

Pension Application for William Babcock or Badcock

R.346

State of New Jersey
County of Sussex SS.

On this the eighth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty four personally appeared before me Moses Dunning one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas of the said County of Sussex, William Babcock a resident of the County of aforesaid aged one hundred years on the second day of January last past—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 AD 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States during the War of the Revolution, serving in the first place in the Militia, and then enlisted in the regular service of the United States for five years or during the war—That he enlisted at Haverstraw in the State of New York, but under what officer he has now no means of ascertaining and that he has no means of ascertaining the date of his enlistment—that after his enlistment he was stationed at Haverstraw aforesaid under Captain Vanderberry of the United States Infantry belonging to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Burns of the division of General Anthony Wayne.

He further saith that by reason of extreme old age and the consequent loss of memory he is at this time unable to tell the precise length of his service in the regular army but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than five years as a private in the company aforesaid besides some months of service performed in the militia under Captains Hutchinson and Garner or Gardner, and that he was regularly discharged at Haverstraw after Peace was declared, and received his written certificate of discharge, which was afterwards destroyed by the burning of his dwelling.

He further saith that he cannot at the present time refer to any person now living who can testify as to his service as aforesaid, that he was a witness of Nathan Youmans, James Conklin, and one Gibson, (Henry Gibson) that they resided in the County of Orange & State of New York, and served in the same Regiments with this deponent and as this deponent is informed and believes received their pensions therefor, and that they are now dead as he verily believes and has been informed upon due inquiry made.

This deponent further saith that the only battle that he served in was at the taking of Stony Point from the British. That the night previous to the taking of the fort the American troops were stationed near, and that were in danger of being surrounded and destroyed, but that they were warned of their danger by a negro man named Pompey, belonging to one Captain Lamb, and that as they escaped they saw in the moonlight files of British soldiers on both sides of them.

He further saith that the next night the same negro man Pompey piloted the American Troops through a copse of cedars and brush-wood, and they passed the sentries and fired upon the British troops before being discovered, and then charged with bayonet and took the fort. The next day this deponent escorted the prisoner to a place called Little York, and was then marched back to Stony Point.

Question. Previous to the taking of Stony Point how far were you stationed from this post.
Answer. About three miles distance.

Question. Was General Wayne present in person. Answer. He was not, he was the principal in command but was stationed some miles distant, and did not come to our camp until after dark, he brought a great many regulars with him.

Question. Did you at the taking of Stony Point belong to the Militia or regular service. Answer. I cannot now state with certainty, but I think I had enlisted a little while before this, I remember that I entered the Fort under the command of Captain Vanderberry.

Question. How long were you in marching with the British Prisoners to "Little York" and where is Little York situated. Answer. Not more than a week in going and less than a week coming back. Little York was somewhere in Jersey, I think near Trenton. There was a General Howe there and a great many prisoners. After returning to Stony Point I remained there until the end of the war.

And this deponent further saith that he was born in Haverstraw aforesaid, that he has no record of his birth that his mother in her life time always informed him that he was born on the day of his grandfather's death and that the inscription upon the tomb stone of his grandfather recites that he died on the second day of January AD seventeen hundred and fifty four. At the time of being called into the service he lived in Haverstraw and since then he has lived in the Counties of Rockland and Orange in the State of New York, and that he now resides in the Township of Sparta County of Sussex and State of New Jersey.

And the said William Babcock (alias "Badcock") hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. (Signed with his mark) William Babcock

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year first aforesaid. And I hereby certify that the said William Babcock or as he is sometimes called Badcock, by reason of his age and infirmities cannot appear in open court and further that the appearance of Babcock indicates a very advanced age, and that from means that I have of testing the truth of some circumstances stated in the above affidavit, I am convinced that his statements are substantially correct and that he is of the age aforesaid. Moses Dunning Judge.

Letter in file dated January 9, 1913, written in reply to an inquiry.

In response to your letter dated the eight and received the ninth instant. I have the honor to advise you that the files of this Bureau show that there were three Revolutionary War pensioners named William Babcock, and if you will designate by the file number, the one whose history you desire, the same will be furnished you without delay.

R. file no, 346, William Babcock, born January 2, 1754, at Haverstraw, New York, enlisted in the New York troops and resided in Sussex County, New Jersey, in 1854.

Sur. File no. 44,575, William Babcock born March 11, 1751 served in the Rhode Island Troops and resided at Carlisle, Schoharie County, New York in 1821, and had a wife Penelope.

W. file no. 25,191, William Babcock aged sixty-two years and a resident of Canaan, Columbia County, New York, in 1818, served in the Rhode Island and Connecticut line and has a wife Mary aged fifty-four in 1820. He married February ____ 1820, Phebe Scott, widow. He died February 22, 1840, and she was pensioned.

Letter in file dated February 13, 1813, written in reply to an inquiry.

In response to your letter dated the twelfth and received the thirteenth instant, requesting information relative to the Revolutionary War pension claim of William Babcock, of Orange County, New York, I have the honor to advise you that in the claim Rejected File No. 346, William Babcock or Badcock, alleges that he was born in Haverstraw, New York, January 2, 1754, and that while residing there during the Revolution, entered the militia and served under Captains Hutchinson and Garner or Gardner, and afterwards enlisted in the regular service for five years as a Private; served under Captain Vanderberry of Colonel Burns' regiment, and was in the battle of Stony Point; no dates of enlistment and discharge stated.

After the Revolution, he resided in Rockland and Orange Counties, New York. There is not data on file as to his family.

He applied for pension August 8, 1854, at which time he resided in Sparta Township, Sussex County, New Jersey, but his claim was rejected on the ground of insufficient proof of service as required by the Act of June 7, 1832, under which he applied.