

NO. XII.

THE following Tables contain the names of those who belonged to Chelmsford, and took an active part in the service of their country, during the American Revolution.

TABLE I.

Capt. John Ford's Company of the 27 Regiment of foot in the Continental army, stationed at Cambridge, and engaged in the memorable battle at Breed's, commonly called Bunker's hill, 1775.

Ebenezer Bridge, Col.	Joseph Fox, Adjutant
Moses Parker, Lt. Col.	John Bridge, Qr. Master.
John Brooks, Maj.	Walter Hastings, Surgeon
	John Sprague, Surg. Mate.

Of the 27th Regiment.

John Ford, Capt. engaged in the service Apr. 19, 1775.

Isaac Parker, Lieut.	Do.	Do.
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Jonas Parker, Ensign.	Do.	Do.
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Sergents.

Moses Barker
Parker Emerson
Daniel Keyest
Jonas Pierce
Wm. Ranstead, *Drummer*—Barzilla Lew, *Fifer*.

Corporals.

John Bates
Wm. Chambers
Benja. Barrot
Wm. Cambill.

PRIVATES.

CASUALTIES.

†John Keyes	eng.	April	25,
Alexander Davidson		do.	do.
John Chambers		do.	26
Samuel Britton		do.	do.
†Moses Barker		do.	do.
Benjamin Pierce		do.	do.
David Chambers		do.	do.
Ebenezer Shed			27
Samuel Wilson		do.	27
Jonathan Sprague		do.	27
Nathl. Foster		do.	26
†James Dunn		do.	27
Isaiah Foster		do.	do.

† Those with this mark were wounded in Breed's hill fight.

PRIVATES.

CASUALTIES.

Benj. Parker	do.	do.
Benj. Farley	do.	do.
Enoch Cleaveland		do.
Benj. Butterfield	do.	do.
Saml. Howard	do.	do.
Moses Easterbrooks	do.	26
Robert Anger	do.	28
†Elijah Haselton	do.	28
John Glode	do.	29
Jesse Dow	do.	do.
†Joseph Spalding	do.	28
Francis Davidson		28
Oliver Cory	do.	do.
†Samuel Marshall	do.	do.
Joseph Chambers	do.	do.
Nathl. Kemp	do.	do.
Joseph Spalding	do.	do.
†Solomon Keyes	do.	do.
Isaac Barrett	do.	25
†Noah Foster	do.	25
Reuben Foster	do.	27
Jonas Spalding	do.	27
Timothy Adams	do.	27
Josiah Fletcher	do.	26
†John Parker	do.	26
James Chambers	May	2
Wm. Rowel	do.	6
Silas Parker	do.	do.
†Benj. Haywood	April	28
†Robert Richardson	May	4
Thomas Bewkel	April	27 deserted
Wm. Brown	do.	do. June 25
James Alexander	do.	do.
Solomon Farmer,	do.	do.

Casualties, in 1775.

Lieut. Col. Moses Parker was wounded in battle 17th June by a ball, which fractured his knee. He was taken captive and carried into Boston, where after the amputation of his leg, he died of his wound

in prison July 4. He was son of Capt. Joseph Parker. He early discovered a taste for military life, and embraced every opportunity that occurred, of cultivating a knowledge of military tactics, and of gratifying his predominant love of the duties and labors of the camp. In 1758, he was honored with a lieutenant's commission in a company, commanded by Capt. Jona. Butterfield, and raised for the express purpose of a general invasion of Canada. He was promoted to a captain in the succeeding year, and in 1760, commanded a company at Fort Frederick, St. John's. In this expedition he distinguished himself as a brave soldier, and as an intrepid and dauntless officer. He was endeared to those under his care by his assiduous attention to their wants and constant endeavors to render their situation as pleasant as circumstances would permit. Such was his reputation that when Governour Bernard in 1761, was selecting from a multitude of applicants, thirty captains for that year's service, Capt. Parker stood forth the most prominent military character on the list. Col. Thwing and Col. Arbuthnot declared, that "they would not go without him, that he was the only Captain they had insisted upon." So great was his popularity, that his friends assured him, that if he would accept of a captainship, "fifty men might be immediately raised to serve under him."*

Thus practiced for many years in the arts and duties of the tented field, he was qualified to take an active and honorable part in the revolutionary war, at an early period of which his fame was consummated.

