

Pension Application for Esbon Gregory

S.29189

State of New York

Chautauque County SS.

On this twelfth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty three personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas of the county of Chautauque [Chautauqua] & State of New York the same being a Court of record & having a seal & a Clerk, now sitting Esbon Gregory (1) a resident of the Town of Hanover in the County of Chautauque & State of New York, aged Seventy two years the 29th day of January last, 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 & served as herein stated, viz:

That he volunteered into the Company of Captain Amariah Babbit, (2) of the Town of Lanesborough or New Ashford, Berkshire County, State of Massachusetts, in the Regiment of Colonel Benjamin Symonds, of Williamstown, County & State aforesaid & did service & was wounded at the battle of Bennington (3) under Genl. Stark (4), Commander—on or about the 17th August 1777—

That immediately after the battle of Bennington, he was transfered [transferred] to, or volunteered into the company commanded by Capt'n. Herrick (5) a noted Ranger—Col'n. Seth Warners Regt (6) of Bennington, Vermont. That he remained in the service under Capt'n Herrick, until the surrender of Genl Burgoyne (7), on the 17th day of October, 1777—

That after the surrender he left Capt'n Herricks Company, & was appointed one of the Guard to attend the British Army to Boston—

That when they arrived at North Hampton, Hampshire County, State of Massachusetts, he returned & went to driving team, for the Continental Army, & continued in that service, till May or June, 1778. That he then [went] into the Company of Capt'n. Peter Porter (8) - of Becket, Berkshire County, Mass.—was attached to the person of Genl Stark, & called his Life Guard—Went to Albany, where he served about 9, or 10, months, when he was discharged by Genl. Stark, 2 or 3 months before his time was out.

That in 1779, he served under Capt'n. Asa Barnes, (9) - Barnes died in the town of Charlotte, State of Vermont—lay at Kinderhook, about three months, guarding public stores & munitions & conveying property up & down the River Hudson in the State of New York.

That he was at Asopus (10), Fishkill, & other places, up and down the Hudson, in all, about one year: & was occupied in conveying forwarding ammunition, Canon, provisions from the North to the Southern Army. That he was called a Quarter Master. Late in the Fall of 1779, he was discharged at Albany, & returned home where he remained during the winter following. That in the Spring of 1780, he enlisted under Jeremiah (11) Hicock, Capt'n of Sheffield Town, Berkshire County,

Mass. Served under Hicock a short time, about Lake Champlain & on the frontiers. That he was sent by Dubois (12) with a prisoner to Col'n. William Willett (13) at Fort Plain on the Mohawk River, State of New York.

That he then served in Col'n. Brown's (14) Regt under Capt'n Spurr [Spoor, Spoar] of Taconic County & State aforesaid -

That he then served under Capt'n Grosse (15) Col'n. Browns Regt. That under the last named Capt'n Hicock, Spurr & Grosse, he served a full year but cannot tell what lenth [sic length] of time, he was under each—

That at the Battle of Stone Arabia, (16) he was under Capt. Spurr. That Col'n Brown was killed in that Battle—That after Col'n. Brown was killed, he joined Capt'n. Grose's Company, Col. Willett's Regt. When he completed the year—

That in the winter, he was occupied in building a house for Col'n Willett & building Fort M'Kean (17) on Fort Plain— That he hued timber—

That in the Spring of 1781, he enlisted or volunteered in Capt'n Woodruff's (18) company:--who was a Ranger & Scout—That he remained with Woodruff till he was killed by the Indians, about 4 miles from Fort Dayton, up the W. Canada Creek—Now Herkimer County—New York—That after his death, he was transferred to Capt'n Sam'l Clark's (19) Company, under Major or Col'n Rowley; That he was in the battle of Jonstown, [Johnstown] fought in October as he thinks___1781___when Capt'n Clark & Major Rowley, (20) were both wounded. That after the Battle of Johnstown, he took charge of the prisoners & conducted them to Albany. That sometime in the month of November, he left the Army.

This Declarant further States upon oath, that he never had any written discharge from any of his said services, to the best of his recollection___

That he knew in the service___Gen'ls Washington (21), LaFayette, Knox, Wayne, Putnam, M'Dougal; Cols. Willett, Warner, Rowley, Symonds, Marshall; Capt'ns Saterlee, Grose, Barnes, Clark, Woodruff, Skinner. That he knew Andrew Jackson (now President).

This Declarant further States upon oath, that he has no documentary evidence in his possession of his said service, nor does he now know of any person living except Lyman Hall, (22) Calvin Hall, Moses T. Beach, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his said service—

This Declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of Any State or Territory of the U. States.

