

Pension Application for Ebenezer Dunham

S.22744

State of New York

County of Montgomery SS.

On this 17th day of December A.D. 1835, personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Abm. Morrell, First Judge, Samuel A. Gilbert, Jno. Hand, Henry J. Diefendorff, David Spraker, Judges of the court of Common Pleas &c. for the said County of Montgomery now sitting Ebenezer Dunham, a resident of Lake Pleasant in the County of Montgomery and state of new York, aged 76 years, was born in the town of Sharon in the State of Connecticut in the year 1759; that in the Month of March 1777 removed to the town of Mayfield, then Tryon County, now Montgomery; 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That in the month of March 1777 he was enrolled in Capt. Saml. Rees' (1) company in Col. Frederick Visscher's Regiment of Infantry of the Militia of the State of New York. That on or about the first of April '77 he was ordered out by a Sergeant by the name of Cely [Selah] Woodworth (2) belonging to said company, to go on scouts in the northern and then frontier settlements of the then county of Tryon now Montgomery, that he continued to serve in the said war of the Revolution a term of 52 days in the following manner viz: that the said Capt. Rees kept two men of his company constantly on scouts by rotation, that when two returned two others should be sent out, and in this way the said Ebenezer Dunham served the said 52 days. ; That in 1778 in May or June removed to Johnstown to guard the Fort under the command of Capt. Wemple (3) in Col. Visscher's Regiment. That soon after arriving at the Fort in Johnstown was ordered out on a scout and returned again in a few days to guard the Fort. That he continued to guard the Fort in Johnstown and by going out frequently on Scouting parties until in the month of November of the same year '78, making a term of 5 months service by guarding the Fort or Garrison in Johnstown and going often on scouts.

That at the close of the said 5 months service he removed back to the said town of Mayfield. That on the 11th day of April 1779 Jacob Dunham the father of the applicant (also a brother) 4 was murdered by a party of Indians, then on their return to Canada, (having been to Fort Hunter,) to remove their families to Canada with them. That on the 15th of April '79, he removed to Johnstown to guard the Fort under the command of Capt. Wemple, Col. Visscher's Regiment. That soon after arriving at the Fort was ordered out on a scout and continued in the militia service by keeping garrison in the village of Johnstown and going out on scouts until the 1st of July '79 making a term of militia service of 2 ½ months. That during the remainder of the year '79 and until the month of May in 1780, he continued to be enrolled in the said Capt. Wemple's company and stood in readiness for service at any moment, but was not actually engaged in the militia service between the 1st of July '79 and the 1st of May '80 any longer period than 10 days, which were actually done by being on a Scout through the frontier settlements of the said county of Tryon now Montgomery. That during the period to time between the month of May 1780 and the month of July 1781, the following tours of Militia Services were rendered but the particular dates of each service cannot be distinctly remembered. Under Capt. Vosburgh (5) 10 days, Ensign Stone (6) 10 days, Capt. Little (7) days, Capt. Little 4 days, Col. Dubois (8) 6 days, Capt. Rosecrantz (9) 9 days, Capt. Sacket (10) 4 days, Capt. Hamtramck 3 days, Capt. Bovee 2 days, Capt. Rosecrantz 4 days. During the period of the last above mentioned services the applicant stood in readiness for service as a minute man, and turned out at the command of any of the above mentioned officers although many of them were of the Continental Army. The services were rendered by being out on scouts &c.

That during the several times of service as above stated, the scouting parties alluded to frequently brought in prisoners of war and gave them up to the regular authority of the American Army, and frequently returned property to its original or proper owner which had been taken by the Indians and Tories acting under the authority of the British Government.

And further the claimant assigns the following reason for not having made application of a pension under the above mentioned act previous to this time viz: That a search for witnesses to prove his services, was unavailable until in the month of September last when the annexed witness made known to him their knowledge of the services which now induced him to make the present application.

That during the whole period of the Revolutionary War, or rather from the month of March 1777 to July 1781, the several tours of service as above stated to have been performed by the applicant amounted in all to eleven months and nineteen days.—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) Ebenz'r Dunham.

Sworn in open Court Dec 17, 1835. Geo. D. Ferguson, Clk.

End Notes—S.22744—Ebenezer Dunham

1. Samuel Rees (Reese, Reis, etc.) was commissioned captain on June 25, 1778 in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia. The company lasted only a short time and so far a muster roll has not been found for this company.
2. Seely, Cely, Selah Woodworth had married Ebenezer's sister Rebecca before the War of Independence. The Dunham's and Woodworth's with several others settled in Mayfield, Tryon County now Fulton County, New York.
3. Andrew Wemple was commissioned captain on June 25, 1778 in Colonel Visscher's Regiment. Captain Wemple in May of 1780 deserted to the British and was appointed a lieutenant in Lieutenant-Colonel John Butler's Crop of Rangers. After the War of Independence he settled in Canada. So far muster rolls for this company have not been found.
4. Ebenezer's brother, Samuel, was killed in this raid.
5. First Lieutenant Peter I. Vosburgh, of Captain Peter VanRensselaer's Company in Colonel James Livingston's First Canadian Continental Regiment. This company was stationed at Fort Johnstown during the winter of 1777-1778. Vosburgh was not appointed captain of the company until January 6, 1779.
6. Ensign George Stine (Stein, Stone) of Captain Joseph Yeoman's Company in Colonel Visscher's Regiment.
7. Captain John Little of Colonel Visscher's Regiment.
8. Lewis DuBois, Colonel of the Fifth New York Regiment. His regiment was stationed in the Schoharie and Mohawk Valleys during the winter of 1778-1779.
9. James Rosekrans was the Captain of the First Company in the Fifth New York Regiment.
10. Captain Samuel Sacket in Colonel Henry B. Livingston's Fourth New York Regiment. Sacket's Company was stationed at Fort Johnstown during the winter of 1778-1779.
11. John F. Hamtranck, Captain of the Sixth Company in the Fifth New York Regiment.
12. Captain Bovee is unknown, none are found in any of the militia or continental regiments that served in the Mohawk Valley.