identifying government ownership). The distinctive walnut stock is now straighter with a lower comb while the buttplate is secured by two rear screws having projecting round heads. Note also the four brass barrel bands, convex sideplate (no tail), raised teardrop stock carving, plus a forward spring catch to latch over its bayonet socket ring.

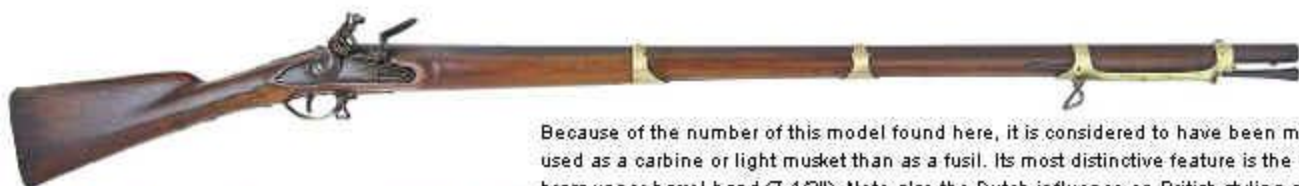
Length: 59 5/8"	Lock: 6 3/4"x1 3/8"	Butt Tang: 4 3/8"	Furniture: Brass
Barrel: 43 1/4", .76 cal.	Trigger Guard: 10 3/4"	Side Plate: 4 1/4"	Weight: 9.6 lbs.



6. DUTCH INFANTRY MUSKET, c. 1777-1798

The design of this musket incorporates a number of Germanic features, yet several are known with their locks marked, "KULENBURG", for the Culemborg manufactory in Amsterdam. It has, for example, Germanic influence in the arrowhead trigger guard, undulating butt tang (two top screws), bulbous teardrop stock carving, four faceted rammer pipes, an oval escutcheon and large projecting rear screws on the buttplate. The stylized sideplate included a tail while the flat/beveled edge lock mounts the typical faceted flash pan (no bridle), as well as a rounded frizzen top and fishtail frizzen spring. A shorter pinned barrel and straighter profile suggest its possible original designation for light troops or as an officer's fusil.

Length: 54"	Lock: 5 3/4"x1 1/8"	Butt Tang: 5 5/8"	Furniture: Brass
Barrel: 38 7/8", .75 cal.	Trigger Guard: 12 1/4"	Side Plate: 5 1/2"	Weight: 8.5 lbs.



7. DUTCH MUSKET/CARBINE, c. 1771-1800:

Because of the number of this model found here, it is considered to have been more widely used as a carbine or light musket than as a fusil. Its most distinctive feature is the elongated brass upper barrel band (7 1/2"). Note also the Dutch influence on British styling apparent in the trigger guard's hazelnut front terminal, baluster breech and S-type sideplate. An Amsterdam control stamp appears on the rounded breech of the 40" barrel. The walnut stock, in turn, has modified its border carving. An oval escutcheon is marked, "No=3", and a hook-like clasp projects out of the fore-end to snap over the rear ring of a socket bayonet.

Length: 55 1/4"
Barrel: 40", .72 cal.

5 3/4"x1 1/8"
Trigger guard: 9 1/2"

Butt Tang: 3 1/2"
Side Plate: 3 1/2"

Furniture: Brass
Weight: 8.1 lbs



8. AMERICAN ASSEMBLED MUSKET, c. 1750-1783

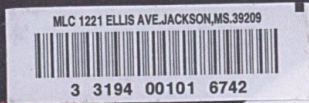
The availability of Dutch arms in the colonies can also be traced by their reused parts on arms assembled by the Americans. This musket combines earlier Dutch components—a rounded "banana" lock, trigger guard, and barrel—with a buttplate, escutcheon, and rammer pipes stripped from a British Long Land Brown Bess. The Americans, in turn, not only supplied the walnut stock but cast their own pewter sideplate. The musket also suggests a Dutch colonial Hudson River pedigree by its raised stock carvings bordering the lock, sideplate, barrel and ramrod channel, which match many Hudson Valley Fowlers.

Length: 60 3/4"
Barrel: 44 3/4", .78 cal.

Lock: 6 5/8"x1 3/8"
Trigger guard: 10 3/4"

Butt Tang: 5 1/2"
Side Plate: 5 7/8"

Furniture: Brass
Weight: 10 lbs.



American Military Shoulder Arms

GEORGE D. MOLLER

VOLUME I: Colonial and Revolutionary War Arms



DUTCH ARMS

080.

COLONIAL PERIOD

080.1

Dutch archives have not yet been located that show the vast quantity of arms sold to the British from the 16th century. This information has come from England and is explained in a previous section, "British Foreign Purchase Arms." Dutch sources do show the sales to other countries of large quantities of arms from the end of the first quarter of the 17th century, such as 22,400 muskets sold to Denmark in 1625–1627 and 50,000 muskets sold to Russia around 1630.

It is known that the bores of Dutch matchlock harquebuses in 1580 were generally between .709" and .772" diameter. In 1599 the diameter of musket bores was established by a Regulation of the States General at .783", which used a ball of .73". At the same time the bore diameter of the carbine was established at .626" and its bullet at .58". Dutch muskets of this period were long and bulky and required a rest for aiming and firing. It was not until 1639 that the barrel length of matchlock muskets was established at 4'. Surviving examples of matchlock muskets of this period with 48" barrels are 59" to 63" overall.

Matchlock muskets remained in service in the Netherlands much longer than in most other European countries. A May 10, 1745, inventory of the arms in storage at the Delft Arsenal, the main Dutch repository, included 30,538 flintlock muskets with steel ramrods and bayonets and 4,316 matchlock muskets.

Wheel-lock arms were eliminated as Dutch regulation infantry arms in 1600, because they were too complicated and too expensive to manufacture. It is not known whether their use was also eliminated by the Dutch commercial trading companies who operated in the colonies.

British archival records indicate that Britain intermittently purchased military arms from Holland from before 1600 until the end of the 18th century. Some of the arms purchased in the early 18th century were sent to the British North American colonies. In 1754 North Carolina Royal Governor Arthur Dobbs requested arms from the Crown for arming a regiment to be raised for the assistance of Virginia against French and Indian attacks. On July 1 the British Board of Ordnance approved a warrant to send 3,000 Dutch muskets with bayonets and wood ramrods to the colony. An additional 500 Dutch muskets were shipped to Georgia in 1756. Also in 1754, another 1,000 Dutch muskets, along with 1,000 Long Land Pattern muskets, were authorized for issue to 2,000 recruits of the Fiftieth and Fifty-first regiments, which had been raised in North America. It is known that at least 4,500 Dutch muskets, probably those

purchased by Great Britain in 1741, were sent to North America during the Seven Years' War.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR PERIOD

080.3

Evidence exists that Dutch military stores were shipped to aid the Americans during the Revolutionary War, but it is not known whether the cargoes shipped from Dutch ports included Dutch-made muskets or Liège-made muskets that had been shipped to Holland for reshipment across the Atlantic.

