
Descriptive Summary

Creator: Bond, William, d. 1776

Title: William Bond Papers,

Date (inclusive): 1768-1777

Extent: 1.40 linear feet(1 archives box and 1 flat box)

Abstract: Papers of William Bond (d.1776), Revolutionary Army officer and colonel in the 25th Regiment of Foot from Massachusetts. Bond led the regiment from July 1775 to August 31, 1776, when he died from an illness at Mount Independence near Fort Ticonderoga. The collection is arranged chronologically in a single series containing correspondence, orders, resolutions by the Massachusetts Provincial Congress, lists of officers and soldiers, financial receipts, and miscellaneous administrative documents related to the 25th Regiment. Significant documents in the collection include an autograph letter signed by George Washington to General Sullivan (20 May 1772), an order signed by General Philip Schuyler (5 May 1776), an order signed by General Horatio Gates (15 March 1776), and a memo signed by Brigadier General Nathanael Greene (15 March 1776).

Repository: University of California, San Diego. Geisel Library. Mandeville Special Collections Library.

La Jolla, California 92093-0175

Collection number: MSS 0080

Language of Material: Collection materials in English

Access

Collection is open for research.

Acquisition Information

Not Available

Preferred Citation

William Bond Papers, MSS 0080. Mandeville Special Collections Library, UCSD.

Publication Rights

Publication rights are held by the creator of the collection.

Biography

On the basis of materials in this collection, William Bond lived in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1768 and was probably the son of Jonas and Hannah Bond. He was a captain in the military in 1774. In July, 1775, he held the rank of lieutenant colonel, second-in-command, in the 37th Regiment of Foot (infantry) in General George Washington's Continental Army. After the death of the regiment's commander, Colonel Thomas Gardner, Bond was promoted to colonel and took over command. After November, 1775, Bond's regiment was renamed the 25th Regiment and remained camped at Prospect Hill, Massachusetts, during the winter of 1775-1776.

William Bond and the 25th Regiment participated in the campaign to conquer Canada during 1776. Congress had requested that General Washington send four regiments to reinforce the army in Canada. On March 15, 1776, the 5th and 25th Regiments received orders from General Horatio Gates to march to Norwich, Connecticut. On March 30, the Massachusetts regiments led by William Bond, John Patterson and John Groaton, along with the New Hampshire regiment led by Enoch Poor, arrived in New York. On April 21, the four regiments sailed in sloops up the Hudson River to Albany under the command of General William Thompson.

In early May, the 25th Regiment was preparing to cross into Canada by boat and reached Sorel by June 14, Chamblee by June 17, Isle aux Noix by June 18, and Crown Point by July 11. On August 10, the 25th Regiment was camped at Mount Independence, a hill near Fort Ticonderoga. The stagnant lakes and swamps around Mount Independence contributed to the diseases already suffered by the regiment, including smallpox. Desertions and discharges for medical reasons severely reduced troop strength. On August 31, 1776, Colonel William Bond died of illness at Mount Independence.

Scope and Content of Collection

Accession Processed in 1993

The William Bond Papers contain materials related to the American Revolutionary War (1775-1776), the activities of the 25th Regiment of Foot from Massachusetts and its campaign in Canada between April and August of 1776. The collection is arranged in a single chronological series and contains correspondence, lists, orders, resolutions, financial receipts, and miscellaneous administrative documents. Undated materials are located at the end of the series.

Significant among the few items of correspondence is an autograph letter signed by General George Washington (20 May 1772) to Major General Sullivan in which he laments the "indolence" of States "so backward in reinforcing you," agrees to allow General Stark to join Sullivan and relates news that the enemy will soon evacuate Philadelphia. Other important correspondence includes four letters from Bond to his wife Lucy in Watertown, Massachusetts (12 April, 20 April, 11 July, and 10 August 1776).

The collection contains numerous administrative documents related to Bond's position as commander of the 25th Regiment, including written orders, resolutions of the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, receipts for supplies, and lists of returns of officers, soldiers, deserters, and discharges. Among the signers of these documents are generals Philip Schuyler (5 May 1776), Horatio Gates (15 March 1776), William Heath (14 August 1775), and Nathanael Greene (15 March 1776). Among the resolutions are two signed by Jos[eph] Warren (24 April and 19 May 1775).

Also included is a list of Bond's personal property, which was inventoried and appraised shortly after his death (September 1776).

