

American Revolution Biography about Samuel Tidd

Samuel Tidd was born in Lexington on January 12, 1741, the son of Ensign Daniel Tidd (Abt. 1695-1776) and Great, Great Grandson of John Tidd Sr. (1594-1657) one of the original founders of Cambridge Farms which would later become known as Lexington,

On February 28, 1771, Samuel married Rebecca Simmons of Bedford, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah Wilson Simmons. Sarah Wilson may have been related to Captain Jonathon Wilson who was mortally wounded on April 19, while leading the Bedford minute company. Samuel and Rebecca lived in Bedford for a time before they moved back to Lexington. There they had two Daughters, Betty, born December 29, 1771 who married Noah Stearns on *May 37, 1821* at Bedford, and Rebekah, born January 27, 1777 who married Jesse Robinson on November 21, 1793.

Samuel was the brother of Lieutenant William Tidd, and both were members of the Lexington militia that responded to the alarm of April 19th and stood on Lexington Common to protect their town in the face of the oncoming force of British Regulars. Along with them were their cousins John and Benjamin Tidd, Both of the brothers and cousin Benjamin survived the battle unscathed, but Cousin John was struck down by the sword of a pursuing British officer and knocked senseless.

Samuel, along with his brother, Lieutenant William, and cousin, Benjamin, went with Captain Parker when called to Cambridge at the time of the Battle of Bunker Hill. Samuel also served on the important Committee of Safety and Correspondence in 1781.

On 25 April 1775 Samuel gave a joint deposition concerning the battle of April 19th describing in detail the events leading up to shots being fired. The statement described the assembling of the company at 5:00 am in the morning and mentioned that some of the men were "coming up to parade while others had reached it, at which time the company began to disperse, whilst our backs were turned on the troops, we were fired on by them,"

Information mostly taken from:

*History of the Town of Lexington, Middlesex County, Massachusetts:
Volume II Genealogies* by Charles Hudson.

Deposition taken from *A Narrative of the Excursions and Ravages of the King's Troops Under the Command of General Gage on the nineteenth of April 1775 Together with the Depositions taken By Order of Congress to Support the Truth of It*, Worcester, Printed by Isaiah Thomas by Order of The Provincial Congress, 1775

Deposition of 34 as below!

SAMUEL TIDD, (and 33 others) all of lawful age, and inhabitants of Lexington, in the county of Middlesex, and Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, do testify and declare, that on the nineteenth of April instant, about one or two o'clock in the morning, being informed that several officers of the regulars, had the evening before been riding up and down the road, and had detained and insulted the inhabitants passing same, and also understanding that a body of regulars were marching from Boston, towards Concord, with intent (as it was supposed) to take the stores belonging to the colony in that town, we were alarmed and having met at the place of our Company's parade, were dismissed by our Captain, John Parker, for the present, with orders to be ready to attend

at the beat of the drum, we further testify and declare, that about five o'clock in the morning, hearing our drum beat, we proceeded towards the parade, and soon found that a large body of troops were marching towards us, some of our company were coming up to the parade and others had reached it, at which time the company began to disperse, whilst our backs were turned on the troops, we were fired on by them, and a number of our men were instantly killed and wounded, not a gun was fired by any person in our company on the regulars to our knowledge before they fired on us, and they continued firing until we had all made our escape

Lexington, April 25th, 1775.



Richard Howell December 8, 2018
Member of the Lexington Minute Men