A British informant in Rotterdam reported to England that six Dutch ships, laden with powder (and possibly arms) for the Americans, sailed from Rotterdam between January 1 and May 1, 1776, bound for Saint Eustatius. Also, the British ambassador at The Hague reported that 85,000 pounds of powder had been shipped from Amsterdam to France, destined for the Americans, at about the same time. At least one ship that sailed from Rotterdam landed its cargo in the United States. Besides other military stores, it carried 2,100 muskets. The known information regarding this ship is described in Appendix 5.

Modern French authorities on the subject disagree about whether or not Dutch arms were sent to the American revolutionaries. Louis de Lomenie states in his book, *Beaumarchais*, that the French purchased 60,000 muskets in Holland for shipment to the United States. However, K. de Hartogh states in *Les Fusils de Beaumarchais* that no muskets were purchased in Holland during the American Revolution.

Although there is disagreement among arms authorities as to whether Dutch arms were imported for the use of American revolutionaries, there is no disagreement that Dutch arms were used in the war by one or the other of the opponents. This opinion is supported by a January 1797 inventory of small arms in various U.S. repositories that identified 525 Dutch muskets in storage at the Schuylkill Arsenal near Philadelphia among the arms remaining from the Revolutionary War.

Dutch arms in American public and private collections, which carry makers' identifications, primarily come from either Amsterdam or Maastricht. Private arms manufacture flourished in Amsterdam long before the establishment of the first "municipal" manufactory in 1672. This manufactory produced muskets for the defense of the city. Its name was changed several times before its sale in the 1730s to a man named van Soligen. Thereafter, it made arms for the Dutch East India Company under contract.

In 1759 a second public arms manufactory, the private property of the Stadhouder, William V, was established in Amsterdam. The Culemborg Manufactory¹ was under the direction of Jean Dusseau from 1759 until his death in 1777. It was directed by A. J. van Schenk from 1777 to 1798. In addition to this public manufactory there were a number of private gunmakers in Amsterdam.

¹ This manufactory's name was also spelled "Kulenburg" and "Kulenburg."

A great deal of conflicting information has been obtained from various authoritative European sources regarding Dutch and German states' military muskets of the 18th century. Much archival information has been irretrievably lost as a result of the two world wars. In recent years some European arms students have developed a growing interest in their national regulation shoulder arms of the pre-napoleonic period, and this interest should result in better definition of the regulation models in their various states.

Dutch shoulder arms in American collections reflect the wide diversity of muskets used in the Netherlands during the 18th century. These arms were not only procured by the Netherlands' army and navy from a variety of sources, but large numbers were also procured by cities for use by their civil guards and by the Dutch East and West India companies. Also, many Dutch army units continued to purchase muskets privately from various gunmakers until 1790, at least. This practice had been abolished in England and France fifty years earlier. To add to the confusion, large quantities of muskets were made by many different gunmakers in Holland for private sale to foreign governments. The configurations of these commercially exported muskets were quite diverse and may have been determined by their buyers.

For the purposes of an empirical study, known Dutch muskets in American collections were divided into four basic groups, or types, based on their general configuration. Within each of the groups, there is some variation among individual examples in furniture styles, lock features, barrel length, overall length, and caliber. These four groups, or types, are modern designations.

Examination of (Type I) muskets, early (Type II), and (Type IV) configurations revealed that they generally appeared to be pretty much as they were originally fabricated. However, most (Type II) and (Type III) muskets examined, and many of those reported, appeared to have undergone repairs or alterations. Whether these repairs were accomplished in Holland, or later in America, is unknown. Some (Type II) muskets, which do not have barrel bands, had been altered from (Type III) muskets, which are equipped with barrel bands. Conversely, (Type III) muskets are known that were originally equipped with barrel underlugs and whose forestocks show evidence of having had lateral pins.

Approximately two-thirds of the (Type IV) muskets examined were marked with their makers' names. Most of these makers did not begin making muskets until after the end of the American Revolution, and some worked as late as 1810. It is believed that many of the Dutch (Type IV) muskets in American collections were fabricated in the 1790s and that they were imported into North America in the 1799–1800 period. Although the (Type IV) musket falls outside this volume's scope, it is discussed here in order to provide a better understanding of the various configurations of Dutch military flintlock muskets. It should be added that no known examples of (Type IV) muskets are marked with "US" or other federal identification, which would be expected of muskets owned by the federal government at the turn of the 19th century.

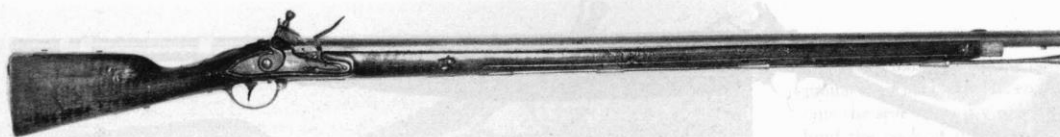


Plate 080.55-E The Dutch (Type IIB) musket is generally similar to the (Type IIA) but is somewhat shorter. (The George C. Neumann Collection, a gift of the Sun Company to Valley Forge National Historic Park, 1978.)

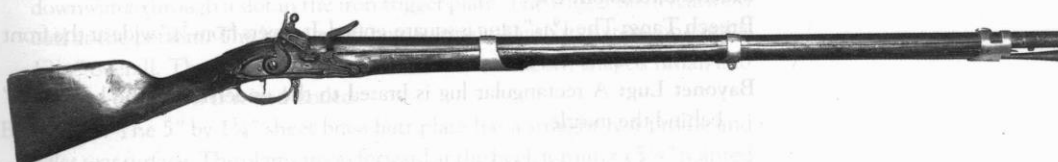


Plate 080.55-F The lockplate of this Dutch (Type IIB) musket is stamped with the mark of the Culemborg Manufactory and attributed to use during the 1777-1798 period, when the manufactory was under the directorship of A. J. van Schenk. This manufactory's marking die, used during the 1759-1777 period when Jean Dusseau was the director, included his initials. (The George C. Neumann Collection, a gift of the Sun Company to Valley Forge National Historic Park, 1978.)

Assembly Number: An assembly number in roman numeral style, but not a roman numeral, is usually cut or stamped into most metal components.
Other: The musket with the "Douglas"-marked barrel also had "19 GP" engraved in the wrist escutcheon and "N35" engraved into the lower thimble finial.

(TYPE III) MUSKET

080.58



The salient features of the Dutch (Type III) musket are: (1) the barrel is retained by three or four bands; (2) a lock with a flat, bevel-edged plate and cock; and (3) brass furniture.

(Type III) muskets are generally more uniform than (Type II) muskets. The barrels of most examined and reported examples are between 39" and 40 $\frac{5}{8}$ " long. There is also a greater uniformity in the locks and furniture of these muskets. The vast majority of the observed and reported muskets had the same trigger guards, butt plates, side plates, barrel bands, and most other features of the musket described next. There is evidence that those with variant features were restocked, possibly in North America.

