

Pension Application for Benjamin Doty

W.20998 (Widow: Abeline)

State of New York

Columbia County SS.

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On this 25th day of July 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the Justices Court of the City of Hudson, County aforesaid, now sitting Benjamin Doty aged seventy seven years, a resident of the town of Hillsdale in said county 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 was born in the town of Sharon in the State of Connecticut in the year 1755, the only record of his age the family Bible, that in the year 1775 he enlisted a private then in Dutchess County, in the Company of Capt. Childs, the Regiment of Col. Humphreys, and was ordered out by General Sterling & marched in the spring of that year to New York & was one who helped to build the Fort on Governors Island; was stationed a while on Long Island, he helped to build the Grand Battery in New York & another Fort on the East River, that he was among those called Rangers at that time, & was discharged in the spring of the year 1776, at the expiration of one year the time for which he enlisted.

He then enlisted a private on the spot, to go to Canada in the company of John McKinstry, Capt Regiment of Col. Patterson. He marched thence to Albany, thence to Whitehall thence across the Lake Champlain to Canada, thence to St. Johns, thence to La Prairie, thence across the River St. Lawrence to Montreal; thence to the [Cellars day?] a Fort so called, where a battle was fought with the Indians on the 25th May 1776. In this battle Capt McKinstry was wounded & he helped to carry him in a blanker to the boats after the exchange. They then retreated back to Montreal, thence by St. Johns &c to Crown Point, thence to Tyconderoga & St. Johns &c to Crown Point, thence to Tyconderoga & on the other side of the outlet of Lake George they built Fort Independence, when the troops were discharged at the expiration of a year the term of his enlistment - more than a year had expired before he got home & was then brought home sick by his father.

In April of the year 1777 he again enlisted a private in the company of Capt Eleazen Barret, & Regiment of Col. Van Ness; marched first to Fort Edward where he assisted in moving the American stores from Lake George to said Fort. While thus engaged they had a skirmish with the Indians. On the approach of Burgoyne, they retreated to Half Moon Point, then advanced to Bemis' Height driving the enemy before them.

He was in the Battle at Bemis Height at the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga. He saw Burgoyne give up his sword to Genl Gates. He then came home after a service of six months. He then came home after a service of six months.

He was in various other small tours in the subsequent years.

And he further says that he has no other living witness of any of said service other than that of Jacob Ford which is hereto annexed.

That he has no documentary evidence; that he hereby relinquishes all claim to any pension except the present & that his name is not on the pension roll of any state agency. (Signed with his make) Benjamin Doty

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year aforesaid. Hiram Wilbur Clerk