This Declarant in answer to interrogatories propounded to him by the said Count of Common Pleas or the Judges thereof, further states upon oath, that he was born in New Fairfield, Fairfield County, Connecticut, [Connecticut] that he has a record of his age, that when he enlisted into the Revolutionary service, he resided at New Ashford or Lanesborough, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, as above stated—

That since the Revolutionary War he removed from Lanesborough above mentioned to Williamstown, same County & State—where he resided about ten years; & from thence to Manlius, Onondaga County, New York, where he resided one year—

Then to Manlius again where he remained two years—Thence to Lewiston, Niagara County, New York, where he stayed, thence to Hanover, County of Chautauque & State of New York, where he has lived about seven or eight years, & where he now resides.

That when he entered the Revolutionary Army or services, he enlisted as a volunteer & a private—that he knew the regular officers who were with the troops where he served—whose names he has above specified, besides many others not now recollected, & that he was well acquainted with Col'n. Caleb Barton, (23) when he took Preston off of Long Island, and that he never received a written discharge from any of his said service.

This Declarant further States upon oath, that he is well acquainted Oliver Lee, Ezra Couvis, Clark C. Swift, John M. Barbour, residing in his present neighborhood, to whom he refers as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. (Signed) Esbon Gregory.

Subscribed & sworn this 12 day of Feb. 1833. James B. Lowry Clerk

End Notes—Mass. S.29189—Esbon Gregory

1. His name is usually spelled on the muster roll as Izband.
2. Captain Amariah Babbit and Colonel Benjamin Simonds were Massachusetts Militia.
3. The Battle of Bennington was fought on August 16, 1777.
4. Brigadier General John Stark of the New Hampshire Militia. For his actions and victory at Bennington he was appointed on October 4, 1777 a brigadier general in the Continental Army.
5. Possibly Colonel Samuel Herrick who commanded a regiment. He was not part of Colonel Seth Warner's Additional Continental Regiment.
6. Seth Warner was appointed Colonel on July 5, 1776, of one of the sixteen additional Continental regiments.
7. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne.
8. Captain Peter Porter of the Massachusetts Militia.
9. Captain Asa Barnes of the Massachusetts Militia.
10. Esopus, New York.
11. Esbon confuses 1780 and 1781 officers and events. He enlisted on August 6, 1781 in Captain Jeremiah Hickock's Company in Colonel Elisha Porter's Regiment of Massachusetts Levies. He was discharged on November 8, 1781.
12. Probably Colonel Lewis DuBois who commanded a regiment of New York State Levies in 1780.
13. It should be Marinus Willett. Willett was the Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of the Fifth New York Continental Regiment in 1780. They were stationed near the West Point area and were not in the Mohawk Valley 1780.
14. Esbon enlisted as a private on July 18, 1780 in Captain John Spoor's Company in Colonel John Brown's Regiment of Massachusetts Levies. Esbon was discharged on October 23, 1780. Colonel DuBois was at Fort Plain at this time.

15. Captain Lawrence Gross was appointed on April 27, 1781, to Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. He did not serve in Colonel Brown's Regiment. Gross was a lieutenant in Captain John Ruff's or Roof's Company in Colonel Jacob Klock's Second Regiment of Tryon County Militia in 1779 and 1780.
16. The Battle of Stone Arabia was fought in the morning of October 19, 1780. Colonel Brown was killed in the first part of the battle.
17. A blockhouse at Fort Rensselaer (Fort Plain) was named Fort McKean in honor of Captain Robert McKean of Willett's Regiment who died of his wound which he received at New Dorlach or Sharon Springs on July 10, 1781.
18. Solomon Woodworth was a lieutenant in Captain Thomas Skinner's Company in Willett's Regiment in 1781. In August of 1781 Lieutenant Woodworth and Lieutenant Richard Randolph Wilson also of Skinner's Company were given permission by Willett to raise a company of rangers. Woodworth, Wilson and about 25 men were killed and captured. Woodworth may have been called captain but his commission was that of a lieutenant.
19. Samuel Clark was a Captain in Colonel Porter's Regiment in 1781. Major Aaron Rowley of Porter's Regiment had several companies under his command in the Mohawk Valley in 1781 and were under Willett's command but not part of his regiment. Captain Hickok may have been at Saratoga where the other half of the regiment under Lieutenant-Colonel Barnabas Sears. As Esbon was in the Mohawk Valley he may have just been attached to Clark's Company as his company was already here.
20. The Battle of Johnstown was fought on October 25, 1781. Major Rowley and Captain Clark were wounded.
21. Commander-in-Chief George Washington, Major General Marquis de Jean Lafayette, Major General Henry Knox, Brigadier General Anthony Wayne, Major General Israel Putnam, Major General Alexander McDougall, possibly Colonel Thomas Marshall of the Tenth Massachusetts Continental Regiment and which Captain Saterlee is unknown.
22. Lyman served with him in 1781 (Mass PA S.29858) as he was a lieutenant in Captain Clark's Company and was also in the Battle of Johnstown. Calvin Hall served in Colonel Brown's Regiment in 1780.
23. Colonel Caleb Barton possibly of the Massachusetts Militia and Preston is unknown at this time.