

Pension Application for William Campbell, Cammel, Camble, Cambell

S.23145

State of New York

Rockland County SS.

On this fourteenth day of December 1833, personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said county, William Campbell a resident in the town of Clarkstown in said County aged Eighty nine years, and personally well known in said county, and to the subscriber as a man of truth and good standing, and being duly sworn, saith, that he is the same William Campbell who on the 30th day of November 1832, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said county, then sitting made a Declaration under oath, of his Revolutionary services, in order to obtain the Benefit of the Act of Congress of June 7, 1832, which declaration has been returned as defective as to the interrogatories, and also as to the specifications.

That at the time when his said declaration was made out, he was not sufficiently aware of the necessity of specifying minutely, the detail of each and every tour of service performed, and that such was the pressure of business then before the court, from the great number of persons applying, that too little time were allowed, to take in writing, a recital of the services done throughout the various periods of the Revolutionary War, and especially the various marches and counter marches of the Militia and state troops, when ordered into service.—

This deponent has since making said declaration, bestowed more—thoughts and reflections on the subject, has endeavoured to refresh his memory with the history of the times, and desires that the Secretary at War and the Commissioner of pensions, will receive this as his amended declaration, in which he will endeavour to set forth his services during the Revolutionary War, as specifically and as much in detail as his memory now will enable him to do.—

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

That on the first of August 1775 he entered the service in a company commanded by Garret Dewint (1) (the regiment of Col. to which the said Capt. Belonged he cannot now state, as it has entirely escaped his memory) and served two weeks at work at Bunker's Hill when he in the middle of the same month (August) he enlisted in the City of New York for nine months in a company commanded by Capt. John Kasha, Major Stephens (2) commanded in the regiment and Genl Michlin (3) of Pensylvania commanded the Brigade, the Col name he does not now recollect. He very well recollects that a few days after he enlisted under Capt. Kasha that Capt. Sears (4) was engaged in taking the Cannon off from the Battery, that during the term of his enlistment as aforesaid he was employed in cutting of fashcions and building forts on Long Island, and part of the time in building Fort Washington on York Island, and in doing guard at the different stations, how long he was employed and on duty at each station, he cannot now correctly state, that after his aforesaid term of Enlistment was expired, he immediately enlis[t]ed for one month, under Capt. Lowns, (5) in the aforesaid regiment and Brigade and served that time doing guard duty at Fort Washington aforesaid and a building and strengthening said fort.

That immediately after his said term of enlistment was expired, he again enlisted for six months under Capt. Spoon (6) who was a Capt. In the same regiment in the aforesaid Brigade, which company remained to garrison Fort Washington and was employed in compleating [completing] the said fort, and continued there until the British army took possession of the City of New York, when some time near the last of the month of September 1776, he with some other fellow soldiers was sent to take some Powder from Fort Washington to be put on board of

a small pelanager which lay on the east side of the Hudson river something more than a mile below said fort which Powder was to be taken across the North river to Fort Lee, after putting the said Powder on board of said Vessel on his return to the fort he found out that the British by some of their men had intercepted his return to the fort, and it was with difficulty he made his escape and got on board of the said vessel, and crossed over to the west side of the river where he volunteered and went on board of the fire ship then prepared to set the British War vessels on fire, which eventually failed in accomplishing the object intended—

That then seeing no way by which he could safely again get to Fort Washington to join his aforesaid company he proceeded on the west side of the Hudson river and went to his father's residence, in the now town of Clarkstown, where he remained a few days, and then went to Kings Ferry, in the now town of Haverstraw, in said county, where he in the middle of October (as near as he now can recollect) volunteered his services to drive the Powder Waggon for a regiment (which was then there) commanded by Col. Nixon (6) and went with the said Regiment to Morristown, from which place they marched to Black river and encamped at Nealtown near Baskin Ridge from which last mentioned place they marched to Pluckemin, where they lay when Genl Lee (7) was taken prisoner, then they marched to Princetown and from Princetown they marched to Trenton, and assisted there in taking the Hessians, on the night of the 25th of December 1776 (8) when the continental army went into winter quarter, and he this deponent returned to the town of Clarkstown aforesaid the residence of his father, having served the full period of two and a half months—That he this deponent then became a resident of the now Town of Clarkstown, aforesaid, and on the first of April 1777, he was ordered out in the service, in a Company commanded by Capt. Jacob Onderdonk, (9) in a Regiment Commanded by Col. A. Hawkes Hay and served therein—until the first of December following that during the said time he served one full week in each and every four weeks, doing guard duty along the north river at Haverstraw, at Nyack, at the Slote and at Snedens Landing as the British Vessels of the War moved up or down said River and guarding at Clarkstown, Tappantown, and at the long and Short clove, and on scouting parties through different parts of the county of Bergen in the State of New Jersey, and served not less than two month in actual duty in the field.—

That in the month of April 1779, he was again ordered out in the service in the aforesaid Company and regiment, and served until the month of December following performing his weekly tours of duty as aforesaid that during the said time the British was in possession of Stony Point from the last of May until the beginning of the winter except a few days after the Point was stormed and taken by Gen'l Wayne, (10) that during the time they was so in possession, a strong guard was kept in the town of Haverstraw at different places to prevent the sallie's of the enemy, and that he this deponent performed nearly all his tours doing guard at Haverstraw aforesaid, and served in the Several tours last aforesaid the full time of two month[s] in actual duty in the field.

