

## **Pension Application for John Garrison**

R3929

State of New York

Ontario County SS

On this twenty seventh day of August in the year Eighteen hundred and thirty two personally appeared in Open Court before the Judges of the County Courts of the County of Ontario aforesaid now sitting John Garrison, a resident of the Town of Victor in the County of Ontario aforesaid, aged sixty nine 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 provisions 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.

In the year year [sic] 1779 in the spring or early part of summer he enlisted to serve as a soldier under Capt. Chipman (1)—for the term of nine months—but whether in the state troops or Militia of the State of New York he cannot state—He joined the company under Captain Chipman at Fort Edward on the Hudson River and served at that Fort four or five months when he enlisted as a soldier in the regular service for the term of five years or during the war with Lieut. Colbreath (2)—as he thinks was the name of the officer by whom he was enlisted. Immediately after such enlistment he proceeded to Albany--was put on a sloop and landed at West Point where he was enrolled in a company commanded by Capt. Sights (3) (as he thinks the man was called) in Col. Gansevoorts Regiment –being according to his recollection the Third New York Regiment of the line—

After remaining at West Point a few weeks deponent with the said Company and Regiment at West Point a few weeks deponent with the said company and Regiment crossed the Hudson River and was stationed a little distance down the River at a place the name of which he cannot now recollect.—He then marched with the said Company and Regiment into the State of New Jersey. On such march deponent was ordered by his commanding officer to take charge of a Baggage Waggon (4), and he continued in such employment till Peace was declared. While so employed he was under the Direction of a Waggon Master and engaged in transporting Baggage and provisions for the Army, wherever they moved particularly he recollects being at Pompton and Morristown—Deponent on one occasion while transporting Boats loaded on Waggons from Pompton to Newark the wagons and guard narrowly escaped capture and were obliged to retreat back. Deponent was stationed with the team of which he had charge during the first winter—at a place in New Jersey called the Ponds—Deponent continued in the service—through the following season—and in the autumn of the year he was ordered to carry a load of clothing and cooking utensil from Suckasway in New Jersey to Newburgh in New York where he delivered his load and team at what place to the Waggon master at Newburgh whose name he does not recollect. He was there dismissed intelligence of Peace with Great Britain having been received—After having been first ordered to take charge of a team and horses belonging to the United States Service he continued in such service till peace was declared and he was so dismissed without again having been mustered in the company in which he had been enrolled.

The said Deponent further saith.

1<sup>st</sup> That he was born as he has understood at a place called Paulings Kill in the State of New Jersey the year 1763 on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of March.

2. That he has no record of his age.

3. That he lived at Pittstown in the State of New York when he enlisted into the service as aforesaid that since the revolutionary war he removed from that place to Wellstown in the

same state—thence to Schenectady—thence to Gorham in the County of Ontario, aforesaid—and about five months since to Victor in the same county where he now resides.

4<sup>th</sup> He enlisted as above stated.—

5. Recollects Col. Cortlandt (5)—at West Point and also in New Jersey as in Command of a Regiment stationed next to Col. Gansevoort. Regiment to which deponent belonged.

6. He never received any regular written discharge from the said service.

7. Abraham Garrison & John Francisco of Gorham aforesaid are persons who as he thinks have personal knowledge of his said service or of some part thereof. The said deponent further saith that he is not confident that the year in which he first enlisted as aforesaid was 1779—that it may have been 1780.

(Signed) John Garrison

Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court.

End Notes—R.3929—John Garrison

1. John Chipman was appointed captain in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant John Harper's Regiment of New York State Levies in May of 1780. He was appointed major on June 16, 1780. A Muster roll for Captain Chipman's Company has not been found. Chipman had served in Colonel Seth Warner's Additional Continental Regiment and resigned and then joined Harper's. In August of 1780 or maybe a little earlier he is again appointed captain in Warner's Regiment and taken prisoner on October 11, 1780. If this is not confusing enough for the enlisted men but some of the levy officers were appointed to one levy regiment and then some time during 1780 they transferred to another regiment. On top of that Continental Recruiting Officers were allowed to recruit among the levy regiments. The levy recruits still had to serve out their enlistments in these Continental Regiments.
2. Lieutenant William Colbrath was a recruiting officer for Colonel Peter Gansevoort's Third New York Continental Regiment.
3. George Sytez was appointed lieutenant in Gansevoort's Regiment on November 21, 1776 and captain on July 1, 1780. John is listed as enlisting on July 15, 1780. He was either discharged on December 15, 1780 or deserted. This is according to the Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York, Vol. XV, State Archives, edited by Bertold Fernow, Vol. I, p 200, 1887, Albany N. Y., Weed, Parsons and Company, Printers. These records were part of the State Comptroller's Office at that time and eventually were loaned or given to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. In searching the Microfilm Series 246, Rolls 69, and 70, folder or jackets 40 to 49, many of these rolls used by Fernow are torn, have water damage marks, and/or are missing. Therefore so far I have been unable to determine whether John deserted or was discharged. John was to serve only five months, not years, and a William Price also enlisted on July 15 and was discharged on December 15, 1780. Fernow had the original document and for whatever reason he could not discern the difference in the writing.
4. At various times enlisted men would drive wagons to carry regimental baggage but he appears to have served in the Quartermaster General's Department after 1780.
5. Philip VanCortlandt was the colonel of the Second New York Continental Regiment.