

**Abijah Eaton (1759-1839)**

Corporal, Captain Johnathan Aver's Company,  
Col Nathaniel Wade's Regiment (Essex Militia)

Abijah was born a twin. He and his brother, Abiather, were born to Aaron Eaton and his wife, Phebe, both of Lynn, Massachusetts, in 1759. He married Elizabeth Elliott on March 15, 1785, in Mason, New Hampshire, Hillsborough County. They had eight children: Abijah, Hollett, Abel, Esther, Betsey, Vearon, Isaac Green, and William.

Abijah Eaton signed the New Hampshire Association Test, which is the only association test to pre-date the Declaration of Independence. He was a Private with Captain Abijah Wyman's Company, Colonel William Prescott's regiment, and enlisted at 15 years of age on April 30, 1775. He mustered with his company on Aug. 1, 1775, and served three months and three days. He is also documented as having ordered a bounty coat or its equivalent in money, dated Cambridge, Massachusetts, on Dec. 27, 1775. He advanced to the rank of Corporal in Captain Jonathan Ayer's Company, Colonel Nathaniel Wade's regiment (Essex County), and again entered service on July 15, 1780. He was discharged on Oct. 10, 1780. His service was three months and seven days, travel included. The company was raised to reinforce the Continental Army for three months. In addition, Eaton served a three-year term in the Continental Army, and this was documented on a receipt dated in Boston on June 5, 1782. During the Barbary War, Eaton was taken hostage by Algerian Pirates and released.

Abijah collected a pension for his war service and, at the end of his life, was considered an invalid by the pension board. Eaton was a Vermont settler who took possession of 50 acres of Tory land as a bounty for serving in the War of the Revolution. This is located near the settlement of present day South Londonderry, Vermont, Windham County. Eaton died on Jan. 17, 1839, and he is buried next to his son, Hollett, at their homestead site near South Londonderry. The graves are now located in the woods. His grave is honored with a Patriot Marker installed in October 2014 by descendant Craig Paige.

Submitted by Craig Paige  
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