

the Assembly was Commissioned Lieutenant of the 1st Company of Woodbury and in August, same year, he accompanied the expedition which was raised for the relief of Fort William-Henry near Lake George. Two companies were organized in Woodbury and marched to that place, being absent about three weeks. In March 1759, the Colony of Connecticut voted 5,000 men to aid in the war with France. Among the various enactments passed by the Assembly for this purpose, Gideon Stoddard was Commissioned Captain of the 10th Company, 2nd Regiment, for the ensuing campaign, and in the next year Captain of the 12th Company, 3rd Regiment. In October, Captain Stoddard retired from the army in the field and was Commissioned Captain of the 1st Company or trainband of Woodbury, he now continued his business of farming until the breaking out of the Revolutionary War, when, although an old man, he still took an active part in patriotic movements in his town.

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of the town of Woodbury Nov. 17th 1774, the action of the Association of the Delegates of the American Colonies in the late General Congress held at Philadelphia was approved and 19 persons were appointed a Committee to carry out the provisions of its recommendations. The third name on this Committee is Captain Gideon Stoddard.

At a legal meeting of the Freemen of the town of Woodbury Sept. 19th 1775, Captain Gideon Stoddard and 29 others, his being the first name, were appointed a Committee of Inspection and Observation to guard the sentiments of the town in the stirring times to follow. They were the principal men from all quarters of the ancient town, men upon whom dependence could be placed in times of difficulty and danger, and their duty was to foster the spirit of independence and to suppress and drive out any who manifested sympathy with the cause of the British.

Gideon joined his father's church on "the half-way Covenant," Feb'y 2nd 1735, with Olive his wife; within three years she entered into full communion and her husband followed July 9th 1741. He subsequently became "Deacon," Aug. 19, 1767, and died May 21, 1780, aged 66. He made his will nine days before his death, "being sick," and did not forget his young grandson Nathan who had been left fatherless three years previously.

Nathan Stoddard, son of Gideon and Olive, born Aug't 8th