About a month previous to the battle on Bunker's hill, he was chosen Lieut. Colonel of the 27th regiment of minute men, Colonel Bridge and Major Brooks, (now his Excellency John Brooks,) were

* M. S. Letter of Oliver Fletcher, Esq.

chosen at the same meeting to their respective offices.*

Capt. Benj. Walker, trained up to arms in the French wars, a brave soldier, and accurate disciplinarian, was also wounded in the same battle, taken prisoner and carried to Boston. His leg was amputated, and it was thought that he might have recovered had proper attention been paid to him. He died in prison the latter end of Aug. 1775.

John Bates sickened and died in the army at Cambridge Dec. 4, 1775, and was buried there.

David Spalding, jun. died of the small pox in the army near Ticonderoga, Aug. 1776.

Lieut. Robert Spalding, returning from the army, stationed at New-York, died at Milford in the state of Connecticut 1776. Sam'l Wilson never returned from the army, nor were the time and manner of his death ever known.

Pelatah Adams was killed by Tories and Indians at Cherry Valley, upon the Mohawk river, above Albany 1778. Noah Foster was shot on Bemis' Heights at the capture of Burgoyne.

Henry Fletcher, left Chelmsford to join the army July 15, 1779. He was killed by the British in a skirmish while on piquet guard at White Plains, about twenty five miles from New-York, in the morning of the 3d of Feb. 1780. He was shot through the heart and immediately expired. It was at the corner of a house, which was burnt, and the body of Mr. Fletcher is supposed to have been consumed in the flames. He was born Jan. 17, A. D. 1754.

* The veteran Parker, who had escaped through the whole war of 1756, in which he had signalized himself, and especially at the desperate siege of fort Frontinac, received a ball in his thigh, (knee) and was left mortally wounded in the redoubt.

Col. Swett's His. Bunker hill Battle.

"A muster Roll of Capt. John Ford's Company of Volunteers in Col. Jona. Reed's Regiment of militia, who were engaged Sept. 30, 1777, to reinforce the northern army, at the request of the General Court of the Massachusetts Bay."

TABLE II.

	Establishment.		Disch'd Nov. 8, 43 days.	Whole am't.
	pr. month.			
John Ford, Capt.	12l.	S.	do.	17l. 40
Temple Kendall, Lieut.	8	2	do.	11 12
Jona. Bancroft, Serg't.	2	8	do.	3 89
Willard Parker, Serg't.	2	3	do.	3 89
Azariah Proctor, Corp.	2	4	do.	3 30
Silas Pierce, Corp.	2	4	do.	3 30
Caleb Coburn, Corp.	2	4	do.	3 30
Sim'n Cummings, Corp.	2	4	do.	3 30
<i>Privates.</i>				
Oliver Barron, Esq.	2		do.	2 174
Jona. Shed,	2		do.	2 174
Wm. Chambers,	2		do.	2 174
Jona. Woodard,	2		do.	2 174
Willard Howard,	2		do.	2 174
David Putman,	2		do.	2 174
Joseph Adams,	2		do.	2 174
Sam'l Adams,	2		do.	2 174
Jeduthan Warren,	2		do.	2 174
Sam'l Perham,	2		do.	2 174
Josiah Fletcher,	2		do.	2 174
Henry Fletcher,	2		do.	2 174
Joel Spalding,	2		do.	2 174
David Danforth,	2		do.	2 174
David Marshall,	2		do.	2 174
Aaron Chamberlin,	2		do.	2 174
Azariah Spalding,	2		do.	2 174
Timothy Adams,	2		do.	2 174
Jona. Robins,	2		do.	2 174
Ephraim Robins,	2		do.	2 174
Supply Reed,	2		do.	2 174
Wm. Spalding,	2		do.	2 174
Stephen Peirce,	2		do.	2 174
Benj. Butterfield,	2		do.	2 174
Levi Fletcher,	2		do.	2 174
Benj. Hayward,	2		do.	2 174

