

**Pension Application for Isaac Belknap or Bellnap**

W.25322 (Widow: Susan) Married Isaac October 19, 18? Died January 26, 1845.

State of New York

Orange County SS.

On this twelfth day of February in 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Orange aforesaid now sitting at the building in the Village of Newburgh Isaac Belknap Esquire a resident of the Town of Newburgh County and State aforesaid aged seventy 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<sup>th</sup> 1832.

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

That in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight he belonged to the company of Militia commanded by Captain James Denton of Newburgh aforesaid of which company Major Clark had been the captain previous to his promotion said company was ordered to hold itself in readiness to march at one minutes warning and was divided into detachments which took regular tours of duty and served until relieved by some other detachment of the same company. Soon after I was enrolled in said company I volunteered to serve in the Quartermasters Department of the United States Army for one year under Colonel Hays or Hughes whose head quarters were then at Fishkill in Dutchess County according to the best of deponents recollection and belief. Deponent was ordered on board of a vessel called Liberty according to the best of his recollection under the command of Captain John Holdran who had the command of all the vessels employed in the United States service at Fishkill and Newburgh Landings.

In the year 1779 one third of all the Militia in the State of New York below Hudson was required by General Washington for the purpose of retaking New York from the British one William Bloomer with two others whose names deponent can not now recollect constituted a class and were bound to furnish a man to serve three months I volunteered to serve as a substitute for them I was ordered to join the company of Captain Stephen Case of the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Hawthorn which I did at Fishkill aforesaid where said company and regiment was then stationed under the command of the said Captain & Colonel respectively deponent served in the said company at the place aforesaid until the said company and regiment were discharged sometime in the month of December in the year last aforesaid and was then honorably discharged General George Clinton commanded the Division to which one regiment belonged. A part of the Connecticut and New Hampshire troops then lay at Fishkill but deponent cannot now recollect the names of the commanders of said troops nor of the other regiment which lay near Fishkill Town at this time. In the year 1780 deponent again entered the quartermaster department under Colonel Hays or Hughes before mentioned quarter master general whose had quarters still continued at Fishkill according to deponent's recollection and belief and was ordered on board the sloop belong Captain John Donnaghy which belonged to the quartermasters department I was employed on board said sloop as a mariner as aforesaid in transporting provisions and military stores wood hay & troops for the army and the forts at West Point. I continued in this service until the river closed which was about ten months and was then honorably discharged. About the time that Arnold was maturing his plot he embargoed all vessels at West Point both public and private according to deponents recollection. We were detained for the purpose of giving vessels to the enemy (as I have always thought) for several weeks at West Point and remained there until his plot that exploded and deponent also saith that the Militia of Orange County were almost always engaged in actual service in times of alarm. That these alarms were so frequent and sudden that we were compelled at all times to be ready to march at a minutes warning.

And in answer to the interrogatories specially put to this deponent by the said court he saith that he was born at Wooburn near Boston in the State of Massachusetts in the year one thousand seven

hundred and sixty one that there is a record of his age in the family Bible at his sister's in NewBurgh aforesaid. That he lived in NewBurgh when he entered the service & has lived there ever since and lives there now. That he entered the service as a substitute for William Bloomer before mentioned and two others whose names he does not recollect. That he has already stated the names of the regular officers who were with the troops where he served and such Continental and Militia regiments as he recollects and the general circumstances of his service. That he never received a written discharge. That he is known to Walter Case Counsellor at Law, General Leonard Smith and Joseph Morrel Esquires of his neighbourhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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) Isaac Belknap.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Asa Dunning Clerk