



A Patriot Story

Captain George James Yates

Service: 1st Lt., Capt. William Hilton's 7th (3rd Bristol) Co, Col. William Jones' (3rd Lincoln Co) Regiment of MA Militia May 8, 1776. Also Lt., Capt. Benjamin Plumer's Co, detached from same Regiment, served on the Bagaduce Expedition, Penobscot, July 6 to Sept 24, 1779. Also Capt., 7th Co, Col. Jones' (3rd Lincoln Co) Regiment MA Militia. Discharged Capt. May 23, 1780.

Residence: Bristol (Round Pond), Lincoln County, Maine

Born: 23 April 1748 / Bristol, Lincoln County, Maine (then York Co Maine District MA)

Died: 16 Jan 1821 / Bristol, Lincoln County, Maine

The birth of George James Yates was recorded in the Bristol Town Hall Record of Births. His father James Yates (Yeates) was 48, born in 1700 in Yorkshire, England and his mother Jane (Jean) McNear (McNair) was 31, born in 1717 in Scotland. George James "GJ" was the third child of their nine children and their oldest son. At age 24 George James Yates was married on Nov 26, 1772 in Marshfield, Plymouth County, MA to Nancy Richards of Pembroke, MA. Nancy was the three-great grandchild of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins and also the three-great grandchild of Myles Standish and Barbara Mullins.

The newlywed couple settled in George James' hometown of Round Pond/Bristol where their first child Jane was born Nov 1, 1773. On Nov 5, 1774 son George James was born, then Nancy on Apr 10, 1776, followed by son Capt James on May 20, 1778, then William on Jul 17, 1780 and son George Washington on Apr 22, 1782. After the Revolutionary War four more children were born: Sally on Feb 22, 1785, Samuel on Aug 4, 1788, Betsy on Nov 29, 1791 and finally daughter Lydia on May 5, 1794. This completed their family of ten children. Just four years later son George James was lost at sea off England at age 24.

From notes by Alexander Yates, grandson of George James Yates, of Bristol (Round Pond): "Captain George James "GJ" Yates born at Bristol, ME. Farmer and trader, married Miss Nancy Richards, commanded a company in the Revolution and was at siege of Mayorb, now Castine, ME. Was a public-spirited citizen and a devoted Christian and an organized thinker, died at Bristol, ME." (Mayorb was probably short for the peninsula then called Majabigwaduce, now Castine, which is between the mouth of the Bagaduce River and a finger of the bay leading to the Penobscot River).

George James Yates lived his entire life in the coastal community of Round Pond. He is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Round Pond beside his wife who died on Dec 12, 1843 at age 92. His gravestone reads "Capt. George J. Yates, died Jan 16, 1821 ae 76 'The sweet memory of the just Shall flourish while they sleep in dust'". Some of his descendants still live in this still rural community.

Sources: Fredrick Y. Smith Ancestry Family Tree, US Census Rec., Bristol Town Rec., MA US Town and Vital Rec. 1620-1988, MA US Compiled Marriages 1633-1850, DAR and SAR Member Applications, MA Soldiers & Sailors of the Rev. War Vol XVII pp1001-02