

Pension Application for Lebbeus Knapp

S.23293

State of New York

Rockland County SS

On this Eighteenth Day of October in the year A.D. 1834, personally appeared before me one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in said County, Libeas Knapp a resident of the town of Haverstraw in the county of Rockland and State of New York, aged Eighty four 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 act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

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

That on the first of July 1776, he being then bound to do Militia duty and the British war vessels having sailed up the Hudson River and anchored in the Haverstraw Bay, he was ordered out to guard along the said River to prevent their landing in a company whereof William Kears was Capt. in a Regiment commanded by Coln. A. Hawkes Hay, and served therein until the last of November following, when the British vessels sailed for the City of New York and was out in the service in the field not less than four months and a half.

That in the month of April 1777, William Kears having been appointed Commasary, Capt. Derick Acker took the command of the company when he again was called into the service and served three month[s] doing guard duty along the Hudson River from Stony Point to the Long Clove, when he was dismissed and went home—

That in the month of September 1777, he enlisted for three month[s], in a company commanded Capt John Garner, in Coln A. Hawkes Hay's Regiment and served a guarding along the Hudson River at different places from Stony Point to Nyack, and after his term of enlistment was expired he was discharged at Haverstraw the place where he enlisted.

That on the first of May 1778, he again enlisted for three months in the Company commanded by Capt. John Garner, in the aforesaid Regiment at Haverstraw, and was stationed doing guard duty along the river as aforesaid and at Clarkstown at the short clove and at the old pace of Mr. Burns, and after serving out the term of enlistment, was discharged at Haverstraw aforesaid.

That on the last of September or first of October 1778, he gain enlisted at Haverstraw aforesaid for two months, under the said Capt. John Garner in the aforesaid, Regiment, and served out the full time doing guard duty along the River at Haverstraw and near Stony Point, and was discharged at Haverstraw.

That on the last of May or first of June 1779, the British then being in possession of Stony Point, he again at Haverstraw aforesaid, enlisted for three months in Capt. Garner's Company aforesaid, in said Regiment and served that time doing guard duty near Stony Point to prevent the enemy from Sallying out to plunder and distress the Inhabitants, and after that term of service was expired the British having

again got the possession of Stony Point (after it was taken by General Wayne) he immediately enlisted in the aforesaid company for two months, and served doing guard duty as aforesaid, and was discharged sometime in the month of November, having served out the full term of his enlistment in the field.

That in the month of April 1780, he enlisted at Haverstraw aforesaid for two months in the company and regiment aforesaid, and served the time doing guard duty along the Hudson River at Haverstraw to prevent the British from Landing from the War Vessels which then lay in the river at that place, and was discharged at Haverstraw in the month of June having served out the term of his enlistment.

That in the month of September of the same year he enlisted for one month in the Company and Regiment aforesaid, doing guard duty at Haverstraw, and was discharged in the month of October having served out his time.

That in the month of May 1781 he enlisted in the aforesaid company and regiment at Haverstraw aforesaid for one month, and served that time doing guard duty as aforesaid and was discharged at Haverstraw after he had served out the term of enlistment and in the month of October he served one month, service and duty as aforesaid—

That he served various other towers [tours] of duty for short periods between and since the time of his services by him above set forth but owing to the length of time since the services was performed and the frailty of his memory he is not unable to set forth the length of each tour of duty or the time that they was performed and claims to be allowed a pension for Twenty five months in actual service in the field and that during the time the said services was rendered he was not employed in any Civil pursuit.

That he was born in Fairfield County in the State of Conecticut [Connecticut] on the 21st day of June 1751—as appears by his father's family record as he has always understood and believed to be true.—

That from the year 1767 to the present he has resided in the said town of Haverstraw—

That General Wayne, Genl Washington and Genl Putman were at times with the companies in which he served.

That he never received a discharge in writing for any of his services.

That Richard Dikens, Eli Philips, Isaac Babcock, George S. Allison Esqr. and many other Citizens of the town of Haverstraw are persons to whom I am known, and who can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a Soldier of the Revolution—

That during all the above recited services he served as a Private.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and that he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State. Signed) Lebbeus Knapp.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. G. S. Allison
One of the Judges of Common Please [Pleas] of Rockland.

Letter in folder dated July 14, 1937, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter of recent date, in which you request the Revolutionary War record of Lebbeus Knap who served in the New York Militia under Colonel Ann Hawk Hay.

You are furnished herein the record of the only soldier named Lebbeus Knapp (as soldier signed) found in the Revolutionary War records of this office, all spellings of name being searched. The data therein were obtained from pension claim, S.23293, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

Lebbeus Knapp was born June 21, 1753, [this date differs from above], in Fairfield County, Connecticut, and in 1757 moved to the Town of Haverstraw, Rockland County, New York. The names of his parents are not given.

While residing in Haverstraw, New York, Lebbeus Knapp enlisted July 1, 1776, and served four and one half months as private in Captain William Kier's Company, Colonel A. Hawk Hay's New York regiment. He enlisted in September, 1777, served at different times until sometime in 1781, amounting in all to seventeen months, as a private in Captain John Gardner's company, Colonel A. Hawk Hay's New York regiment, and during his entire service was engaged in guarding the shores of the Hudson River.

Lebbeus Knapp applied for Pension October 18, 1834, while living in Haverstraw, Rockland County, New York, where he had lived since youth. His claim was allowed. He died March 14, in Haverstraw, New York.

The soldier was survived by a widow, Rachael Knapp, who died in Haverstraw, December 16, 1837. The date and place of her birth, names of parents or maiden name and date of her marriage to the soldier were not given.

Lebbeus Knapp and his wife, Rachael, were survived by children named as follow:--James L., Abel, Robert and Charlotte Knapp all of Haverstraw, New York, in 1854, and a son, Lebbeus L. Knapp, then of Hopewell, Ontario County, New York. Their ages were not given, nor was any reference made to other children.

In 1835, one Jonas Knapp made affidavit in Haverstraw, New York, in behalf of the soldier, Lebbeus Knapp, but did not state any relationship. In 1854, one Jonas Knapp and soldier's son, Robert Knapp, both residents of Rockland County, New York, were referred to as executors of the estate of Lebbeus Knapp. It was not shown whether Jonas Knapp was one and the same person as the above - named Jonas.