Plate 080.58-A The salient identifying features of Dutch (Type III) muskets are a flat, bevel-edged lock and cock, brass furniture, and the barrel retained by three or four barrel bands. Most (Type III) muskets examined were altered from (Type II) by the addition of barrel bands subsequent to original manufacture. (Jay Forman Collection.)

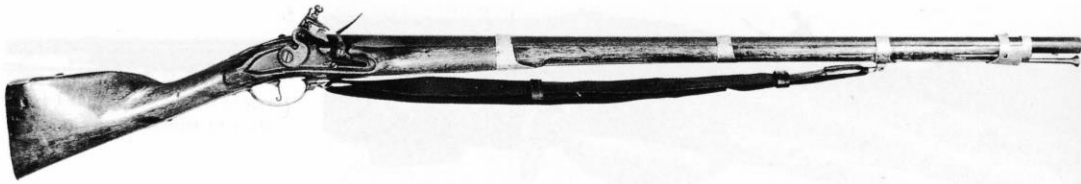


Plate 080.58-B This Dutch (Type III) musket is equipped with four barrel bands. The nose of its buttstock appears to have been lowered at some time subsequent to original manufacture.

(Type III) muskets have been observed that had been altered from the (Type II) configuration. Several of these have been disassembled. The four underlugs had been ground down almost flush with the barrel's surface. The recesses for these lugs and ramrod thimbles, as well as the holes for the lateral pins and upper sling swivel screw, are still visible in the stock's barrel channel and forend but are often obscured by the barrel bands.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Caliber: .75.

Overall Length: 55 $\frac{5}{8}$ ".

Finish: Bright.

Brass Components: Butt plate, trigger guard, side plate, ramrod thimbles, barrel bands, and front sight.

BARREL

Length: 40".

Contour: Round, tapering in decreasing diameter to the flat-crowned muzzle.

There are baluster rings for $\frac{1}{16}$ " at the breech and a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " flat on the right side of the breech. Note: This barrel was originally equipped with underlugs for lateral retaining pins and upper sling swivel screw, but these have been removed.

Bore: .775" smooth.

Muzzle Extension: 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ".

Breech Tang: The $1\frac{9}{16}$ " tang is square-ended. It tapers from $\frac{5}{8}$ " wide at the front to $\frac{13}{16}$ " wide at the rear.

Bayonet Lug: A rectangular lug is brazed to the underside of the barrel $1\frac{1}{4}$ " behind the muzzle.

LOCK

Lockplate: The $6\frac{9}{16}$ " by $1\frac{7}{32}$ " lockplate has a flat surface with beveled edges.

The rear profile is inclined downwards slightly and arcs to a point at the rear.

Cock: The $3\frac{1}{4}$ " goose-neck cock has a flat-surfaced body with beveled edges.

The tang has a decorative curl at the top with a notch at the front. A vertical mortise in the rear of the top jaw encloses the front and sides of the tang.

The jaw screw's head is slotted only.

Pan: The horizontal, faceted pan is not integral with the lockplate. It has a fence but no external bridle to the frizzen screw's head. (Some examples have external bridles.)



Plate 080.58-C Locks of Dutch (Type III) muskets are generally similar to earlier types. The end of only the sear screw is visible behind the cock of this example. (Jay Forman Collection.)

Frizzen: The $1\frac{5}{8}$ " by $1\frac{1}{8}$ " frizzen usually has a straight-edged top. The front face is faceted. The upper profile of the pan cover section is flat, and the tail is curled upwards.

Frizzen Spring: The straight leaves' inner corners of the outer edges are beveled. The curve at the front is over the front sidescrew. The lower leaf ends in a crude teardrop-shaped finial.

FURNITURE

Note: The trigger guard, butt plate, and side plate are generally similar to the Dutch (Type II) musket previously described.

Trigger and Guard Assembly: The trigger is suspended from a lateral pin, downwards through a slot in the iron trigger plate. The trigger has a rearward curl at the bottom. The brass guard bow is integral with its extensions and is $12\frac{1}{4}$ " overall. The front extension ends in a crude acorn-shaped finial, and the rear extension is round-ended.

Butt Plate: The 5" by $1\frac{3}{4}$ " sheet brass butt plate has a straight rear profile and a flat rear surface. The plate curves forward at the heel, forming a $5\frac{7}{8}$ " pointed tang.

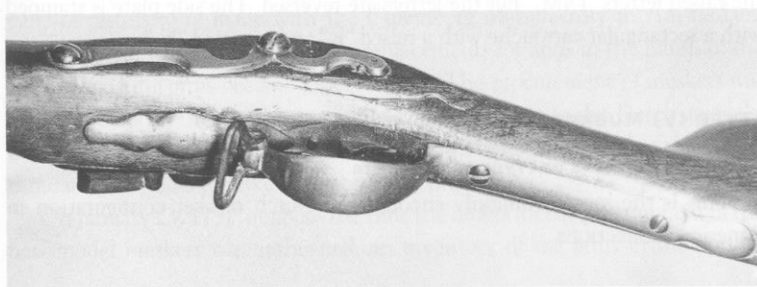


Plate 080.58-C The brass side plates and trigger guards of Dutch (Type III) are similar to those on the earlier (Type II) muskets. (Jay Forman Collection.)

Side Plate: The 7" side plate is flat with beveled edges. Its profile is similar to the British land pattern musket, having a rearward extension, but it is more sculpted between the sidescrews.

Barrel Bands: The four bands are flat-surfaced.

Upper: The open space between the two $\frac{1}{2}$ " rings is rectangular. The band is $1\frac{1}{16}$ " long at the top and extends rearwards at the bottom to $2\frac{5}{16}$ ".

Upper Middle: This band is $\frac{11}{16}$ " wide at the top and extends forward at the bottom to $1\frac{1}{4}$ ". The upper sling swivel stud is beneath.

Lower Middle: This band is $\frac{11}{16}$ " wide at the top and extends forward at the bottom to $1\frac{1}{8}$ ".

Lower: This band is $\frac{11}{16}$ " wide at the top and extends forward at the bottom to $2\frac{1}{8}$ ".

Barrel Band Spacing: (Note that only the upper band has a retainer. The locations of the three lower bands may vary.)

Breech to Lower: $9\frac{1}{4}$ ".

Lower to Lower Middle: $11\frac{5}{16}$ ".

Lower Middle to Upper Middle: $8\frac{1}{4}$ ".

Upper Middle to Upper: $7\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Barrel Band Retainers: The upper band has a spring-type retainer extending $2\frac{5}{16}$ " rearwards. This spring's stud engages a square hole in the right side of the band.

Sling Swivels: The bell-shaped swivels are suspended from the front branch of the trigger guard bow and from a lug beneath the upper-middle band.

