



The War Man: The True Story of a Citizen-Soldier Who Fought from Quebec to Yorktown

Robert A. Mayers

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In 1775, the first year of the American Revolution, Congress made an appeal for troops. The resulting army of citizen-soldiers began what for many would be more than five years of battle and deprivation. Their consolation, however, was that they would ultimately defeat the most powerful army of the age. John Allison, a New York farmer, answered the call to arms in 1775, joining the Continental Army's 3rd New York Infantry. Allison was surrounded by like-minded volunteers, yet all were equally unprepared for campaigning. Despite the lack of training, equipment, and clothing, Allison and the rest of his company found themselves marching toward Quebec in the winter of 1775-76 as part of the unsuccessful American invasion of Canada. So begins the remarkable story of the wartime experiences of an average soldier of the American Revolution. Using letters, muster rolls, orderly books, service records, and oral family history, Robert A. Mayers reconstructs the campaign life of John Allison from the freezing Canadian wilderness, through the battle of Fort Montgomery and the Sullivan-Clinton campaign against the Iroquois, to the bitter winter at Morristown, New Jersey, and the decisive American victory at Yorktown, Virginia. During Allison's eight-year military career, he survived numerous skirmishes and battles across the colonies, was promoted to the rank of corporal, and returned home a local hero. *The War Man: The True Story of a Citizen-Soldier Who Fought From Quebec to Yorktown* is a unique opportunity to follow the entire course of the American Revolution through the eyes of a front-line volunteer.

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Grady Meraz:

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