That in the month of April 1780 he enlisted at Clarkstown, for nine months, in a company commanded by Capt. John Blauvelt (11) in a Regiment commanded by Col. A. Hawkes Hay (in his original declaration he stated Coln. Graham) which he by bestowing more thoughts and refrections since making the same he has found out is an error, and prays that the war department will make due allowance for his extreme old age and the frailty of his memory) and was stationed, doing guard duty, at Clarkstown, Haverstraw, Tappan Town, and along the north river from Haverstraw to Sneden's landing as the British Ships moved up or down the same, and was stationed at Tappan Town when Major Andre was executed at which last mentioned place he was discharged in the month of January 1781, having served out the full period of nine months.

That in the month of April 1781, he enlisted at Clarkstown, for six months, in a company commanded by Capt. Avery King (12) in Col. A. Hawkes Hay's Regiment, and served that time principally in doing guard duty at Stony Point, they did for a few days at a time guard at Clarkstown, Tappan Town, and at Nyack, and was discharged at Stony Point, in the month of October of the same year, having fully served out the term of his enlistment.—

That as to his services rendered under Capt. Kasha, Lowns and Spoon in New York and in Col. Nixon's Regiment through Morristown to Trenton, and also his service under Capt. Avery King in 1781, he is now unable to procure a single witness to prove any of them, as he knows of no person living who served with him in either of the aforesaid services, or that ever was acquainted with him while engaged in the said recited services, and as to his services under Capt. John Blauvelt in the year 1780, he knows but of one person living who served with him that he can prove his service by whose testimony is hereunto annexed, and as to his service during the years 1777, 1778 & 1779 under Capt. Jacob Onderdonk, there is yet a few who knows that he served therein whose testimony is also herewith transmitted, he has as far as he has been able offered testimony to substantiate his claim, and must submit his case to the final decision of the Hon^l The Secretary of War and commissioners of pensions.

That as to the interrogatories prescribed by the war department and put to him by the court on the 30th day of November 1832, he did answer as follows—To the 1st—That he was born in the now town of Clarkstown on the eighteenth day of November 1744.

To the 2^d—That the record of his age was kept in his father[s] family Bible now in his possession.

From the great length of time which has elapsed since the before recited services were rendered, many particulars must have escaped his memory, (as some of his services which he has added in his amended declaration had entirely escaped his memory at the time the same was sworn to.) He has related all which he can remember as connected with his services and which are calculated to explain them. In the order of time, and in the names perhaps of some of his superior officers, he may in some instances have fallen into mistakes, he asks a reasonable allowance for the frailty of human memmory [memory], while he has faithfully endeavoured to adhear [adhere] conscientiously to the truth in all the events and occurrences of which he has spoken, and he verily believes that he faithfully served his country in the war of the Revolution for the full period of Thirty Seven months and a half as a Privet, being in actual duty in the field or garrison for each term alledged, and not engaged in any civil pursuit during the term of each aledged service, for which he claims a pension under the act of Congress of June 7, 1832. (Signed with his mark) William Campbell

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. John T. Blanch Justice

End Notes—S.23145—William Campbell

1. Captain Garret Dewint is unknown and may have been a militia or minute man regiment company officer.
2. Captain John Kasha nor Major Stephens can be found in existing records with what information was supplied.
3. Apparently this is the corruption of Brigadier General Thomas Mifflin's last name. General Mifflin commanded a Pennsylvania Brigade in New York City in 1776.
4. Captain Sears could not be located and may also have been a militia officer. In reading returns for several of the regiments in New York City in 1776 they usually gave a Captain's surname and the numbers of the men in each company. They rarely supplied a Company muster or payroll of the men.
5. Captain Lowns or Louns was not found in the records. William is giving short enlistment terms in these companies which would be the usual terms of service for a

militia regiment. There were several Pennsylvania and Maryland Regiments at Fort Washington when it surrendered on November 16, 1776.

6. Possibly Colonel Thomas Nixon of the Fourth Continental Infantry Regiment.
7. Major General Charles Lee of the Continental Army was taken prisoner at [Baskinridge] Basking Ridge, New Jersey on December 13, 1776.
8. The Battle of Trenton, New Jersey was fought on December 26, 1776.
9. Jacob Onderdonk or Underdonk was the captain of the Kings Street Company in Colonel Ann Hawkes Hays Third Regiment of Orange County Militia or the Haverstraw Precinct Regiment.
10. Brigadier General Anthony Wayne of the Continental Army. General Wayne captured Stony Point, New York on July 16, 1779 and he was wounded in the storming of the British fortification. Shortly afterwards General Wayne destroyed the fortifications and abandoned the position.
11. On May 28, 1778, Colonel Abraham Lent's Second Regiment of Orange County Militia was consolidated with Colonel Hays' Regiment. Colonel Lent had resigned on March 26, 1776 and Lieutenant Colonel Johannes David Blauvelt resigned February 27, 1777. Captain Johannes Jacob Blauvelt was not part of Colonel Hays' Regiment.
12. William may be referring to Captain Arie Smith of Colonel Hays' Regiment. An Aurie Smith served as a private in Captain Blauvelt's Company.