

Cascade Centennial

Compatriot: **Steven Fenton**

Patriot: 1

Lieutenant Edward Smith, MA

Edward Smith was born December 28, 1746 in Hampshire County, Massachusetts. In Edward's Account book which still exists, he wrote "my father dyed in December 1750." When his father, John Smith, Jr. died in 1750, it is believed that Edward may have gone to live with relatives, and his whereabouts from 1751 –1769 or unknown. However, by the time he began his Account Book in 1770, he was living in Belchertown, Massachusetts. On December 30, 1772, Edward married Beulah Parsons, the daughter of Jacob and Beulah [Hunt] Parsons.

During the Revolution, Edward Smith contributed his services, as they were needed. By the time the war was well underway, he was over thirty years of age with a wife and a daughter. Edward served in the 4th Hampshire County Regiment Militia of Massachusetts, first as a sergeant in 1777, and then as a lieutenant until 1782. He was credited with seventeen months of service, although only part of that time was spent in active campaigning. In 1779, the town records referred to him as Lt. Edward Smith when he refused the post of constable. In June 1780, the town chose Lt. Edward Smith as one of a committee "to see what terms they could hire soldiers into the war," and in September of that year, they named him to a committee to "assist the selectmen to procure clothing for the army."

A summary of Edward Smith's official war record follows:

- (1) Sergeant, in a company commanded by Lieutenant Aaron Phelps, Colonel Elisha Porter's regiment: Engaged July 9, 1777, discharged August 12, 1777: Service 1 month, 9 days in Northern Department, including (120 miles) travel home, roll sworn to in Hampshire County.
- (2) 2nd Lieutenant, Captain Elijah White's (9th) Company, 4th Hampshire County Regiment of Massachusetts Militia, list of officers (year not given)
- (3) 2nd Lieutenant, Captain Moses Montague's Company, Colonel Israel Chapen's Regiment. Engaged October 20, 1779, discharged November 21, 1779, service 1 month, 9 days at Claverack, including 6 days (120 miles) travel home. Regiment was raised to reinforce the Continental Army for 3 months.
- (4) Lieutenant, Captain Gideon Stebben's Company, 4th Hampshire County Regiment. Service 3 days. Company Marched to Northampton in June 1782 to suppress the mob*. Roll dated: Belchertown.

*Note: The "mob" referred to was an uprising led by Samuel Ely, a precursor to Shay's Rebellion. Over a period of months, starting in April 1782, three mob actions occurred.

Edward Smith died in Bolton, New York on February 12, 1813.

