

Pension Application for Elijah Adams

R.46 (Wife: Sarah)

B.L.Wt.34592-160-55

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

State of Ohio

Licking County SS.

On the 11th day of August 1833 personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of Licking County and State of Ohio now sitting Elijah Adams a resident of Liberty Township Licking County and State of Ohio aged 78 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 enlisted the first time in the Army of the United States in the year 1775 with Captain H. Parsons (1) and served in the Regt. (Not recollected) commanded by Col. Inman of the Connecticut Line under the following officers, Col. Inman, Capt. Parsons, Lieut. Holdridge. (2) The Regt was separated part went towards Quebeck. The part he was in comd. By Capt. Parsons went to Roxbury then to Hingam Cove about 20 miles from Boston to guard the inhabitants. Served at this time seven months left the service the 1st of December 1775. Resided in the Town of Enfield, Hartford County, Connecticut. Marched from Enfield to Roxbury and Hingan.

His second term was for two months in the winter of 1776 the beginning of the year with John Simons field officers or Regt not recollected left the service at the end of the two months, resided in the same place, marched to Roxbery.

His third term he enlisted for six months in the year 1776 with Captain Harman (3) the Regt. Commanded by Col. Mott in the Connecticut Line, Lieut T. Abbe (4), was taken from the Co. for a marine pvt. board a row gally, was with Gen^l Waterberry (5) and Capt. Murison (6) at Mount Independence near the head of Lake Champlain, went down the lake to join Arnold. (7) Fought the British (8) on the lake under Arnold & Waterbery for more than two days was taken prisoner by the British. Shortly after he was permitted to return home as a prisoner on parole, he remained a prisoner for some months, after his time was out.

His fourth term of service he was a substitute (for whom not recollected) He enlisted as a Sargeant for six months with Capt. Jos. Harrison (9) in the New York Levies Com'd by Col. Willett & Major Troop [Troop] (10) left the service when the time was out he thinks about the 1st of December. The last year of the war resided in Frothingham, Mass'ts. He was in the Battle at Johnstown (11) when Col. Willett fought the British and Indians and defeated them. He marched to German Flatts and Canada Creek. (12) They there had a fight and killed 8 of the enemy. He marched from Albany to Johnstown & Canada Creek.

Questions propounded by the Court.

1st Where and in what year were you born.

Ans. In Coventry Connecticut in 1755.

2d Have you any record of your age?

Answer: none

3rd Where were you living when called into service.

Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live.

Ans. In Enfield, Hartford Co., Connecticut since the War. He moved about the year 1796 from Enfield to Ouliot Creek, NY about the [year] 1800 he moved to Stafford Conn't about two years after he moved to Maynsbush NY one after he moved to Lusern Co., Pa., abut the year 1814 he moved to Licking Col. Ohio where he has resided ever since.

4 How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer &c or a substitute

Ans. He volunteered three times he was once a substitute for whom not recollected.

5th State the names of some of Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such continental and militia Reg't as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. The officers are above stated, the Regt. are also mentioned. He was principally marching, he was not long stationed in any one place. He was twenty one months in actual service and a prisoner on parole at least six months. Longer.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

Ans. He never received a formal discharge.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Ans. Elder Allen Darrow & Elias Gilman.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.
(Signed) Elijah Adams

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County of Licking and State of Ohio. Wm. Garrit JP

His widow Sarah applied for pension 28 March 1850 at age 81 years. She states she was married to Elijah Adams on the 11 July 1798 in the state of New York by a Justice of the Peace whose name she did not remember, and that her husband died the 7th December 1845.

Letter of reply to an inquiry is dated December 5, 1928

I advise you from the paper in the Revolutionary War pension claim, R.46, it appears that Elijah Adams was born in 1755, in Coventry, Connecticut.

While living at Enfield, Hartford County, Connecticut, he enlisted, May 1, 1775, and served to December 1, 1775, as a private in Captain Hezekiah Parsons' Company, Colonel Hinman's Connecticut Regiment. He enlisted in the winter of 1776 and served two months at Roxbury, officers not given. He enlisted in 1776, in Captain Harmon's company, Colonel Mott's Connecticut Regiment, was detached and placed as a marine on a row-galley under Captain Murison and General Waterbury on Lake Champlain, was captured in the battle on the lake and shortly afterward released on parole. He enlisted in 1782 (13) and served six months as a sergeant in Captain Joseph Harrison's Company under Colonel Marinus Willett with the New York Troops and was in the battle of Johnstown and the battle of Canada Creek.

He was allowed pension on his application executed August 23, 1832, at which time he was living in Liberty Township, Licking County, Ohio. He died there, December 7, 1843 or 1844.

The soldier married, February 11, 1796 or 1797 or 1798, in Otsego County, New York, Sarah Vails who was born about 1769.

Elijah and Sarah had five sons:

John Adams born April 14, 1799

William C. Adams July 19, 1801

Elisha D. Adams July 13 1803

David Adama July 29, 1805

Ammi Adams July 26, 1808

End Notes—R.46—Elijah Adams

1. Captain Hezekiah Parsons in Colonel Benjamin Hinman's Fourth Connecticut Continental Regiment.
2. First Lieutenant Hezekiah Holdridge.
3. Captain John Harmon in Colonel Samuel Mott's Connecticut State Regiment.
4. Lieutenant Thomas Abbe of Colonel Mott's Regiment.
5. Brigadier General David Waterbury of the Connecticut State Troops.
6. Captain Murison is unknown and this may be a corruption of his surname.
7. Major General Benedict Arnold of the Continental Army.
8. The Battle of Valcour's Island, Lake Champlain, New York was fought on October 11, 1776. General Waterbury was taken prisoner in this battle and was exchanged by October o 1780.
9. Elijah served in Captain Joseph Harrison's Company in Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies in 1791. On Captain Harrison's Receipt roll Elijah was listed as sergeant and was owed £14. . 18. . 3 for his service. FROM: Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
10. Josiah Throop was appointed major on April 28, 1781 in Willett's Regiment.
11. The Battle of Johnstown was fought on October 25, 1781.
12. The Skirmish at West Canada Creek was fought on October 30, 1781. Captain Walter Butler and several of his men were killed here.
13. Elijah was mistaken as his service in Willett's Regiment was only in 1781. An Elijah Adams served as a sergeant in Captain Christopher Tillman's Company in Colonel Stephen J. Schuyler's Sixth Regiment of Albany County Militia. It is possible that they are both one in the same.