

Pension Application for Jabez Berry

W.16504

State of New York

County of Putnam SS.

On the eleventh day of September in the year 1832 personally appeared before the Court of common Pleas of the said County of Putnam Jabez Berry of the town of Kent in the County of Putnam and State of New York aged, seventy five years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he enlisted in May 1775 into the service of the United States in the town of Fishkill in said State of New York into Captain James Rosecrantz's (1) company of minute men for nine months. James Holmes was Colonel (who afterwards joined the British)—General Schuyler's (2) brigade and served till the company was discharged, at Albany in January 1776—served about eight months the service was performed principally near Ticonderoga—afterwards he enlisted in Fredericksburgh in said State into Capt. Comfort Ludington's (3) company & went immediately thereafter to the city of New York this service was according to the enlistment for three months Col. Swarthout had [was] in charge [of] the regiment in New York to which he enlisted in the month of August 1776 in Fredericksburg[h] in said state into Capt. William Clark's company rangers for three months & served the time within the County of Dutchess in the State of New York. Malanchton Smith was captain of another company and commandant of both, that he enlisted about the first of May 1777, at Fredericksburgh aforesaid into Capt. Elijah Townsend's company for three months which service was performed at a place called the red mills in said Fredericksburgh to guard the continental stores at that place. That he enlisted for three months into a company commanded by Capt. Elijah Townsend (4) which was under the command of Col. Henry Ludington & the said three months were spent on the lines moving from place to place very often to promote their safety Col. Hammons (5) was the Lieut Col. under Ludington this service was performed in the year 1777—That he enlisted in March 1778 for one year into Capt. Elijah Townsend's Company in Col. Morris Graham's (6) Regiment in General James Clinton's (7) brigade to reinforce the army of the United States and served as a sergeant of said company for one year. That afterwards he enlisted into a company commanded by Capt. Israel Knapp (8) for a short campaign but not less than six weeks this service was performed on the lines in the county of Westchester & probably in the year 1780.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state—

He further declares on his oath aforesaid in answer to the interrogatories, propounded by the court—that he was born in Fredericksburg in the State of New York in the year 1757. That there was a record of his age in his father's bible but that is gone but has got a record at home in his own writing—That he has lived in the same neighborhood where he was born, at the time of the revolutionary war—and at this time. That he was a volunteer in all cases in said war. That James Clinton was a general part of the years served afterwards a general Scott had the command & as to regiments can not recollect any thing than herein before stated. That he received two discharges which are lost—one of said discharges was given by Capt. J. Rosecrants & the other was given by Col. Morris Graham. (Signed) Jabez Berry.

Subscribed & sworn in open court before me. Asher Gilbert Dep Clk
[September 13, 1832 in open court]

End notes—W.16504—Jabez Berry

1. Jabez enlisted as a private on August 9, 1775 in Captain James Rosekrans' Ninth Company in Colonel James Holmes' Fourth New York Continental Regiment. The muster was from August 3 to October 17, 1775. It was dated at StillWater. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 70, folder 50, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. Major General Philip Schuyler of the Continental Army.
3. Captain Comfort Luddington was commissioned as captain on February 25, 1776 in Colonel Jacobus Swartwout's Second regiment of Dutchess County Minute Men. William Clark was the Captain of the Third Company in Swartwout's Minute Men Regiment. The Minute Men Regiments were disbanded after June of 1776 when the militia law dissolved those regiments and required the militia men to be ready at a minute's notice. This might be a special detachment as under the Resolution of June 22, 1776 at least 2 companies were raised to defend Dutchess County. The First Company was under Melancton Smith and the Second Company was under John Durlin. A third Company was formed in Westchester County, and put under the command of Micah Townsend. Captain Smith was appointed senior Captain to command the said detachment. Captain Clark's name is not mentioned in this resolution but he might have been added by August. So far no muster rolls have been found for these companies. The resolution can be found on page 114, Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York, ed. Bertold Fernow, Vol. XV, State Archives, Vol. I, Albany, N.Y., Weed, Parsons and Company Printers, 1887. On

page 133 of the above cited source under October 2, 1776, "Resolved, that the non-commissioned officers and privates of the several companies of Guards or Rangers employed in the Counties of Dutchess & West Chester under the command of Captain Melancton Smith be allowed 10 S. (Shillings) per week each for their subsistence from this day during their continuance in that service." In a footnote it says "Upon a petition of the men of Capt. Clark's and Capt. Micah Townsend Compies of Guards."

4. Captain Elijah Townsend of Colonel Henry Luddington's Seventh Regiment of Dutchess County Militia.
5. James Hammond was the Lieutenant-Colonel in Colonel Joseph Drakes' First Regiment of Westchester County Militia.
6. Morris Graham was the Colonel of the First Regiment of the Dutchess County Militia. In 1778 detachments of militia were put under the command of Colonel Graham. Captain John Breadbake's Company of Tryon County Rangers were also part of this regiment even though they remained in Tryon County.
7. Brigadier General James Clinton of the Continental Army.
8. Captain Israel Knapp of Colonel Luddington's Regiment. Jabez's name also appears on the muster rolls for Captains David Waterbury and John Crane in Colonel Luddington's Regiment.