

Monday in September, for general muster and military training, on which occasions large numbers of the inhabitants of the neighborhood presented themselves as spectators.

Tradition likewise relates that Captain John Bedell's daughters were handsome and refined. It was the good fortune of Cornelius, son of Cornelius and Sarah Ter Bos Swartwout, to win the affections of the eldest, Sarah, born on October 11, 1754, whom he married on March 23, 1774.

As happened at many other places within the territory of the thirteen American colonies at the beginning of the war of the Revolution, the militia of Rombout Precinct needed serviceable guns. To provide all the members of Captain Bedell's company with effective firearms, the committee of observation, on August 18, 1775, appointed Henry Schenck and William van Wyck a committee to buy all the muskets and rifles in good condition purchasable from the inhabitants. The commissioned officers of the local organization were John Bedell, captain; John Schut, first lieutenant; Francis Hasbrook, second; and George van Nostrand, ensign.

The unwillingness of the officers and a majority of the privates of the company to be ruled by the regulations prescribed by the continental congress caused them to refuse signing the pledge of association which enjoined the execution of whatever measures might be recommended by that body. On September 12, that year, eighteen members of the company, who had signed the pledge, elected new officers, and thereupon the old organization ceased to exist.

During the war of the Revolution, Captain John Bedell's son, John, gallantly acquitted himself as a soldier, holding the position of a corporal in the eighth company of the Third New York Regiment, from May 12, 1777, to the close of the struggle.

Intending to settle in Rensselaer County, Captain John Bedell sold his farm, in 1794, to Robert Benson, of New York city. The site of his inn, at Fishkill Hook, is now occupied by the carriage-house of Charles Hupful, the present owner of the farm.¹

As has been related, many of the men, who had battled for the independence of the thirteen American colonies, afterward quitted their homes and settled in less-populated but more inviting parts of the country. From Dutchess County there was a continued exodus for a number of years to the newly-erected counties of Rensselaer and Saratoga on the Upper Hudson, the terri-

¹Deed of Theodorus van Wyck to William van Wyck, October 1, 1754; deed of William van Wyck to Mary Ellison, July 1, 1789. Local tales and historical sketches. By H. D. B. Bailey. Published in the *Fishkill Times*, May 18 and 19, 1887. Historical sketch of the town of Fishkill. By T. van Wyck Brunckerhoff, pp. 79, 80, 83, 84. New York Revolutionary papers. Calendar of historical manuscripts, vol. i., p. 140. Archives, vol. i., p. 207.