**Justus/Justis Bissell (P-115273)
Melvin Heritage SAR# 188835**

Justus was born 16 February 1759 in East Windsor, Hartford County, Connecticut. He was the son of Israel and Hannah (Sackett) Bissell. He married Ann Blodgett, daughter of Ebenezer and Ann (Barber) Blodgett, on 20 December 1779.

Justus served as a Private in Capt Wolcott’s Company in the Connecticut Militia July-August 1776, and then June-December 1780 in Capt Wolcott’s Company in the 2nd Regt, Connecticut Line. Justus’ father Israel also served in the Revolutionary War, but died in 1776 of “camp distemper”. Justus’ older brother Israel served in the Revolutionary War, as well, apparently being the one who carried the news of the Battle of Lexington from Watertown, Massachusetts through Connecticut to New York and Philadelphia (350 miles) in four days. Reading between the lines, it is probable that the death of his father and the service of his older brother, combined with his own young age of 17 at the time of his initial service, caused Justus to return home to help his mother and younger siblings for a few years before he himself married and re-entered military service.

About 1782, Justus moved his family from East Windsor, Connecticut to Middlefield, MA, farming there for over 25 years. In 1808 he moved his family to Aurora, Portage County, Ohio and later to Bainbridge, Geauga County, Ohio.

Justus died 16 September 1832 and was buried in Aurora City Cemetery, Aurora, Portage County, Ohio. His wife Ann died 24 January 1839 and is buried next to Justus.