	Establishment, pr. month.	Disch'd Nov. 8, Time of service	Whole am't.
Oliver Richardson,	2l.	43 days.	2l. 17 4
John Hadlock,	2	do.	2 17 4
Joseph Butterfield,	2	do.	2 17 4
Joseph Ingalls,	2	do.	2 17 4
Aaron Small,	2	do.	2 17 4
Wm. Fletcher,	2	do.	2 17 4
Benj. Detion,	2	do.	2 17 4
Sam'l Lunn,	2	do.	2 17 4
Solomon Pollard,	2	do.	2 17 4
John Marsh,	2	do.	2 17 4
Jesse Butterfield,	2	do.	2 17 4
Eliezer Farwell,	2	do.	2 17 4
Wm. Parker,	2	do.	2 17 4
Jacob Baldwin,	2	do.	2 17 4
Joseph Tyler,	2	23 days	1 10 8
John French,	2	do.	1 10 8
Oliver Adams,	2	do.	1 10 8
Samuel French,	2	do.	1 10 8

	£171	19	3
Capt. Ford allowed for extra services, - - - -	46	9	4

Chelmsford, March 28, 1778.

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Captain John Ford, is among the few veteran survivors of the revolutionary war. Though more fortunate, he is not less worthy of the honors of his country, than his fellow-townsmen and compatriots, the brave and intrepid Parker and Walker, whose claims to public gratitude and honor were sealed by their blood in the memorable battle of Bunker Hill.—From a recent account of that battle, written by Col. Samuel Sweet, A. M. the following honorable testimony of the military prowess of Capt. John Ford, is selected.

The enemy were by this time organized anew, and were again advancing to the attack. Putnam's duty called him to the lines. At this time Capt. Ford appeared with his company. He served in a regiment under the veteran Lt. Col. Parker and Maj. Brooks. Of them he had learned the duties of a Soldier. He had already signalized himself at Lexington battle, by killing five of the enemy. His orders were to proceed to the lines and reinforce the troops. He obeyed, marched unconcerned across the neck and was proceeding down Bunker Hill, when Putnam was delighted with an aid so opportune. Callender's deserted cannon were at the foot of the hill. He ordered Capt. Ford with his company to draw them into the lines. The Captain remonstrated, "that his company were totally ignorant of the discipline and employment of artillery, ('many of whom had never seen a cannon before.')" But the General peremptorily persisting in his order, he obeyed. His company moved with the cannon, and the general himself to the rail fence."

Captain Ford on the day preceding the battle, volunteered his service to Gen. Ward, to carry orders from Cambridge to Bunker hill, particularly to Callender, who was wasting the little ammunition he had by an ineffectual fire at the distant enemy. He passed and repassed th

Aug. 1778, six men were draughted from the Militia, to go to Rhode Island, viz:—

Oliver Bowers	Josiah Fletcher	Jesse Haywood
John Dunn	Levi Fletcher	Wm. Spalding,

Dr. John Betty went as a volunteer, and was chosen Clerk of the company commanded by Joseph B. Varnum. The above were draughted for six weeks, were in an engagement on Rhode Island—in which from Capt. J. B. Varnum's company, one was killed, two wounded, one missing.

1779—16 men were engaged to go to Rhode Island for three months, viz:—James Marshall, Simon Parker, Ashbel Spalding, Josiah Parkhurst, Benja. Butterfield, John Byam, Joseph Haywood, Luke Bowers, Joseph Chambers, Wm. Chambers, John Keys, Simeon Spalding, Abel Chamberlin, Peter Farror.

