

Pension Application for Samuel Beman or Beeman

S.12152

Green Mt. Boys, New York

Declaration of Samuel Beman to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th AD 1832.

State of New York

County of Washington SS.

On this twenty eighth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas, being Court of Record holden in and for the County of Washington aforesaid before the Judges of the same court now in Session Samuel Beman a resident of the Town of Hampton in the County of Washington and State of New York, aged seventy six years on the twelfth day of September last past—Who being first 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, 1832.

That he was born on the twelfth day of September 1755 in Armenia Precinct in the County of Dutchess and State of New York, that he has no record of his age, but he knows his age from the early information of his parents-

That he continued to reside in Amenia Precinct from the time of his birth until after the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, except when in the service of his Country—and except about six months in the year 1775 that he resided at the Town in Vermont now called Shoreham opposite the Fort at Ticonderoga—that after the war he removed to a place called New Britain in Kings District now in the County of Columbia & State of New York and resided there about four years and then removed to the Town of Hampton aforesaid where he now resides and has ever since continued to reside.

That he entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers, and under the circumstances, and served in the manner herein after states—To Wit—That while residing in the town now called Shoreham in the now State of Vermont on the east side of Lake Champlain opposite to the fort at Ticonderoga and was in the year of our Lord 1775 a small convoy of men armed at Shoreham under Col. Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold with and instruction to surprise the Fort & garrison at Ticonderoga, that he engaged with them as a volunteer – and was dispatched with John Stevenson across the Lake to obtain a Boat or Batteaux to carry the men across the Lake—That they went to the Fort and obtained and returned with a King's Batteaux and sufficient to take across the lake about eighty men—that the troops about eighty immediately crossed to the Town of Ticonderoga with the comamnders Allen and Arnold and on the next morning the fort was taken, that he enlisted to the service as a volunteer, and remained connected with this body of troops & in service in the commissary Department until the expiration under General Montgomery moved to the north being as he believes about three months, that he had very little service to perform and was occasionally out of the garrison and across to Shoreham—that he then left the service and shortly thereafter returned to Amenia District in Dutchess County aforesaid—

That sometime in the winter or spring following being in 1776 he enlisted in a company raised in his native place Amenia Precinct under Captain Bunton Payne for the term of one year as he things, as a minute man, whose particular duty was to guard and disarm the Tories, who were much more numerous than the Whigs in that part of the County—That with his company he was repeatedly called out and was in service the principal part of the time during the term of his enlistment—That during this term of service they were [?] the County of Dutchess – They arrested Treyor Ross, one of the [?]a Rev'd Mr. Brient an Episcopal Priest, and many others as Tories and took them to a Committee of Safety of the County who disposed of them sending many of them to Exetor—he does not mean to understand that his company was confined to the County of Dutchess for it was not, but there principal service was there—that he faithfully served on this term according to his enlistment but is not certain that he did

not enlist for a nine months tour of service being his next tour of duty before this years service fully expired—he remembers it was stated that the states were raising troops for nine months, and that the minute men might enlist, and that he did enlist but whether his former service had expired he is not now able to say.

That he again enlisted but at what time he is not able to say for a term of service of nine months into a company foot commanded by Colby Chamberlin in a regiment commanded by Col. Humphreys and Lieut Col. Dubois—that he company organized at Poughkeepsie and went by water down the river Hudson to the Highland to Fort Montgomery and he remained there in the service particularly attached to Governor George Clinton who then had command of that station as his waiter and there remained in service until he was taken sick, and being unable on account of sickness to render active service the General Governor Clinton sent one of his sergeants home with him to Amenia Precinct—that although becoming unable to perform service from sickness, would have excused him, yet from his strong anxiety for the service, he through the agency of Lieutenant James B its, hired a substitute by the names as he things of Michael Bunger, and as he verily believes, he paid for said substitute the sum of twelve and fifty cents—

During this term of his service and while Fort Montgomery was being builded it was captured by the British—that from the time he returned home as aforesaid he remained sick and unfit for any service till after the expiration of his service of enlistment and that he served out this term of his service by himself and by his hired substitute—but is unable to say how large a portion of his service was served by him personally—he does not recollect any other regiment that was in service with his regiment at Fort Montgomery—the officers that he recollects there are Gov. George Clinton, Col. Humphreys, Lieut Col. Dubois, Capts Chamberlain, Swartwouts, Bitts & Dodge—

His next Tour of duty was in a regiment raised as New York Levies or Militia whose particular duty it was to go near the lines of the enemy near New York and remove & bring away all the cattle and forage in the neighbourhood of the enemy and remove all the inhabitants, that were willing to remove—this regiment was raised as he thinks for three months, he enlisted into a company commanded by Capt Josiah Gale & Lieut Abram Gillett into a regiment commanded by Col. Roswel Hopkins & by Lieut Col. or Major Cook.—that this regiment in which he served as sergeant was in active duty for about three months and effected the object for which it was raised, by removing and brining out of the reach of the enemy an immense quantity of cattle, forage and people; the officers he knew during this tour are the officers above named, and Col. Graham with his regiment or a part thereof were in the same service and an Ensign Ely of his regiment was killed in a skirmish called the swamp fight in which skirmish he this declarant was engaged and one Lot Swift was wounded.