Ramrod: The $40\frac{3}{4}$ " steel ramrod has a button head.

STOCK

Wood: Varnished European walnut.

Length: $52\frac{13}{16}$ ".

Comb: The nose of the $6\frac{1}{2}$ " comb is 1" high. It appears to have been shortened subsequent to original manufacture.

Other: The stock originally had provision for thimbles, a British-type upper sling swivel, and the barrel retaining underlugs and pins. There are raised plateaus on both sides of the breech and breech tang.

MARKINGS

Both the barrel and interior of the lock are stamped with sunken rectangular cartouches, which are largely illegible. The lock's cartouche appears to contain the raised letters "DIM," but the letters are reversed. The side plate is stamped with a rectangular cartouche with a raised "R" and reversed "N."

(TYPE IV) MUSKET

080.59

CONFIGURATIONS OF (TYPE IV) MUSKETS

This is the most commonly encountered Dutch musket configuration in American collections.

Below, excerpted from:

<https://www.collegehillarsenal.com/shop/product.php?productid=1106>



“Dutch arms had a strong presence in America from the early 1600’s onward, with some of the first Dutch made arms arriving with explorer Henry Hudson in 1609. With the growth of the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam (later New York) and the expansion of Dutch trade in the New World, Dutch firearms became a staple to the settlers in the Hudson River Valley, and their design became a strong influence upon the gun makers who would produce the “Hudson Valley Fowlers” of the pre-Revolutionary era. Early 18th century Dutch pattern military muskets are known with “So Carolina” markings, and these guns were shipped to the colony by England between 1711 and 1755. England also shipped Dutch muskets to New York during the same period, but to date none are known with any type of New York marking. The British purchased another 4,500 Dutch muskets in 1741 and shipped these guns to the colonies for use by local militia units during The Seven Years War (French & Indian War).”

Excerpted from: <https://www.collegehillarsenal.com/shop/product.php?productid=517>

“The British also turned to Dutch makers during the early to mid-1700’s, as well as The Seven Years War (French & Indian War), to help arm the fledgling American colonies. Dutch muskets with both South Carolina (as well as later US) surcharges are known. Thousands of Dutch muskets were imported for use by the American forces during the war, and they saw service with both state volunteer regiments and with the Continental Army. The Colony of Massachusetts directly purchased several thousand Dutch muskets during the revolution, with the help of Benjamin Franklin.”

The musket, as in the picture on the next page, has an article from the Kansas City Star affixed to its stock, recounting its ownership at the time by a descendant of Simpson and resident of that city. See that article in Appendix C.

Appendix C

Descent of the Musket from John Simpson to the Current Owner

Major John Simpson (Simpson had six children. A daughter married a man with the surname "Grant". Their son was General Ulysses Simpson Grant. Major John Simpson was thus U. S. Grant's grandfather. He was also the great grandfather of Meriwether Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.)

| (Son)
Samuel Simpson, Sr. (1792)
| (Son)
Samuel N Simpson, Jr. (1826)
| (Son)
Charles Lyon Simpson (maternal great-grandfather) (1865)
Grandmother
Mother
Current owner.

The Simpson Family in America

A history of the Simpson family in America was included in a 1916 book:

White, Emma Siggins, and Maltby, Martha Humphreys, *The Kinnears and Their Kin: A Memorial Volume of History, Biography, and Genealogy, with Revolutionary and Civil War and Spanish War Records; Including Manuscript of Rev. David Kennear (1840)*. Kansas City, MO, Tiernan-Dart Printing Co., 1916.

A printed copy of the appropriate portion can be provided. It is also available as a modern reprint, as below, and in a number of similar places:

http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-kinnears-and-their-kin-a-memorial-volume-of-history-biography-and-genealogy-with-revolutionary-and-civil-and-spanish-war-records-including-manuscript-of-rev-david-kinnear-emma-siggins-white/1121541546?ean=9781295996346&st=PLA&sid=BNB_DRS_Core+Shopping+Books_00000000&2sid=Google_&sourceId=PLGoP62465

And it is online here:

https://archive.org/stream/kinnearsandthei00maltgoog/kinnearsandthei00maltgoog_djvu.txt

And here:

[https://books.google.com/books?id=oyFWAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA290&lpg=PA290&dq=The+Kinnears+and+Their+Kin:+A+Memorial+Volume+of+History,+Biography,+and+Genealogy,+with+Revolutionary+and+Civil+War+and+Spanish+War+Records,+Including+Manuscript+of+Rev.+David+Kinnear+\(1840\).&source=bl&ots=S8S9loWGys&sig=iQ2fuCYr-PSMrTYXoFkUpS7_uF8&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiFnCL-nanQA hXF2yYKHatBBnAQ6AEISTAC#v=onepage&q=The%20Kinnears%20and%20Their%20Kin%3A%20A%20Memorial%20Volume%20of%20History%2C%20Biography%2C%20and%20Genealogy%2C%20with%20Revolutionary%20and%20Civil%20War%20and%20Spanish%20War%20Records%3B%20Including%20Manuscript%20of%20Rev.%20David%20Kinnear%20\(1840\).&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=oyFWAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA290&lpg=PA290&dq=The+Kinnears+and+Their+Kin:+A+Memorial+Volume+of+History,+Biography,+and+Genealogy,+with+Revolutionary+and+Civil+War+and+Spanish+War+Records,+Including+Manuscript+of+Rev.+David+Kinnear+(1840).&source=bl&ots=S8S9loWGys&sig=iQ2fuCYr-PSMrTYXoFkUpS7_uF8&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiFnCL-nanQA hXF2yYKHatBBnAQ6AEISTAC#v=onepage&q=The%20Kinnears%20and%20Their%20Kin%3A%20A%20Memorial%20Volume%20of%20History%2C%20Biography%2C%20and%20Genealogy%2C%20with%20Revolutionary%20and%20Civil%20War%20and%20Spanish%20War%20Records%3B%20Including%20Manuscript%20of%20Rev.%20David%20Kinnear%20(1840).&f=false)



The musket in its current state with an article from the Kansas City Star affixed to its stock. The musket descended to Simpson's great grandson S. N. Simpson of Kansas City. The article gives an account of his ownership and that first shot. (S.N. Simpson is mistakenly called "B" N. Simpson in the article. And John Simpson was actually a private and not, as the article states, a sergeant at the time of the incident.)

