

Pension Application for Samuel B. Waldron

S.14778

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

State of New York

City and County of New York SS.

On this Eleventh day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty three, personally appeared in open court before the court of General Sessions of the Peace, in and for the City and County of New York, held at the City Hall of the said City, Samuel B. Waldron, a resident of the said City and County, aged seventy seven 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 7th 1832.

That he has been at Closter in the County of Bergen and State of New Jersey 31st day of August 1755. He has no record of his age; the book in which his father kept an account of the births &c in his family having been burnt during the war. He was living at Harlem, in the City of New York, when called into the service, where he has resided since the Revolutionary War and where he continues to reside.

That his first service was at Harlam [Harlem] aforesaid in the fall about September 1775, under Captain Samson Benson; he has no recollection of the names of the Colonel or General. That the only special service at this period which he remembers was the protecting some cannon at Kingsbridge, which had been removed there by the Americans. A report was spread abroad that a company of Welsh fusiliers, then in the City intended to go up the river, land at Kingsbridge and spike the cannon; in consequence of this report, his company at Harlem were ordered to protect them and seven privates of whom he was one, were sent to stand sentry over them. That they did so for seven days together when no attack having been made, they returned to Harlem. That he was in this service as he thinks not less than three months and was a volunteer therein.

That his next service was in the holding the fort at Hell Gate, on the East River, below Harlam aforesaid; he was engaged in drawing the timber with his team, from the beginning of March to the latter end of April 1776, a period of at least six weeks. One Colonel Hughes was the paymaster. General Wooster with his troops, from Connecticut were there, from the commencement to the completion of the building.

That his next service was about the 1st of June 1776, when he enlisted as volunteer in the company whose captains name he has forgotten; one Abell was the Major, Lasher was Colonel of the Regiment of the Brigade; the period of enlistment was for seven months or during the war. He stood sentry at the Old Hall, in the City of New York he went with Major Abeel and about 40 others of his company to Hempstead Plains, to seize [seize] two disaffected Tories. That they brought them to New York; he does not know what became of them, but it was said that they were sent to Simsbury [?] in Connecticut. That in the mean while, the British arrived and landed at Staten Island. That he with his company were ordered to Long Island, where they were during the battle. They were stationed to the lines and did not go into the field. They remained on Long Island about five days when they received orders to march. That

his company was the one of the first who landed at New York. That at or about the time the British landed at Kipps bay, to take possession of the City he stood sentry as they [?] That General Putnam rode very quickly around the City and ordered the officers at the guard houses to leave their posts and to follow him, the Easter side of the City was closed by the British and he with one Peter [Funk?] Quarter Master Sergeant to General McDougals Regiment retreated from the City in a [?] to [?], that in approaching the place a boat was sent out by the officer, to see if they were not spies.

General Biddle from Marblehead was the officer and was there with his brigade. On appearing before him he gave them a pass, and he proceeded to Hackensack. Soon after arriving at Hackensack, he was taken very sick with the spotted fiver and he remained so indisposed through the whole of October and a part of November. In the meantime and before his recover, the British had surrounded Hackensack and he was unable to get away. That when he left New York it was his determination to seek out his company and from them which was the purpose of his retreating; but he never ascertained where they had gone.

That as above related, in his first service he served not less than three months, and in his second, not less than six weeks. That for his third service he claims for the whole period of enlistment to wit seven months, having been taken sick immediately after his retreat, thought the object of his retreat was to discover and join his company and in and before his recovery, having been so summoned by a British as to be unable to bear arms against them, that from the date of his enlistment to that of his retreat.. Here was a period of not less than three months and a half. And from the date of his enlistment to that of his recovery not less than five months and a half—and that in consequence of old age, his memory is very much unpaired.

That he frequently saw Generals Washington and Putnam at the City of New York before the battle of Long Island and the latter subsequently as also one Major Hatfield of Goshen Dutchess County New York, and many others whose names he does not recollect.

That all his officers to the best of his knowledge and belief are all dead and that he knows of no one but his brother Oliver Waldron of the City of New York, who can testify to his actual services.

