

Groton shore, and assisted in building Fort Griswold, on Groton Banks, which garrison Lieut. Colonel Eyre, directed by the parricide Arnold, three years afterwards attacked, and, after its surrender, mercilessly slaughtered nearly every captured officer and soldier. Mr. Ames enlisted in Continental service for the campaign of 1779; and, at its expiration, he engaged as a substitute in place of a soldier to serve out an unexpired enlistment in Gen. Huntington's brigade. During the cold winter of 1779-80, he was stationed with the main army near Morristown, New Jersey. It was a winter of great suffering, the soldiers living principally in small log huts, poorly clad, with straw for a bed, and a single blanket for each man for a covering, and some were destitute of shoes. The snow was deep, fell early and lasted late; and the cold was unusually intense. "We have," said Washington, "had the virtue and patience of the army put to the severest trial. Sometimes it has been five or six days together without bread; at other times as many days without meat, and once or twice two or three days without either. * * * At one time the soldiers ate every kind of horse food but hay. Buckwheat, common wheat, rye, and Indian corn, composed the meal which made their bread. As an army, they bore it with the most heroic patience." "Washington," says Mr. Ames, "hearing of our sufferings, came to the barracks, looked in, and spoke words of sympathy and encouragement. We told him we hoped we should live till spring to fight our country's battles."

In the autumn of 1780, while stationed near Tarrytown, Mr. Ames witnessed the execution of the unfortunate Andre, in front of a stone church. After the close of the campaign of that year, he returned to Stonington, and engaged on a privateer sixteen gun brig, built at New London, called the *La Fayette*, and went from New London to Newport, Rhode Island. As the *La Fayette* entered the harbor, a French fleet entered also; and, the next morning, Mr. Ames was awakened at the tavern where he lodged, by a singular noise on the sidewalk, which proved to arise from the tramping of the French