MUSKET USED IN REVOLUTION

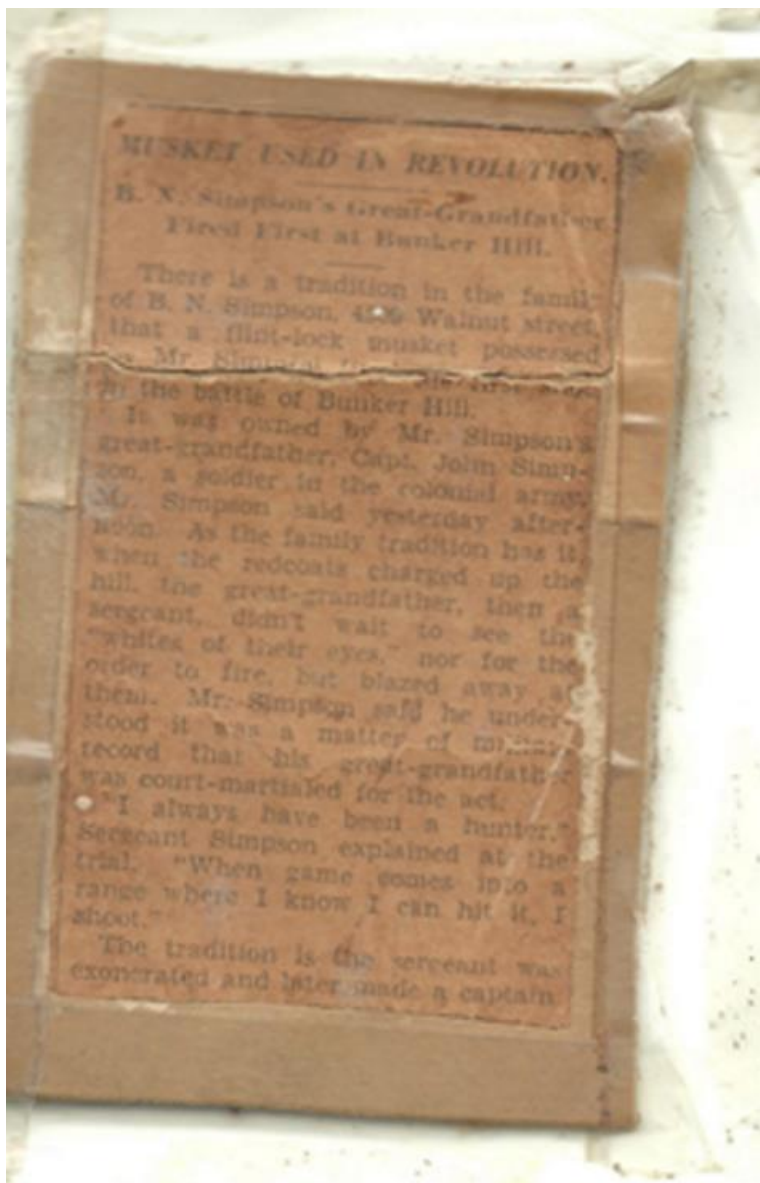
B.N. Simpson's Great-Grandfather Fired First at Bunker Hill.

There is a tradition in the family of B.N. Simpson, 4509 Walnut street, that a flint-lock musket possessed by Mr. Simpson fired the first shot in the battle of Bunker Hill.

It was owned by Mr. Simpson's great-grandfather, Capt. John Simpson, a soldier in the colonial army, Mr. Simpson said yesterday afternoon. As the family tradition has it, when the redcoats charged up the hill, the great-grandfather, then a sergeant, didn't wait to see the "whites of their eyes", nor for the order to fire, but blazed away at them. Mr. Simpson said he understood it was a matter of military record that his great-grandfather was court-martialed for the act.

"I have always been a hunter," Sergeant Simpson explained at the trial. "When game comes into a range where I know I can hit it, I shoot."

The tradition is the sergeant was exonerated and later made a captain.



Further information on S.N. Simpson is to be found in the article below.

William G. Cutler's *History of the State of Kansas*

WYANDOTTE COUNTY, Part 11

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES (PLATT - ZEITZ).

"SAMUEL NEWELL SIMPSON. The subject of this sketch was born in Deerfield, N. H., October 3, 1826. He has two brothers, Henry M. and William A., who have been intimately associated with him, both in business and in his pioneer work in Kansas. The Simpson family is a distinguished one in American history. John Simpson, the great-grandfather of Samuel N. Simpson, fired the first gun on the American side at the battle of Bunker Hill. A son of this John Simpson, whose name was also John, was a gallant soldier during the entire Revolutionary war. John Simpson, Jr., was the father of four sons and two daughters. Samuel Simpson, one of these four sons, was born in Deerfield, N. H., January 29, 1792, and died at Lawrence Kan., January 12, 1872. He was one of the truest and firmest friends of the Free-State cause. He was married in Deerfield N. H., to Miss Hannah Pearson, daughter of Timothy M. and Deborah Pearson. Samuel and Hannah (Pearson) Simpson were the father and mother of the subject of this sketch. Samuel N. Simpson was well instructed in his New England home, in the day school, the Sunday school and the church. He remained at home with his parents until the attainment of his majority when he made a contract with the Manchester & Lawrence Railroad Company to furnish lumber to fence twenty-six miles of their road. When twenty-two years of age, in company with his brother, Henry M., who was two year younger than himself, he engaged in retail and wholesale trade. The two brothers soon extended their business so as to embrace extensive real estate and lumber trade, in which they failed, \$6,000 in debt. This was about 1849. In 1857, Mr. Simpson sent \$11,000 in gold from Kansas to liquidate the indebtedness, and interest. He had moved to Kansas in 1854, during the discussion of the Kansas-Nebraska bill in Congress, not at all depressed by his misfortunes in the East. From St. Louis, Mo., to Lawrence, Kan., he made his way on foot, too independent to ask assistance or let his circumstances be known. He reached Lawrence September 29, 1854, bare-footed, carrying his boots upon his a shoulder, weary and foot-sore from his tramp. On the next day, he surveyed a claim, with the hope of making it the foundation of a fortune. From this time forward, he was actively engaged in promoting his own interests and those of his fellow-men. On the 1st of October, 1854, he organized a Bible class, and was

elected its teacher. On the 7th of January, 1855, he opened a Sunday school, which in time became the Plymouth Congregational Sunday school. He also organized Sunday schools at Franklin and at other places, and it was while he was engaged in his capacity of Sunday school teacher that he discovered the Franklin plots to destroy Lawrence. In the fall of 1851, he assisted in forming the Plymouth Congregational Church at Lawrence. At a meeting held in October of this year, to name the new town, Mr. Simpson moved that it be called Lawrence, which motion was seconded by Dr. Robinson, and thus the city was named after Amos A. Lawrence, of Massachusetts, one of the staunchest friends of early Kansas. Mr. Simpson was active in securing arms and ammunition from the East to aid in the defense of the Free-State cause against the border ruffians of those days, as well as to provide provisions for the Free-State men while they were engaged in the defense of their homes. As a result of arrangements made by him with New York capitalists, the Simpson Bank was started, of which he and his two brothers were the proprietors for several years. For eighteen months of John Brown's career in Kansas, Mr. Simpson had charge of his guns and ammunition, and after the Quantrill massacre he had charge of the interment of the bodies of the hapless victims, which work occupied two days and two nights. Mr. Simpson was married, January 1, 1864, at Columbus, Ohio, to Miss Kate L. Burnett, daughter of Judge Calvin Burnett, of Morrisville, Vt. Mrs. Kate L. Simpson was born in 1833. She is a woman of superior mental endowments and culture, and a successful teacher. The oldest son of this couple, Charles Lyon Simpson, was born November 23, 1866; Theodore was born February 10, 1866, and died in infancy; and Newell was born July 13, 1869. Recently, Mr. Simpson has been actively engaged in business pursuits, principally in the sale of real estate. Some few years since, he laid off a town adjacent to the east line of Kansas, on the banks of the Kansas River, adjoining Kansas City, Mo., calling his town River View. At this new town he lives, in a home well supplied, and surrounded with all that tends to render life enjoyable and dignified, and in the confident hope of a happier life beyond."

