



# Iowa Society DAR

## PATRIOT STORIES

### James Reed (Read), Massachusetts, A094342

James was raised in Monson, Massachusetts (23 Nov 1745/1746-1826). He married Sarah Burdick on 22 Mar 1768 of Hopkinton, RI. He married his second wife, Tamar (Tamer) Munn, of Brimfield, MA by 1777.

James enlisted shortly after the Lexington Alarm at the age of 30. He served as a Private in Captain Joseph Thomson's Company of Colonel Timothy Danielson's Regiment. Colonel Danielson who commanded eight companies during the Lexington Alarm.

The muster roll dated 1 Aug 1775 shows his enlistment date as 12 May 1775. Reed served 2 months, 3 weeks, and 4 days with a return to Roxbury, MA on 6 Oct 1775.

Reed was allowed an order for a bounty coat or its equivalent in money. A bounty coat is described this way. In 1775, the Massachusetts Provincial Congress passed a resolve to provide blankets and clothing for the Massachusetts forces. Local governments turned to the people and more specifically to the women. Hundreds of hearthstones, wool-wheels and handlooms began spinning the wool sheared from local farm sheep.

Thousands of coats were made, bound, and sent to the army. Even though some garments were hastily spun and sewn together in a makeshift manner, they were warm and substantial. These coats became known as bounty coats. In many cases when the choice was offered for a coat or a bounty, the soldier immediately chose the homespun coat. A list of makers and ultimate wearers was kept and can still be found in the records of some New England towns. These lists were called the 'coat-roll'. Once again women saving the day.

Reed became one of the first settlers of Whitingham, Vermont which became incorporated in 1780. It was previously known as Cumberland, VT.

#### Sources:

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- Massachusetts. Office of the Secretary of State. (1896/1908). *Massachusetts soldiers and sailors of the revolutionary war: A compilation from the archives. Vol. 13, pages 16, 69* Boston: Wright and Potter Printing., State Printers.
- Reed, J. Whittemore, (1861). *History of the Reed family in Europe and America, Part I, pages 531*, Boston. J. Wilson and Son.



***This story was provided by a member of the Iowa Society DAR. It is believed to be factual. It is not based on information found in the research database of the National Society DAR (NSDAR) and cannot be used to document an application for membership.***