Another duty or service performed by this declarant as a volunteer and when not engaged in any active tour of duty and before he commenced in his nine months tour in building Fort Montgomery, it was reported that the Tories had collected in a large boy, and orders from the county convention or committee assembled at Esopus were to be sent to Col. Bunkerhoof at Fishkill about forty miles from Amenia precinct where this declarant then resided that this duty of carrying the dispatches was dangerous on account of the great number of Tories with which the county was filled and immediate hostility at that time and it being difficult to procure a messenger he volunteered to carry the dispatches & safely delivered them at Col. Brinkerhoofs who being absent his wife found the dispatches and found therein orders to be sent to Col. Ludenton who resided in Fredericksburgh over the Frontier distant twelve or fifteen miles, there being no person to be found to carry these dispatches, he was pressed to take them but desired to be excused as the mountain was said & believed to be a great [?] of the Tories—but from the necessity of the case he concluded to proceed and did so and safely delivered his dispatches to Col. Ludinton.

And this declarant says that he has stated as above his services according to the best of his recollection and belief he is sensible his statement is indefinite and imperfect, that he is sensible he was

in the service of his country against the common enemy the greatest part of the time for four years, and until the armies went to the south, that he furnished his own clothing & equipage, and bore his own expenses in journeys and carrying dispatches as above states—

That from the infirmities of age and the great length of time that has elapsed since these services were performed he cannot be more definite than he has been that he does not know that he ever received a formal discharge and if he ever did it is lost—

That he cannot obtain the certificate of a commissioned officer for any tour of his service above specified nor does he know of any living witness by whom he can prove in detail his personal knowledge of the services of this declarant as above specified nor any testimony more specific than that which accompanies this declaration being the depositions of Peleg Douglass & Nathan Beman—

The officers that he knew in service in his first tour at Ticonderoga, were Col. Allen—Benedict Arnold, Capt. Warren afterwards Col. Seth Warren, Capt. Gideon Warren, Capt. Herrick, Capt. Peleg Sunderland—In his second tour as a minute man his company he believes were distinct corps—the other tour he has above named the officers he knew in service.

That he at all times entered the service by volunteer enlistment, that when he went into service at all times (except the first at Ticonderoga) he was living at Armenia Precinct.

That he would be willing to refer to all his neighbours to testify in [?] of his character for truth & veracity and their belief that he served as a soldier of the Revolutionary War—and from giving the names of the Rev. Moore Bingham, Daniel Mallery & John Adams, Esqrs, Deminson Ruggles, Brice F. Kellogg, Horace B.R ice & Mason Hulet.

This declarant 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) Samuel Beman.

Sworn to sub scribed in open court the day & year aforesaid, J. S. Leigh Clk.

Letter in file dated December 14, 1832, written in reply to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of Samuel Beman, Senior and Junior.

The record furnished herewith is that of the only soldier named Samuel Beman found on file in the Revolutionary War records of this office.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.12152, based upon the revolutionary War service of Samuel Beman.

He was born September 12, 1755 in Amenia, Dutchess County, New York; the names of his parents are not stated.

While a resident of Shoreham, Vermont, he volunteered in May, 1775 and served about three months under Colonel Ethan Allen and was in the battle of Ticonderoga.

While residing in Amenia, New York, he served in 1776 as a private not quite nine months in Captain Brinton Paine's New York company; served about nine months as private in Captain Colby Chamberlin's company, Colonel Humphreys' N.Y. Regiment; and three months as sergeant in Captain Josiah Gale's company, Colonel Roswell Hopkins' New York Regiment and was in the "Swamp Fight". No definite dates of service given. He was also express rider for seven days.

He was allowed pension on his application executed August 28, 1832, then a resident of Hampton, Washington County, New York, where he had moved from New Britain, Columbia County, New York.

The soldier, Samuel Beman, married the sister of Peleg Douglas, her given name is not shown, nor are there any details as to their marriage. The said Peleg Douglas was born in 1761, and in 1832 was living in Chateaugay, Franklin County, New York.

The soldier's brother, Nathan Beman, was aged about seventy-seven years in 1832 and living in Chateaugay, New York, and stated that he father lived in 1776 in Manchester, Vermont.

There are no further data in his claim as to family.