Appendix D

Major John Simpson: Granite State Magazine, Vol. II, July to December 1906*

*Smith, Chellis Vielle, *Major John Smith: The Man Who Fired the First Shot at Bunker Hill*. Manchester, NH, Granite State Publishing Co., Vol. II, July to December 1906, pp. 14-19



MAJOR SIMPSON HOUSE, DEERFIELD

Major John Simpson

The Man Who Fired the First Shot at Bunker Hill

By CHELLIS VIELLE SMITH



COMMANDING a wide view of typical New Hampshire scenery stands to-day, in a good state of preservation, at the "Old Center" in Deerfield, a farmhouse which claims the unique distinction of having been the home of the man who fired the first shot at the Battle of Bunker Hill. It is a plain, unpretentious building typifying in a marked degree the character of its builder. Its unpainted walls show the imprints of the heavy hand Time has placed upon it, but it is still comfortable and is owned and occupied by Mr. William H. H. Lang and family, himself a veteran of the Civil War. The scene around it has changed even more than the old house, for where once broad stretches of wilderness reached over the hills and lapped the valleys, the ax-marks of the lumberman is seen, and the farmer now cultivates many acres where in the days of its infancy a primeval forest covered the earth.

The name of this patriot was John Simpson, who came of good old Scottish ancestry, his grandfather having been Andrew Simpson, born in Scotland in 1697, and who married Elizabeth Patten in 1725. This couple came to Boston a few years after their marriage, and he became a linen draper there. Later they removed to Nottingham, N. H., settling upon a farm a little south of the General Cilley homestead, and lately owned by a descendant, John Simpson. They had four sons, three of whom were born in Scotland and one, Andrew, was born in Nottingham.

The family had come to its new home at a time when Indian depredations were carrying terror to the hearts of

the colonists, and in September, 1742, the alarm became so prevalent that the women and children in that vicinity sought protection in the garrison or block-house which had been erected near the site of the late Hon. James Butler's residence. Mrs. Simpson, in the midst of the period of anxious waiting, felt obliged to return to her home, a short distance away, and while going thither was killed by a couple of Indians lying in ambush for unwary victims. It is said this deed was performed by two Indians quite noted at that time, and who at intervals professed peaceful intentions toward the whites. Their names were Sebatis and Plausawa, corruptions of the French names Peter and Pierre. They were afterwards shot by a man named Bowen living in Canterbury.

The oldest of the sons of Andrew and Elizabeth Simpson, Thomas, came to this country with his parents, and was educated in the schools of Boston. He was the father of the subject of this sketch, and after remaining a few years in Boston he settled in that part of Nottingham since known as Deerfield Old Center, upon the farm now owned by Mr. John W. Silver. He was a land surveyor, and was selected, in association with his brother Andrew, living at the Square, to establish the line between the towns when the separation was made in 1766. He was chosen as the first parish clerk of Deerfield, which office he held until 1773.

Andrew Simpson married Sarah Morrison February 4, 1747, and among their children was John, who was born December 1, 1748, and who lived at home until the breaking out of the Revolution. When the news of the fight at Concord and Lexington reached in a remarkably short time this remote place, John Simpson, as many another patriot did, shouldered his gun and started to join others in the defense of his country. Going to Deerfield Parade, he joined Capt. Daniel Moore's company of volunteers, raised mostly in Nottingham, with Major Andrew McClary of Epsom in command. About eighty of these brave

young men met on Nottingham Square and, unanimously choosing Dr. Henry Dearborn as their leader, lost no time in starting upon their memorable march to Boston, marching sixty miles in sixteen hours, and reaching a position a little removed from Boston at eight o'clock the following morning, they having started at four in the afternoon.*

CAPTAIN DEARBORN'S COMPANY

Henry Dearborn, Nottingham, captain; Amos Morrill, Epsom, first lieutenant, Michael McClary, Epsom, second lieutenant.

The men from Nottingham were Nathaniel Batchelder, James Beverly, Andrew Bickford, Nicholas Brown, Simeon Dearborn, John P. Hilton, Joseph Jackson, Zebulon Marsh, William McCrillis, Jacob Morrill, Robert Morrison, John Nealley, Andrew Nealley, David Page, Joseph Place, Enoch Page, James Randall, William Rowell, Peter Severance, Samuel Sias, Mark Whitten, Charles Whitchee, Matthias Welch, Benjamin Welch.

The men from Deerfield were John Runnels, John Simpson, Joseph Thomas, Joshua Wills, Israel Clifford, Jonathan Cram, Benjamin Judkins, Josiah Moody, Clement Moody.

The men from Northwood were Jonathan Clark, Jeremiah Dow, Jonathan Dow, John Harvey.

The men from Epsom were Bennett Lebbee, Francis Locke, Moses Locke, Benjamin Berry, Theophilus Cass, John Casey, Andrew McGaffey, Neal McGaffey, Amos Morrill, Abraham Pettingill, John Wallace, John Wa'lace, Jr., Weymouth Wallace, Andrew Field, Simon Sanborn.

