

Pension Application for John Jewel

S.13531

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

State of New York

County of West Chester SS

On this twenty ninth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared before me Edward Kemey one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the said County of West Chester of the degree of Counsellor of the Supreme Court of said state; John Jewel a resident of the town of Greenburgh in the County of West Chester aforesaid aged eighty six years who being by me, first 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein sated—that is to say—he entered the said service some time in the said month of July 1776 two British ships, the Phoenix And Rose railed up the Hudson River as far as Tarrytown in the said County (in the neighborhood of which place the declarant then lived; and it being then expected that the British would land from the said ships and plunder the adjoining county the militia were called out to guard the shore and to prevent the enemy from landing.

That the declarant at that time belonged to the company of militia of the County of West Chester in the State of New York commanded by Captain Gload Requa in the Regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Paines Hammond; that the said company was called into the service at the time the said ships sailed up the Hudson River as aforesaid: that the declarant served in the said company at that time, four weeks; that he served the said time in the said Captain Requa's company and under his command and in the regiment under the command of said Hammond; that the greater part of said Regiment was in the service at that time; that he served during the said time on the east bank of the Hudson River in and about the Village of Tarrytonw in the said County of WestChester: that he served during said period as a private, and was called into the service by order of his officers: thanks that the militia were called out at that time by order of the Committee of Safety.

And the declarant further states that sometime in the summer of the year 1776, he thinks in the latter part of the month of August of the said year, he was drafted from the said company of militia for the term of five months, served the saw term of five months in the company of drafted troops commanded by Captain Daniel Mailling and served in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Thomas. That at the time he was drafted as aforesaid he resided in the manor of Philips now town of Greenburgh in the said County of West Chester, that as soon as he was drafted as aforesaid he was marched to Kings bridge in the south of said County and was employed about one week in sinking a Chevauxdefrise [chevaux-de-frise] in said Hudson River opposite said Kingsbridge to prevent the British Vessels from sailing up the said river:

He was then marched to Fort Independence in that neighborhood and continued there until the retreat of General Washington with the American Army from the City of New York to White Plains in the said County of West Chester in the year 1776 at which time he left the said town of White Plains where they arrived sometime in the month of September in 1776 he does not now recollect the day of the month; that on the same day or the next day after he arrived there was marched with a detachment consisting of about thirty men, from said White Plains to Dobbs Ferry on the east bank of Hudson River in said County of West Chester about eight miles west of said White Plains:

That the said detachment was commanded by a Continental officer whose name he does not now recollect. That they had one piece of cannon, and the object of the expedition was to fire upon and to drive off some British vessels then lying in the Hudson River of said Dobbs Ferry. That they were joined by some more troops then lying that neighborhood, and they fired upon the enemies Vessels and drove them off. That they then marched north on the east bank of said river to Sing Sing and was stationed there some time, and from thence marched into the northern part of said County when the greater part of the American Army then lay and continued in the service in that part of the said County until the expiration of said five months, which was some time in the last part of January 1777 and was then and there discharged.

That he the declarant then returned to his home near said Dobbs Ferry; but it being situated between the American and British lines in the said County of West Chester, he was soon after driven from the same, and his family during the remainder of the Revolution had a temporary residence in the northern part of said County of West Chester; that being thus exiled from his home, he volunteered and and [sic] served on the lines in said County of West Chester from the expiration of said five months (which was some time in the month of January 1777) until the summer of the year 1780, that during a part of said time he served in the company of militia commanded by said captain Golad Requa and a part of the said time in the company of militia commanded by Captain Sybert Acker; that he was in actual service during the greater part of said time on guard in the said County of West Chester.

That he was stationed at different places in said County as the situation and attacks of the enemy rendered necessary. That he was on guard during said time, at Tarrytown at Committee Peter VanTassels at Young's house and at Sing Sing all in the said County of West Chester.

That he was in several expeditions into the southern part of said County against the enemy. That he was also in the expedition against Fort Independence in the year 1777.

And the declarant of the aforesaid five months until the summer of the year 1780 he was almost constantly in actual service; but it is impossible for him to state precisely the length of time he continued in the service during said time; but he says that he was in actual service during that time and independent of the five months for which he was drafted, before that time; two years and a half.

And the declarant further states that some time in the fall of the year 1780 he was taken prisoner near Pinesbridge in the north part of said County of West Chester. By the British and carried by them to the City of New York and confined there in the Sugar House seven weeks and was then exchanged.

1st And the declarant saith that he was born in the said County of West Chester in the manor of Cortlandt now town of York Town on the 17th day of January in the year of our Lord and one thousand seven hundred and forty six.

2nd That the time of his birth is recorded in his family bible now in his possession.

3rd That at the times he entered the service in the year 1776 he resided in the manor of Philips, now town of Greenburgh in the County of West Chester aforesaid; that in the early part of the year 1777 he was obliged to remove his family into the northern part of said County of West Chester as herein before set forth, where he resided at the times he entered the service after the year 1776. That since the revolutionary war he has resided in the said town of Greenburgh where he now resides.

4th That he entered the service as herein before set forth—and served as a private.

