

Pension Application for John Barber

S.29613

State of New York
Orange County SS.

On this seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared before me Nathaniel P. Hill one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County John Barber who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

That he entered the service of the United States, as a private in a company of minute man, commanded by Captain Wm Jackson of the town of Montgomery aforesaid in the month of November 1774, the precise day not recollect. The said company was ordered by Governor George Clinton to New Windsor on the North River, and thence to West Point the said company being in service at West Point and New Windsor, a period of three months. Colonel Nicholas and Captain Matchin [Machin] were commanding at West Point. Deponent was then dismissed and returned home to Montgomery aforesaid.

This deponent further saith that early in the year 1776 he received a commission as Lieutenant in the Militia of the State of New York that the said commission was lost and that he knows of the said John Barber [?] and deponent does not recollect by whom it was signed—that in the month of May 1776 the day not being recollect this deponent was ordered out by General George Clinton as Lieutenant commandant of the company of Militia to which he belonged, to West Point, and after remaining there some time was ordered to Peekskill, and that he served, at Peekskill and West Point for the term of six months, Colonel Nichols and Captain Matchen were in command at Peekskill and West Point, and were superintending the works at the latter place—at the end of the term of six months deponent and the company in which he was, were dismissed and he returned home.

And this deponent further saith, that in the fall of 1776 he received a commission as captain in the militia of the commission as captain in the militia of the State of New York. Signed as deponent thinks by Gen. George Clinton, that in the month of December 1776, the day not being remembered.

Deponent was ordered out by Governor George Clinton with his company to Hackensack, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, passing through Ramapo and Paramus, the enemy being at this time in possession of New York. Powler Hook, land the lower part of New Jersey. Deponent remained at Hackensack and the surrounding county and along the lines of the enemy, to prevent them from making incursions into the county—

Deponent was in service at this time, five months, when he was discharged with his company and returned home. Governor George Clinton commanded at this time and had his head quarters at or near Ramapo, there were no United States troops there.

And this deponent further saith that in the month of April 1777, he was ordered out in command of a company of Militia by Governor George Clinton to fort Montgomery where deponent remained a period of four months, when he was discharged and returned home. Gen. James Clinton and Col. Lewis Dubois were in command of the standing forces at that time Colonels Levi Paulding and McLaughery of the Militia.

And this deponent further saith that in the month of September 1777 he was again ordered out by Governor Clinton in command of a company at Fort Montgomery that on the day the Fort was taken deponent had been ordered out and was distant about two miles reconnoitering and that whilst so absent the enemy invested the fort and deponent was unable to return. Governor George and Gen. James Clinton were in command of Forts Montgomery and Clinton Captain Moray and his company were in the fort. Colonel McLaughery was taken prisoner as were many others both officers and

privates. After the fort was taken deponent was ordered up the river to New Windsor, where he was discharged with his company and returned home, having been out at this time a period of three months.

And this deponent further saith that in the fore part of August 1778, he was ordered out with his company to the Frontiers at Peenpack to protect the inhabitants from the incursions of the Indians. Deponent was out one month when he was discharged and returned home. After remaining home about three or four weeks he was again ordered with his company to the same frontiers, where he remained about one month when he was again discharged and again returned home. Colonel Newkirk and Phillips were there in command, this was shortly after Minisink was burned by Indians.

And this deponent further saith that in the month of December 1778, he was again ordered out by Gov. George Clinton with his company to the same frontier where he remained about two months when he was discharged and returned home. Count Pulaski was there and also Colonel Courtland with his regiment of standing forces.

And this deponent further saith that in the month of November 1780 he was again ordered out with his company by Governor George Clinton to Fishkill Dutchess County were [where] he was appointed and officiated as Adjutant to Colonel Philips Regiment. After remaining there three months deponent was discharged and returned home.

And this deponent saith that he was born at Princeton New Jersey in the year 1753 in the month of February as appeared by a record of his age which he has at home in the Town of Montgomery aforesaid where he resided, when called into service at that time in the County of Ulster now in Orange as aforesaid where he now resides, and has resided since the revolution.

And this deponent further saith that he was neither drafted, nor a substitute but went out in obedience to the order of the Governor of this state.

Deponent cannot recollect the names of any other officers than those already mentioned.

And this deponent further saith that his commissions are lost and he does not recollect by whom his commissions were signed as above excepted.

This deponent has no documentary evidence of his claim and he says that he knows of no person excepting Christian Rockafellow and John Trimble whom he can apply to testify to his service.

That the said Rockafellow and Tremble was out with deponent upon several of the occasions above mentioned.

And this deponent further saith that he is known to James W. William and David McWestcott of Goshen—who reside in his neighbourhood and who can testify as to his veracity and their belief of his services in the revolution.

And this deponent hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state.

And this deponent saith since the above declaration was taken upon mature reflection he remembers that Gen. Putnam was in command of the standing forces at Peekskill during the service of this deponent at West Point and Peekskill subsequently Gen. Putnam came up to New Windsor while this deponent was there—Governor Clinton was likewise at New Windsor and this deponent further saith that he sometimes passed down the river to Fort Montgomery and sometimes went by land through the mountains.

And this deponent further saith that he had two brothers in the standing army of the Revolutionary War, Francis Barber and William Barber. Francis was Colonel of a Regiment of the New Jersey line of standing forces and William a Colonel and [?] to Major Gen'l Lord Sterling during the war—both were wounded in battle, the former at Monmouth—the latter at Yorktown at the taking of Cornwallis. [Cornwallis] (Signed) John Barber

I Nathaniel P. Hill a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Orange & State of New York, being a court of record, do certify that on the 17th day of September in the year 1832 personally appeared before me the above named John Barber who being by me duly sworn did depose and say the

facts set forth in the above declaration signed by him are true, I having propounded to him the interrogatories required by the rules & regulations of the war department. I do further certify that the said John Barber from bodily infirmity was unable to appear in open court—I do further certify that the said John Barber is a man of high respectability & that his statements on all subjects are entitled to the full credit and I do further certify that it is generally understood & believed in the neighborhood where the said John Barber resides that he was a soldier in the service of the United States in the revolutionary war and this deponent further saith that several alterations, erasures & interlineations were made in the said declaration before the same was sworn to particularly on the third page the words weeks, was over set & the word months interlined. Nath'l F. Hill.

Letter in file dated January 5, 1929, and written in reply to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim S.29613, it appears that John Barber was born in February 1753, at Princeton, New Jersey.

While residing in Montgomery, Ulster County (which was later Orange County), New York, he served from November 1774, three months as a minute man in Captain William Jackson's Company. Early in 1776, he was appointed Lieutenant in the New York Militia and served from May, 1776, six months under Captain Machin, and Colonel Nicholas. In the fall of 1776 he was appointed Captain in the New York Militia and served as follows: from December, 1776, five months; from April, 1777, four months under Colonels Levi Paudling and McLaughrey; from September, 1777, three months; from August, 1778, two months under Colonels Newkirk and Phillips; from December, 1778, two months and from November, 1780, three months and was Adjutant to Colonel Phillips' Regiment.

He was allowed pension on his application executed September 17, 1832, at which time he was living in Montgomery, Orange County, New York.

It is stated that he was at one time Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Orange County, New York and a Representative from said county in the State legislature.

It is not stated whether soldier was ever married.