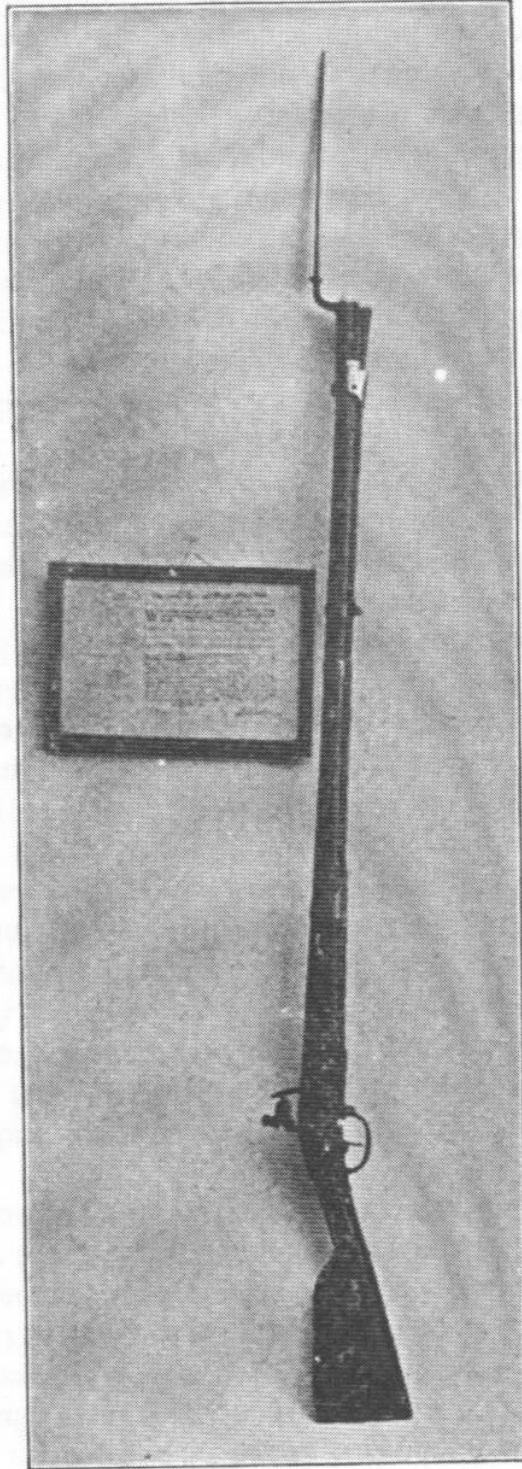
The men from Gilmanton were Jeremiah Connor, Jonathan Gilman, Elisha Hutchinson, Dudley Hutchinson, David Mudgett.

The men from Chichester were John Bickford, James Garland, Josiah Lebbee.

In addition to the above were Gideon Glidden of Lee, Noah Dolloff of Brentwood, David Page, Jr., of South Hampton and Noah Sinclair of Loudon, Matthias French of Stratham:

Nottingham of all places in New England ought to forever observe the anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, and on that day listen to the roll-call of the Nottingham company that participated in that historic conflict.

* In this connection it seems very appropriate to include a list of the men who went to Cambridge upon the morning of April 30, 1775, as it has been prepared by John Scales of Dover, and was published in the *Manchester Union*, July 14, 1902.—*Editor*.



THE GUN THAT FIRED THE FIRST SHOT AT BUNKER HILL

Some of the men, who had duties to perform at home demanding their attention, returned, but John Simpson was among those who remained. He was mustered into service and his company occupied a position close to that of the regiment down by the rail fence under command of General Stark. They were thus near to the redoubt where Colonel Prescott and his men received the first attack and were driven back.

The Americans were short of ammunition, and thus their leaders, Prescott, Stark and Putnam, gave their famous order to their men that they hold their fire until they could see the whites of their enemies' eyes. "Aim at their waistbands—at their handsome coats!" commanded Colonel Prescott, as the British in their bright uniforms appeared, making tempting targets for the patriots lying behind their poor defense.

"Don't fire yet—till the word is given!" was passed along the line as the men grew impatient. In the midst of this suppressed excitement, one of the soldiers under Captain Dearborn suddenly leveled his musket at a British officer and fired. The man was seen to reel and tumble from his seat, but before the incident could be discussed by the men behind the ramparts the battle was on. Colonel Prescott was routed, but Stark with his New Hampshire men retreated only when the last grain of powder was gone, and then in perfect order.

An inquiry was made the next day to ascertain who fired the shot against orders, and John Simpson was placed under arrest and he suffered a court martial, but his punishment was light, for none of his superiors felt like censuring an act that they knew was simply the outbreaking of devotion to country. So the man who fired the first shot at Bunker Hill was allowed his freedom, with a larger meed of honor than any of them dreamed.

In the summer of 1778 John Simpson was made a lieutenant in Simeon Marston's company of Colonel Peabody's regiment which belonged to the battalion of troops

raised for the defense of New England and New York. The original commission making John Simpson a lieutenant is now in the possession of Samuel N. Simpson of Kansas City, Mo. It bears the seal of the state of New Hampshire, and is signed by the president and secretary of the council. He was afterwards promoted to major.

When the Revolutionary War had ended Major Simpson returned to Deerfield and resumed farm life, which he followed to his death. He never applied for a pension, and never received any pay for the part he acted during the war for independence. He used to say "My country is too poor to pay pensions."

He was married to Mary Whidden of Brentwood, N. H., in the year 1785. Mrs. Simpson's mother was a cousin of John Langdon, and she received from her parents as a wedding present two colored people, John Robinson and wife. This couple were not considered slaves by Major Simpson, but were treated by him as members of his family.

The children of Major John Simpson and his wife were:

1. Joseph Langdon, born February 8, 1787, and died February 28, 1808, while on his way home from school.
2. Thomas, born August 2, 1788, studied for the ministry. He was ordained to preach in the Congregational church, and settled in the West. He married Elizabeth Lamprey in November, 1809, and died December 1, 1872.
3. John, Jr., born March 2, 1790, lived on the home place. He died February 8, 1868.
4. Samuel, born January 29, 1792, died January 13, 1872.
5. Mary, born June 5, 1794, died November 11, 1832.
6. Hannah W., born April 29, 1797, lived on the home place with her brother John, where she died July 18, 1872.

Major Simpson died October 28, 1825, and was buried in the family lot. For many years the grave of this Revolutionary soldier was uncared for, but a few years since his

granddaughter, Jerusha W. G. Chalmers, had his remains moved to the Old Center cemetery, where a fine granite monument, made from Deerfield granite, marks the grave of this patriot.

He bequeathed his farm to his son John and daughter Hannah. The old gun, with its memories, was also given into their keeping, and before they died they gave it to a nephew, Dr. Timothy G. Simpson, of West Fairlee, Vt. Losing his son and only child, he has given the precious heirloom into the hands of his brother, Samuel, whose sons Charles and Burnett will receive it at his decease, if they outlive him.

