

Pension Application for James Baldwin

S.4935

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Berkshire SS

On this fifteenth day of August A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Honorable William P. Walker, Judge of the Court of Probate, within and for said County of Berkshire, now sitting, James Baldwin a resident of the town of Egremont in the County of Berkshire and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, lagged Seventy three 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, 1832.

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

He in Company with a few other members of Ephraim Fitch's Company of Militia of said town of Egremont was ordered to Albany in the State of New York that he marched to said Albany as he thinks sometime in October 1775 and that he remained at said Albany about ten days as a guard over public stores at that place.

He is unable to state who were the officers commanding said guard or any circumstances which happened while there. That sometime in June 1777 the said James Baldwin was drafted for a three months tour and marched from said Egremont under the command of Capt. Ephraim Fitch to Fort Edward, where we were mustered as this deponent thinks under General Fellows that Soon after we arrived at said Fort he saw Miss McCrea who was murdered by the Indian. Said Baldwin remained with the Troops at Fort Edward about a week when we marched to Sandy Hill when we remained three or four days from there we marched to Bloody pond when we stopped for the night Capt Ezra Hickock rode up to the Troops from the North and called out that the Indians were cutting off the teams—that this deponent with Eighty or one himself and other soldiers immediately volunteered to go and protect the teams, the deponent believes that Capt Hicock commanded said Volunteers; we found the wagon near said pond broken in pieces, and the flour barrels broken open and one horse shot, the Indians had fled with the teamsters as prisoners—the names of the teamsters were William Rau of Egrmont and William Miller of Claverack in New York – that night we marched to Fort George where we encamped, the next [?] we returned to the army near Fort Edward.

From Fort Edward we marched to near Fort Ann where we remained seven days—that he was at the battle of Kingsbury with the Indians and was placed as a Centinel [Sentinel] the preceeding [preceding] night near the Saw Mill where the skirmish commenced.

From Kingsbury we came to Sandy Hill were we were encamped a few days, and from Sandy Hill we retreated to Stillwater—when we were near Fort Miller a man by the name of Fuller was shot and scalped by the Indians within the hearing of this deponent. The night this deponent arrived at Stillwater it rained severely and said deponent caught a severe cold which unfitted him from duty, he remained at Stillwater some three or four weeks and by direction of the Surgeon was discharge don account of ill health within a

short time of the Capture of Burgoyne, and returned home as the deponent believes in September 1777—

That in August 1776 the said deponent enlisted or volunteered for a four months campaign under the command of Capt. Enoch Nobel of Sheffield then the said company went to Fairfield in Connecticut where we remained several days and from there marched to Greenfield when this deponent thinks the Troops were mustered.

That Colonel Simonds commanded the Regiment in general Lincoln's Brigade. L Said deponent marched with the Troops to near Kingsbridge at Valentine Hill when we built a Fort, which at said Fort said Deponent first saw General Washington, who came to inspect the works.

From Valentines Hill the troops marched to Tuckahoe or Ward's Tavern, where we remained two days without any provisions, on the third night we built up our watch fires and retreated to near White Plains where we arrived on Saturday night we remained at White plains on Sunday and on Monday were in the battle at White Plains as deponent thinks on the 29th October after the battle deponent remained at White Plains several day s and from thence marched to North Castle where he was dismissed sometime in December 1776.

That in April 1777 he with several other members of the Egremont Company of Militia, volunteered to go against the tories, who had mustered in some from in the County of Columbia in the state of New York that he marched to Ancram, and Livingstons Manor in said County under the command of Capt Ephraim Fitch of said Egremont. That when near Copake found in Tackonic the troops had a skirmish with the tories who lost their Captain.

That on the next day we had a skirmish with the said tories and took a man by the name of Feeley who had a Captains Commission in his pocket. Said Feeley was kept a few days and executed – Said Fitch's Company had several Skirmishes his during the time we were out and finally dispersed the tories and returned home after a service of about four weeks.

The said applicant was born at Egremont aforesaid on the 17th of January 1759 as appears by the annexed certificate. He lived at said Egremont when called into service and has continued to reside there until this time. L he was a volunteered in all his service. And has stated the names of the officers under whom he served and the circumstances as well as he recollects.

He never received any discharge according to his recollection.

He is known to most persons in his neighborhood and produces before the court, Elder Enos Marshall Junr., the Baptist Clergyman, settled in said Egremont and Silas Kellogg Esquire of Sheffield to certify to his character for veracity. (Signed) James Baldwin

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.

Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) James Baldwin
Before W. P. Walker, Judge of Probate.