1780—The militia officers were empowered by the town to hire 15 men for the continental service, and the selectmen instructed to raise money and produce, to pay them for 9 months service; and,

Phineas Kidder, Peter Farror, Jacob Marshall, Robert Spalding, Noah Foster, Henry Fletcher, Samuel Wilson, Jr. Pelatiah Adams, Thomas Hutchens, Jesse Stevens, John Keyes, Leonard Parker, Benja. Spalding, Joseph Warren, Jr. Robert Richardson, were engaged.

neck on horse-back, amidst the enemy on each side; though his orders from the general were to leave his horse and walk over the neck to escape the notice of the enemy. On the hill he spent some time in observing the motions of the enemy in Boston, and having read their intention from their movement, he first called Col. Prescott's attention to them, pointed out to him the design of the enemy, the certainty of their advance to the Hill, and the necessity of preparing to meet them by casting up breast works, redoubts, &c. Col. Prescott, who had flattered himself that the enemy would not leave Boston, was now fully convinced of his error, and immediately set his troops to work. Capt. Ford returned to Gen. Ward at Cambridge, communicated his convictions and impressions. The next morning realized to him his fears. While the troops were tardy in preparing to march on to the hill, Capt. Ford obtained permission from the General, to withdraw his company privately and march directly to the scene of action, to reinforce the troops.—He arrived in season to take an active part in the achievements of that glorious day.

Appendix to the life of Putnam—page 236.

A list of those, who were detached from the militia and formed a part of the army of General Lincoln, in the memorable expedition through the counties of Worcester and Berkshire, to suppress the insurrection in 1786, commonly known by the name of the Shays insurrection. The company formed from this and the neighboring towns, was commanded by Capt. (now Col.) James Varnum, of Dracut.

1 Lt. Daniel Procter	John Butterfield
2 Lt. Abel Adams	Joseph Emerson, Jr.
Benj. Butterfield, Jr.	Timothy Howard
Oliver Perham	Jesse Stevens
Silas Parker	Henry Spalding, Jr.
Oliver Cory	Thomas Chamberlin
Jeremiah Warren	Samuel Stevens
Zebulon Spalding, Jr.	James Parkhurst
Oliver Adams	John Farmer
Benja. Adams	Willard Marshall
Reuben Goold, Jr.	Abel Marshall
John Mc Clenny	Amost Prescott
Aaron Spalding	Levi Spalding

In the "fourth Indian war, commonly called the three years war, or Lovell's war," snow shoe companies were raised in all the towns lying upon Merrimack river. These companies were minute men, equipt with snow shoes and fire arms &c. holding themselves in readiness to go on scouting parties in pursuit of the Indians at the moment of alarm.

The following constituted the snow shoe company in Chelmsford in 1724; under the command of Capt. Robert Richardson and Lieut. Robert Parker, in one of the years during Lovell's war.*

Paul Fletcher	Nathan Proctor
Sam'l Fletcher	Matthias Cowdrey
Joseph Keyes	John Proctor jun.
Henry Stevens	Benj. Robbins
Robert Peirce	John Butterfield
Josiah Spalding	James Burn
Zacharias Richardson	Benj. Chamberlin

*See Belknap's His. of N. Ham. Vol. 2—p. 43.

Joseph

Benj. Goold
 Moscs Graves
 Timothy Spaulding
 Phineas Spaulding
 Joseph Underwood
 Jacob Blodget
 Ebenezer Parker
 Joseph Warren, jun.
 Jonathan Parker
 Joseph Fletcher
 Jonathan Spalding
 James Kidder
 Ezekiel Keyes

Edward Foster
 Benj. Parker
 John Spaulding
 John Cory
 Jona. Hildreth
 Josiah Birge
 Simon Rummery
 Daniel Blodget
 Henry Spaulding
 Jona. Cummings
 Thomas Reed
 Joseph Foster.

William Dummer, Esq. Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's province of Massachusetts Bay in New-England.

To JOSEPH PARKER, GENT.—*greeting.*

By virtue of the power and authority in and by his Majesty's commission to me granted, to be Lieutenant Governor, &c. I do by these presents, reposing especial trust and confidence in your loyalty, courage and good conduct, constitute and appoint you the said Joseph Parker to be Lieutenant of a company of snow-shoe-men, and of those that are appointed to be in readiness to issue out against the Indian enemy and rebels upon any alarm or attack; whereof Robert Richardson is Captain, in the regiment of Militia in the county of Middlesex, whereof Eleazer Tyng, Esq. is Colonel. You are therefore diligently and faithfully to discharge the duties of a Lieutenant, &c.

Given under my hand and seal at arms at Boston, 5th day Feb. in the Eleventh year of the reign of his Majesty, King George A. D. 1724.

WM. DUMMER.