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Bond, William, d. 1776 -- Archives

Washington, George, 1733-1799

Schuyler, Philip John, 1733-1804

Gates, Horatio, 1728-1806

Sullivan, John, 1740-1795

United States. -- Continental Army -- Biography

United States. -- Continental Army -- Massachusetts Regiment, Twenty-fifth

United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783 -- Biography

United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783 -- Regimental histories -- Massachusetts

DOCUMENTS

box 1, folder 1 **1768, September 27**

Note

"Judge of the Probate of Wills, and for granting Letters of Administration on the Estates of Persons deceased... To Mrs. Hannah Bond Widow and William Bond yeoman..." William Bond's power of administration for Jonas Bond's estate. 1 p.

box 1, folder 2 **1772, May 20**

Note

General George Washington to Major Gen. Sullivan. 2 p.

box 1, folder 3 **1774-1777**

Note

Receipts. 10 p.

box 1, folder 4 **1775-1776**

Note

General orders. 8 p.

box 1, folder 5 **1775, April 23**

Note

"In Provincial Congress, at Watertown, April 23, 1775." Printed resolution which established pay rated for officers and enlisted men, provided for uniforms for non-commissioned officers and privates and specified that local towns should provide enlistees with blankets. 1 p.

box 1, folder 6 **1775, April 24**

Note

Power to enlist 56 "able-bodied and effective" men given to John Stratton; commission as Captain for Stratton upon completion of the enlistment. Signed by Jos. Warren. 2 p.

box 1, folder 7 **1775, May 19**

Note

"In Provincial Congress Watertown May 19, 1775. Resolved. That Colonel Bond be and hereby is directed to appoint a Guard of six men to escort Lady Frankland to Boston..." Signed by Jos. Warren. 1 p.

box 1, folder 8 **1775, June 8**

Note

"In Provincial Congress. Watertown, June 8, 1775. Resolution ordering those convicted of making false returns of the "Numbers or Equipments of the Men" in the command to be cashiered. 1 p. (two copies).

box 1, folder 9 **1775, June 10**

Note

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 10, 1775. Resolved, That each Soldier shall have the following Allowance per Day, viz..." Printed list of food and supplies. 1 p.

box 1, folder 10 **1775, June 16**

Note

"In Provincial Congress, Watertown, June 16th, 1775. Printed resolution regarding the observance of the Sabbath. 1 p.

box 1, folder 11 **1775, June 26**

Note

List of men "Belongin [sic] to my Company." 1 p.

box 1, folder 12 **1775, July 6**

Note

"A List of Officers in the Regiment where of Thomas Gardner Esq. late of Cambridge Deceased was Colonel." 1 p.

box 1, folder 13 **1775, July 10**

Note

"Instructions for the Officers of the several Regiments of the Massachusetts-Bay Forces, who are immediately to go upon the Recruiting Service." Printed. 1 p.

box 1, folder 14 **1775, July 17**

Note

"A Return of the Number and Name of Men in the late Col. Gardner Regt. that are expert in manging [sic] whale boats in the folowing [sic] companies." 1 p.

box 1, folder 15 **1775, August 14**

Note

The appointment of John Jones to the rank of first sergeant under Captain Moses Whiting and signed by General William Heath. 1 p.

box 1, folder 16 **1775, August 30**

Note

"A Return of the Regiment in the Service of The United Colonies of NORTH AMERICA, commanded by..." Printed form with annotation. 1 p.

box 1, folder 17 **1775, September 25**

Note

"To the Hon. Gen. Assembly of the Colony of the Massachusetts Bay, now sitting at Watertown. The Humble Petition of Lt. Col. William Bond of the 37th Reg. of Foot in the Continental Army." Request to approve recommendations for promotions. 2 p.

box 1, folder 18 **1775, October 16**

Note

"A Return of the Number of Officers and Soldiers that has Engaged or Enlisted in the 37th Regiment in the Continental Army" and "A Return of the Field, Commiss., and Staff Officers in the 37 Reg. of the Foot together with the Vacancies therein." 1 p.

