

## **Pension Application for John Barnes**

S.23110

State of New York  
Sullivan County SS.

On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the said County now sitting John Barnes a resident of the Town of Neversink in the County of Sullivan and State of New York aged 79 years the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December next who being fist duely [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 the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service under the following named officers and served as herein after stated.

I enlisted at Dover in the County of Litchfield & State of Connecticut on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 1780 in Col. Marinus Willet's Regiment (1) Job Wright was the captain of the company Pliney Moore was the First Lieutenant and Jesse Hubble was second Lieutenant enlisted for the term of During the War. (2)

I was not called in service until in April following I was appointed a Corporal and served in such till the war ended. I joined the main part of the company in Albany in the State of New York and marched from there to Saratoga and joined the Regiment. We marched from Saratoga to BallsTown and from there to Fort Plane on the Mohawk River which was at that time all most a Wilderness Country we continued at this place and at Fort Herkimer to Fort Dayton frequently changing from one place to the other for about two years we were generally divided in to scouting parties and frequently sent in pursuit of the Indians I was never in any engagement during this time until the month of July 1783 I was in a small party of about 14 men commanded by Sergeant Ichabod Koon. (3) We fell in with a party of Indians at a place called Resko Creek & had a severe engagement for the number employed we found several Indians killed Resko (4) Creek is about two miles from Fort Dayton on the Mohawk River. Immediately after this engagement we marched to Fort Stanwix (5) on the Mohawk River about 25 miles above Fort Dayton where I again joined the Regiment a few days after our arrival at Fort Stanwicks the whole regiment was engaged with a party of Indians in which engagement we killed as near as I can recollect about 20 Indians about a week after this battle myself and a man by the name of John Cummins (6) went to an Indian Orchard to get some apples while there we were surprised by six Indians and one white man and were taken prisoners we were taken some distance in the wood[s] and [??] put for the night in the night I made by escape after rambling two days in an unknown wilderness I found my way back to the Fort we had no more engagements after wards to my recollection.

Soon after this we were marched to Schenectady, and were there discharged in the month of October (7) according to my recollection I received my discharge signed by B. Pierce Captain, which I did not consider it of being use & have lost the same. My mess mates for nearly all the time while in this regiment were John Rice (9), Isaac Richardson, John Bidwell, Robert Christy & Bass Chard. I recollect that there were Captains belonging to the Regiment by the name of Harrison, & Gray (10) Our Major's name was VanBunschoted (11) his Christian name I do not recollect. I served in different regiments from the commencement of the war & previous to my enlistment in Colonel Willet's Regiment as well as will more fully appear by a former application on file in the War Department connected

with the affidavit of Isaac Richardson of Oneida County in the State of New York supporting my services in Colonel Willet's Regiment to which I would respectfully refer the officer of the department.

I have no other documentary evidence but the said affidavit of Isaac Richardson & know of no other person by whom I could prove my services nor do I know that he is now living his last place of residence as far as I am acquainted with is being about 200 Miles from mine. I was born in the State of Connecticut in the Town of Canaan & resided in the same place until the beginning of the War of the Revolution after my discharge from the service I returned to the State of Connecticut where I had formerly resided I continued there a few months & went from there to the State of New York in Orange County & Town of Newburgh where I remained about 18 years.

I removed from there to the City of New York where I resided two years I returned again to [Colelinehaven?] in Orange County where I have resided ever since until within I about ten years past I have resided where I now do that is in the Town of Neversink, County of Sullivan & State of New York.

I have no record of my age but from the best information & knowledge which I possess I was born the 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 1753. I know of no clergyman who is particularly acquainted with me. I have several acquaintance[s] in my neighbourhood among whom are John Hall, Charles Townsend, Eben Townsend & [Hopanor?] Reynolds John N. Sheby are at the present court.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & that my name is not on the pension roll of the office of any state.

(Signed) John Barnes

Sworn & Subscribed the day and date aforesaid, [Jake Joytie?], Clerk of Sullivan County

End Notes—S.23110—John Barnes.

1. John's enlistment was sometime in May of 1781 as the regiment was not authorized to be raised until April 27, 1781. Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. Job Wright was appointed Captain in Willett's Regiment on April 28, 1781. Pliney Moor and Jesse Hubbell (Hubbel, Hubble) were also appointed lieutenants on April 28, 1781. Originally Lieutenant Hubble and Lieutenant Ephraim Eaton were serving Captain Wright's Company.
2. John enlisted on September 14, 1781 for 3 years as a class enlistment. His residence is listed as Canaan, Litchfield County, Connecticut. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His age was 19, 5 feet 8 inches, complexion—dark, Hair—Dark—eyes—Dark, Occupation—Labourer. FROM: Colonel Marinus Willett's Regimental Descriptive Book No. 4, Doc. No. 11105, Special Collections and Manuscripts, New York State Library, Albany, N.Y.
3. Sergeant Ichabod Coon (Cone) of Captain Wright's Company.
4. If John is referring to Orisko (Ariskay, Orisco, etc.) Creek now called Oriskany Creek it is more than two miles from Fort Dayton which stood in the present day Village of Herkimer.
5. Fort Schuyler the official name for Fort Stanwix, was abandoned in May of 1781 as most of it was destroyed by a fire and a flood. A detachment of Willett's Regiment was sent up to build a blockhouse near the Fort Schuyler. The detachment was commanded by Captain Jonathan Pearce (Percy, Pearsy, etc.)

6. John O'Cummins served as a private in Captain Joseph Harrison's Company in Willett's Regiment. According to Captain Harrison's Payroll for 1783 O'Cummins deserted on April 25, 1783. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
7. On January 1, 1783, Corporal Barnes was transferred to Captain Harrison's Company. John served in this company for ten months as Captain Harrison retired from the service in November, 1780. John was then transferred to Captain Simeon Newell's Company. Willett's Regiment by this time is referred to as a State Battalion. Willett also had retired from the service on November 1, 1783. According to Captain Harrison's Payroll Corporal Barnes had been paid £29..0..30 and was owed £44..0..0. For his two months service in Newell's Company he was owed £14..0..60. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
8. Peter B. Tierce Captain of the Light Infantry Company in Willett's Regiment. He commanded the State Battalion on January 6, 1784 when the remaining troops were discharged from the service.
9. All these men served with Barnes, all the names are correct except for John Bidwell whose Christian name was David. Mess mates usually refer to the men who share a camp kettle big enough to cook food for six men. Usually every mess mate took a turn cooking and on a march they took turns carrying the Camp Kettle.
10. Silas Gray was appointed captain on April 27, 1781 in Willett's Regiment. Gray was appointed captain again in 1782 in Willett's Regiment but on not recruiting his quota of men he was discharged by July and the recruits that he did have were put into other companies.
11. Elias VanBunschoten or Benschoten was appointed major on April 10, 1782 in Willett's Regiment.