5th That the only officers of the regular army who were with the troops while he served whom he knew and whose names he recollects are generals Washington and Putnam and Colonel Burr; that his services except the five months for which he was drafted were on guard in the said County of West Chester. That the guards usually consisted of from 25 to 50 men generally militia and generally commanded by Militia Captains; that he does not now recollect any particular Continental regiments that were with the army under General Washington at White Plains in the year 1776, and the only militia regiment he recollects is Colonel Thomas Thomas that the general circumstances of his service are as herein before set forth.

That he was always verbally discharged from the service.

That the names of the persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for truth and veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution are the Reverend Thomas G. Smith & John G. Forkill, both of the town of Greenburgh in the said County.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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. (Signed with his mark) John Jewel.

Sworn to and subscribed this 29th day of October 1832 before me. Edward Kemey

Letter in file dated January 29, 1934, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter of January 16, in which you request the records of Oliver Ferris and William Jewell, soldiers of the Revolutionary War, and to your letter of January 23, in which you state it is the record of John Jewel you desire, not William.

The records of John Jewell and Oliver Ferris are given herein as found in the respective claims for pension based upon their services in the Revolutionary War. [Oliver Ferris will be put in the appropriate place since he didn't file for pension in NY State.]

John Jewel was born January 17, 1746 in the Manor of Cortlandt, Westchester County, New York, and resided in Philipse Manor at the beginning of the Revolutionary War. The names of his parents are not shown.

In July 1776, at which time he belonged to Captain Gload Requa's company, Lieutenant Colonel James Hammond's New York regiment of militia, he was called out at Tarrytown and served one month. In August 1776, he enlisted, served five months as private in captain Daniel Martling's Company, Colonel Thomas Thomas' New York regiment, assisted in the fortification of White Plains, and was in action against a British vessel at Dobbs Ferry. After this, as his home was between the American and British lines and unsafe for dwelling, he moved to the northern part of Westchester County, New York. He enlisted in the spring of 1777, served at various times in each succeeding year until the summer of 1780, amounting in all to nearly two years, as private in Captains Sebourt Acker's, Gload Requa's and Daniel Martling's companies Colonels Thomas Thomas and James Hammond's New York regiment, and was in the expedition to fort Montgomery. In the fall of 1780, John Jewel was taken prisoner by the British, carried to New York and confined seven weeks in the Old Sugar House, after which he was exchanged.

After the Revolutionary War, the soldier resided in Greenburgh (Formerly called Philipse Manor) Westchester County, New York.

He was allowed pension on his application executed October 9, 1832, at which time he resided in Greenburgh, New York.

The soldier died December 4, 1838.

John Jewel stated that in 1777, he moved his family from Philipse Manor to the northern part of Westchester County, but he did not give any names; there is no other reference to family in this pensions claim.

Oliver Ferris—W.16254.

Oliver Ferris, son of Josiah Ferris of Greenwich, Fairfield County, Connecticut, was born November 22, 1753, the name of his mother not shown. He was living in Greenwich at the beginning of the Revolutionary War.

He served in 1775 as a private in the expedition to Canada under General Montgomery, Specific dates not shown; in 1776, he was Quartermaster of Colonel John Mead's Connecticut regiment; on March 9, 1779, he was appointed Commander of the vessel, "Wakeman" and the whale boat, "Ranger", for two years served in Captain Timothy Lockwood's company of Connecticut Coast Guards, a part of the time as Lieutenant and a part of the time as Quartermaster; on July 4, 1781, was appointed Brigade Quartermaster of Brigadier General John [Wood's?] 4th Brigade of Connecticut militia, and served to the close of the war.

Oliver Ferris resided in Greenwich, Connecticut, and in Greenburgh, Westchester County, New York, where he died in August 1825.

The soldier married February 10, 1779, Abigail Lockwood, she was born November 12, 1760; the ceremony was performed by a Presbyterian minister at the home of her father, Enos Lockwood, In Greenwich, Connecticut.

Abigail Ferris, soldier's widow, was allowed pension on account of the Revolutionary War service of her husband, Oliver Ferris, on her application executed February 18, 1837. She was then a resident of Greenburgh, New York. In 1846, she resided in Tarrytown, Westchester County, New York. She died June 19, 1953. [This has to be a typo, probably 1853.]

The names and births of the children of Oliver Ferris and his wife, Abigail, are shown as follow:

Sarah Ferris born June 8, 1779.

Elizabeth Ferris born February 1, 1781.

Abigail Ferris born February 25, 1785.

Martha Lockwood Ferris born October 27, 1786.

Letitia Ferris born April 16, 1792, in Greenwich.

Borson (?) Ferris born August 24, 1802, in Greenburgh, Westchester Co., N.Y.

In 1837, Enos Lockwood, aged seventy-two years, and Messenger Lockwood, aged seventy-one years, both brothers of Abigail who married Oliver Ferris, were residents of Greenwich, Connecticut. One Albert Lockwood resided then in Sing Sing, New York, and one Munson I. Lockwood in 1846 was Clerk of Westchester County Court; in 1837, one Samuel Lockwood was Clerk of the Court of Probate in the District of Stamford, Connecticut; no relationship of any of these persons to the family was stated.

In 1846, Jacob Storms, the son-in-law of Abigail Ferris, was living in Westchester County, New York; the name of his wife was not designated. There are no further data relative to the family of Oliver Ferris in the papers on file in this pension claim.