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- box 1, folder 19 **1775, October 18**
- Note**
- Letter to Brigadier General Green from the commissioned officers of the 37th Regiment of Foot discontinuing service for lack of commissions and appointments. 1 p. (copy).
- box 1, folder 20 **1775, November 2**
- Note**
- "A Return of Capt. Abner Crafts Comp. in the 37 Reg." 1 p. [See also n.d.: "A return of Capt. Abner Craft's Comp. in Coll. Willm. Bond Reg."]
- box 1, folder 21 **1775, November 4**
- Note**
- "List of Field Officers in the Continental Army as stated By a Board of Gen. Officers at Cambridge." 2 p. (The following document on verso) 1775, December 28: "An Abstract of the Pay due to the commissioned staff, officers and soldiers in the 37 Regiment for the Month of October 1775."
- box 1, folder 22 **1776, January 1**
- Note**
- "Proceedings of a Gen. Court martial held in Roxbury by Order of Major Gen. Ward for the tryal of all such Prisoners as should be bro't before the same." Israel Woodcock was tried for assaulting an officer. 1 p. (copy).
- box 1, folder 23 **1776, January 17**
- Note**
- Notification of the adjournment of the Court Martial of which Col. Bond is president. 1 p.
- box 1, folder 24 **1776, January 25**
- Note**
- Resolution by the House of Representatives of the Massachusetts Bay Colony that discharged officers or soldiers must return arms and cartridge boxes. 1 p. (copy).
- box 1, folder 25 **1776, March 10**
- Note**
- Discharge orders for James Richardson for "being a Lazy, Idle Fellow, unwilling to do his Duty, and very much subject to the Poorlys. 1 p.
- box 1, folder 26 **1776, March 15**
- Note**
- "Colonel Bond and the other Field Officers having made and reported the following Arrangement [sic] of the Captains in the Twenty Fifth Regiment - I have examined them and approve thereof..." Signed by Brigadier General Nathanael Greene. 1 p.
- box 1, folder 27 **1776, March 15**
- Note**
- "Orders for Col. John Stark Commanding the 5th and 25th Regiments of Foot." Orders to proceed to Norwich, Connecticut signed by General Horatio Gates. 1 p.
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box 1, folder 28 **1776, April 12**

Note

William Bond to Lucy Bond [wife]. Bond wrote from New York to his wife in Watertown, Mass., regarding the disposition of regiments in the area and mentioned that soon several regiments would be sent to Quebec. 1 p.

box 1, folder 29 **1776, April 17**

Note

List of men to be discharged from Col. Bond's 25th Regiment. 1 p.

box 1, folder 30 **1776, April 20**

Note

William Bond to Lucy Bond [wife]. Bond wrote from New York to his wife that Colonel Poor's, Patterson's, Graton's, and Bond's regiment shall sail for Albany and related that his regiment was in good health. 1 p.

box 1, folder 31 **1776, May 5**

Note

General Philip Schuyler worries that there will not be enough boats to transport his men to Canada quickly and orders Colonels Patterson, Greateon, and Bond to put 30 men per boat with only 9 oars. 1 p.

box 1, folder 32 **1776, July 11**

Note

William Bond to Lucy Bond [wife]. Bond wrote from Crown Point about an outbreak of smallpox in his regiment, his movements in Canada and his impending march to Ticonderoga. 2 p.

box 1, folder 33 **1776, July 16**

Note

"Return of Deserters from Col. Wm. Bonds Regt. since Jan 1 1776." 1 p.

box 1, folder 34 **1776, August 10**

Note

William Bond to Lucy Bond [wife]. Bond wrote from Ticonderoga about the numbers of sick men in his regiment, described the camp outside Ticonderoga and the military activities in the area. 2 p.

box 1, folder 35 **1776, August 16**

Note

Recommendation of discharge for medical reasons for Thaddeus Willington Trummer and Joseph Eaton, both of Colonel Bond's 25th Regiment. 2 p.

box 1, folder 36 **1776, August 23-24**

Note

List of men to be discharged due to illness from Colonel Bond's regiment. 2 p.

box 1, folder 37 **1776, September**

Note

"An Inventory of Effects left in Camp by Col. William Bond of 25th Rgement [sic] late decesed [sic] as Prised [sic] by Capt. Eagry and Capt. Smith of said Rigmt."

box 1, folder 38 **1833, December 13**

Note

Col. Trumbull to Henry Bond. Trumbull has reviewed his copy of General Order of the Army at Ticonderoga and finds nothing that would help established the family's claim (undisclosed). 1 p.

box 1, folder 39 **No date**

Note

Field Officers - Wm. Bond Col. 1 p.

box 1, folder 40 **No date**

Note

List of Field, Staff and Commissioned Officers in the 25th Regiment of Foot. 1 p.

box 1, folder 41 **No date**

Note

A List of the Names and Rank of the Officers of the Twentyfifth Regiment. 1 p.

box 1, folder 42 **No date**

Note

Pages 25-28 of an unidentified printed pamphlet. 4 p.

box 1, folder 43 **No date**

Note

A Return of Capt. Abner Crafts Comp. in Coll. Willm. Bond Reg. 1 p.

box 1, folder 44 **No date**

Note

A Return of Soldiers Names in Capt. Harris' Company who have Stands of New Arms together with the Names of those Officers, non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers who have rec[eived] Arms..." 1 p.