Appendix E

Lieutenant James Dana At the Battle of Bunker Hill

(An Excerpt from a Paper Delivered at the 18th Meeting of the Cambridge Historical Society, Cambridge, Massachusetts, November 9th, 2012)

The first part of the paper describes the opening episodes of the Revolution, and gives some of Dana's background. The quoted narrator is Lieutenant-Colonel Storr, commander of the Third Connecticut, in which Dana was a Lieutenant. His account of the engagement at Bunker Hill (really Breed's Hill) begins on page 26 and continues on page 27:

"Expecting an engagement soon, P.M. Orders came for drafting 31 men from my company, and the same from all companies belonging to Connecticut. Sent off Lieut. Dana,⁶ Sergt. Fuller, Corporal Webb and 28 privates. Who at 8 o'clock went down to Bunker's Hill together, with a large detachment of the troops of this province, where they flung up an entrenchment.' A stone tablet at the side of the Harvard Gymnasium marks the place where they assembled, for prayers by President Langdon of Harvard, before starting. These one hundred and twenty men from Israel Putnam's regiment, under the command of Captain Knowlton, with thirty-one other Connecticut men quartered in Christ Church, which had then been erected about fourteen years, were the first to strike the spade into the ground for the redoubt. After toiling unceasingly all night, Captain Knowlton and his men, at nine in the morning, exhausted from hunger, fatigue, and want of sleep, were ordered to take possession of the unguarded pass, where a low stone wall and the famous post-and-rail fence already stood. It is discouraging and yet interesting to see how the accounts of the battle vary and how little one can trust to tradition. In the case of Lieutenant Dana, it is the aim of this paper not to state anything as a fact that is not pretty well proved. The "History of Windham County" gives several anecdotes of the men from there, among them, of course, the familiar one of its hero, General Putnam, calling out as he rode past, 'Boys, do you remember my orders at Ticonderoga? 'You told us not to fire

until we could see the whites of the enemy's eyes.' 'Well, I give the same order now.' And it adds, as does another local history, that Dana, who was second in command of the detachment, was posted in the centre of the rail fence and that an order was given 'death to any man who fired before Capt. [Lieut.?] Dana.' 'Tough old 'Bijah Fuller, Dana's orderly sergeant,' is said to have helped Gridley draw the lines of the fortification. His captain, Knowlton, with coat off, walked to and fro before the unique breast-work, cheering his men and discharging his own faithful musket till it was bent double by a cannon ball. Dana was the first to detect and give notice of the enemy's flank movement and is said to have been the first to fire. Of this, Captain John Chester, in command of the Wethersfield Company quartered in Christ Church, writes, June 22: 'The men that went to intrenching over night were in the warmest of the battle and by all accounts they fought most manfully. They got hardened to the noise of the cannon . . . they tarried and fought till the retreat. **Lieut. Dana tells me he was the first man that fired** (Emphasis mine. JH) and that he did it singly and with a view to draw the enemy's fire and he obtained his end fully, without any danger to our party.'

One statement made is that on **Lieutenants Dana and Grosvenor and Sergeant Fuller firing at a given signal**, (Emphasis mine. JH) the head of the advancing British column, supposed to be Major Pitcairn, fell. I believe it has been proved that he was killed by a negro soldier, Peter Salem, but Hudson's article in defence of Pitcairn says that he was wounded twice, the first time at the head of his column. Both accounts therefore may be true. During the battle, a cannon shot struck the fence and forced a rail against Dana's breast, but he regained his feet and kept his ground until the line was ordered off, when he drew off his men and aided in covering the retreat, but on arriving at his quarters, he was confined to his room and unable to dress or undress himself for several days. Knowlton's men had double the number of cartridges of the other troops, having brought them from Connecticut. They were the last to leave the conflict and, retiring slowly, formed the rear-guard of the Americans in the retreat, during which a bullet lodged in Dana's canteen."

6. In an account of the battle given in Heath's Memoirs and elsewhere, the four officers under Knowlton are stated to have been John Keyes, Thomas Grosvenor, Esquire Hills, and, perhaps, Huntington. It is now established beyond a doubt that the fourth Was James Dana. Hill's first name should be Squier.

From: <http://founders.archives.gov/documents/Washington/03-09-02-0173>, a letter to George Washington from Brigadier General Alexander McDougall, Footnote 4:

Footnote 4. “James Dana (1735–1817), who claimed to have fired the first shot at the Battle of Bunker Hill in April 1775, was a first lieutenant in the 3d Connecticut Regiment from May to December 1775 and a captain in Col. Andrew Ward’s Connecticut state regiment from May 1776 to May 1777.”

Appendix F

Joseph Spalding

Below is an excerpt from an online article about Chelmsford, MA men who fought in the Revolution:

“Another of the scores of Chelmsford residents who fought at Bunker Hill was Joseph Spaulding. (sic) Indeed, Spaulding (sic) is credited with having fired the first shot of the battle, though much to the chagrin of Gen. Israel Putnam, who whacked him on the head for putting his musket into action too soon. Spaulding also told people he killed British Major John Pitcairn during the battle’s climax inside the redoubt, though the claim remains somewhat dubious (Levin 2013).”

(JH Note: “Spaulding” should be “Spalding; a Joseph Spaulding was a militiaman killed at the Battle, while the Joseph Spalding referred to above was not.)

The note below, from writer J.L. Bell, a Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society and member of the American Antiquarian Society in 2011 concerns Spalding’s claim that he had shot Major Pitcairn (Bell 2009).

Boston 1775

History, analysis, and unabashed gossip about the start of the American Revolution in Massachusetts.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2009

“Supposed to be the man who killed Maj. Pitcairn”?

A couple of days ago I noted a [series of early reports](#) that the American soldier who killed Maj. [John Pitcairn](#) at the Battle of [Bunker Hill](#) was a black man named Salem. Was that man [Peter Salem](#) or [Salem Poor](#)? Or should we be looking at other men entirely?

Here’s the account recorded by Charles William Janson in *The Stranger in America*, published in 1807, as he described touring the site of the battle in [Charlestown](#) a couple of years before:

By a man whom we met on the road, we were informed, that when the British forces rallied, and again ascended the hill, led on by Major Pitcairn, they had advanced near to the redoubt, when the major called to his soldiers to hasten their speed, as the enemy had abandoned the fort. A boy, who, he observed, was then [i.e., in 1807?] a shoemaker in Boston, replied from behind a trench: “We are not all gone,” and instantly fired his musket, which proved the death of Major Pitcairn.

Richard Ketchum picked up the cry of “We are not all gone!” in his 1962 history of the battle, *Decisive Day*. However, he implies that boy wasn’t the shooter.

Next, here's an obituary from the *Boston Gazette* on 3 Aug 1820:

At Chelmsford, Mr. Joseph Spalding, aged 64.—He was one of the heroes of Bunker Hill;—he fired the first gun, and was supposed to be the man who killed Maj. Pitcairn, having frequently declared he took deliberate aim at him.

Spalding would have been nineteen years old in 1775, the right age for military service. As for firing the first gun *and* shooting Pitcairn, that seems like a big claim. In fact, most of the time Spalding didn't talk about shooting the major. His local epitaph said:

He was among the brave asserters & defenders of the liberties of his country at Bunker Hill, where he opened the battle by firing upon the enemy before orders were given...

Hang on—at that battle the American officers supposedly said, “Don't fire till you see the whites of their eyes!” And here Spalding boasted about firing *early*. Apparently, some people asked him about that discrepancy. According to Abram E. Brown's *Beside Old Hearth-stones* (1897), Spalding told his grandson:

I fired ahead of time, and [Gen. Israel] Putnam rushed up and struck at me for violating orders. I suppose I deserved it, but I was anxious to get another good shot at [Gen. Thomas] Gage's men ever since our affair at Concord. The blow from “Old Put” hit me on the head, made a hole in my hat, and left this scar.

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