

Pension Application for John Belknap

S.45168

Original Claim

First District of New York SS.

On this nineteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty three personally appeared in the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Orange in open court it being a Court of Record John Belknap aged eighty nine years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Act of Congress of the eighteenth day of March 1818 and the first of May 1830 that he the said John Belknap served as Captain in the regiment commanded by Col James Clinton in the line of the State of New York on the Continental Establishment by virtue of and under the authority of the annexed commission from the twenty sixth day of February one thousand seven hundred and seventy six until some time in the month of January in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven that he was in the battle which took place at Fort Montgomery on the sixth day of October in the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy seven that sometime in the month of October last aforesaid he was detached by General Clinton to guard the stores at Shawangunk that he continued in that service until after the British fleet which had burned Kingston and returned to New York which according to his recollection was in the latter part of the month of October aforesaid that during the revolutionary war he was frequently ordered out by General Clinton to take the command of different companies which had been detached as guards and that he has no other evidence now in this power of his said services.

And in pursuance of the act of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons in engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war passed on the 18th day of march one thousand eight hundred and eighteen that I have not nor has and person in trust of me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. (Signed) John Belknap

Sworn to & declared on the 28th day of May 1823 before me in open court. Asa Denning Clerk of the common Pleas in & for Orange County.

Letter in file dated March 24, 1931, written in response to an inquiry.

You are advised that it appears from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.45168, that John Belknap was commissioned February 26, 1776, Captain of the 5th Company, 2nd New York Regiment, then commanded by Colonel James Clinton, and served until late in October, 1777; he was in the battle of Fort Montgomery. He sated also that "during the Revolutionary War he was frequently ordered out by General Clinton to take command of different companies which had been detached as guards", no dates of this service given.

He was allowed pension on his application executed May 17, 1823, while a resident of New Windsor, Orange County, New York, aged eighty-nine years. At that time, soldier's, but her name was not stated.

He died October 25, 1825.

In 1854, Rhoda Kernaghan of Wayne County, Pennsylvania, stated that she was one of the soldier's children but did not give the name of the other children.