That he knows of no clergyman at present living who can testify in his behalf, but that Hon Gideon Sec Mayor of the City of New York late a citizen of his neighborhood and William Brady a citizen of his neighborhood—can certify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

That he never received any written discharges and has no documentary evidence.

That one further recollection he remembers that during his last enlistment before the battle at Long Island, he went with some of his own company in a fatigue party of about forty men to Fort Washington under the command of Corporal Peltown. The British fleet was then in the harbor of New York and he believes five vessels went up the River as far as SingSing, where one was burnt; as they sailed up they fired upon the Fort, it was nearly finished; his cannon were planted in the platform with

which they returned the fire; they knocked off part of the rigging of one of the ships; none of our men were wounded or killed; the leg of one of horses was shot off; that he remained there seven days; the names of two of the vessels were said to be Phoenix and Roebuck.

That 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) Samuel B. Waldron

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court. Richard Hatfield, Clerk

Letter in folder dated April 21, 1938, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War records of John Gilbert, born in 1760, and Samuel Waldron, born August 3, 1742, and died in 1798, both of New York.

There is no claim for pension or bounty land on file based upon service in the Revolutionary war of a Samuel Waldron, as described by you. However, the record has been found of a Samuel B. Waldron, who served from New York City and received pension while residing there. He record is furnished you herein as it may be of assistance to you in your research; the record of John Gilbert is also furnished you herein.

John Gilbert
W.16268

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim, W.16268, based upon disability resulting from service in that war, of John Gilbert.

John Gilbert was born February 10, 1760, place of birth and names of his parents are not shown.

John Gilbert enlisted, place no stated, and served as follows in Colonel Isaac Sherman's Connecticut Regiment; as private from May 28, 1777, to January 1, 1780; as corporal, from January 1, 1780 to January 1, 1781; and as sergeant from January 1, 1781 to December 31, 1781.

He was allowed pension from September 2, 1808, on account of disability resulting from injuries sustained while in service. Due to the destruction of papers, when the War Office was burned in 1800, there are no details as nature of injury or engagement in which it was received.

John Gilbert died March 31, 1816, place not shown.

The soldier married November 11, 1783, Elizabeth Lyon, born January 18, 1763, place of birth and names of parents not shown.

Soldier's widow, Elizabeth, was allowed pension on her application executed October 22, 1838, while a resident of Cortland, Westchester County, New York.

The following names of children are shown:

Betsy Gilbert born September 17, 1784.

Clarissa Gilbert born September 28, 1786.

Moses Gilbert born November --, ----

Burr Gilbert born December 6, 1790.

Abyrail Gilbert born March 12, 1793.

Rachel Gilbert born April 12, 1797.

John Gilbert born-date not given.

In 1839, Clarissa Miller, aged fifty-three lived in Cortland, New York, but she did not state whether or not she was Claissa, daughter of John and Elizabeth Gilbert.

Samuel B. Waldron

S.14778

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim, S.14776, based upon the military service in that war of Samuel B. Waldron.

Samuel B. Waldron was born August 31, 1755 at Closter, Bergen County, New Jersey. The names of his parents are not shown.

While residing in Harlem, New York City, Samuel B. Waldron enlisted in the fall of 1775, and served three months in Captain Sampson Bonson's New York Company; from March 1, 1776, to the latter part of April, 1776, he was engaged in hauling timber for the building of a fort at Hells' Gate; names of officers not shown; he volunteered about June 1, 1776, served in Colonel Lasher's New York Regiment, was on Long Island when the battle occurred but was on the lines and did not go into the field", was in the retreat from Long Island and while standing guard at market in New York City, was ordered by General Putnam to leave the city, and as the eastern side of the city was closed by the British, he escaped to Hackensack, New Jersey; here he was taken ill and remained till during October and part of November of said year and did not again rejoin his regiment, because, he stated, he never found out where said regiment had gone.

He was allowed pension on his application executed March 11, 1833, while residing in New York City.

There are no data as to wife or children.

In 1833, Oliver Waldron, an older brother of Samuel B. resided in New York City.