

## **Pension Application for Benjamin June**

S.23285

State of New York

Onondaga County SS.

[The original deposition has a lot of it blocked out, so this is the alternative document.]

Benjamin June of the Town of Lafayette ins aid County an applicant for a pension under the Act of Congress of June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, appears in open court on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1834, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas to General Session of the Peace, now sitting at the Court House in the Town of Salina in said County, and being truly sworn according to law, doth on his oath and in compliance with a requisition of the Hon. Commissioner of Pensions, contained in a letter to the Hon. William Taylor, Member of Congress, on the subject of his said application and date of May 26<sup>th</sup> 1834, in the following words (to wit)

“Benjamin June should make a supplement Statement in which he should set forth the precise length and grade of each term of service—the names and rank of officers & distinctly shew, that during each term of service he was mustered in a corps, duly embodied officers and subjected to the duties and discipline of soldiers in actuals service in the field or garrison—I have the honor to be very respectfully your obe’d Servt J.S. Edwards. Hon W. Taylor, House of Representatives.”

Make the following supplemental declaration (to wit) that he is now in the Eightieth year of his age—that in September 1832 he appeared before the Hon. Daniel Moseley Esqr, then holding a Court of Equity in the Town of Onondaga in said County & made oath to his declaration under the said Act which was forwarded to the Pension department at Washington in the same month—That in January 1823 – said declaration with a brief of objections was received, which objections were forthwith aliminated [eliminated] as was then supposed & the entire papers were sent back to Washington, amended as aforesaid, in February then following.

In the month of June 1833 a letter from J. L. Edwards Esqr, Commissioner etc. containing among other objections, one principally, that the applicant could not have served as much as alleged in his said declaration, which letter is not lost, where upon the affidavits of Nathan Smith of Vermont and William VanVelzer of Salina in said County were procured and forwarded to the Pension department aforesaid, to which the Honorable Court of Pensions, in his letter dated April 22, 1834 to the Hon. W. Taylor aforesaid speaks in relation to the deponent’s application, as fi this was the only & last objections, that “The affidavits of William VanVelzer and Nathan Smith are herewith returned for the purpose of having the [?] of the former duly certified”, &c that the affidavit of said VanVelner was sworn to before John Watson Esqr, who had no acquaintance with that deponent & therefore could not certify as required – that to abbreviate this difficulty, Johnson Hall Esqr who acted as agent for this deponent procured, as this deponent is informed by him, and believes, the affidavit of James Hough to the [?] of said VanVelzer & returned the there [their] last named affidavits to the pension department about the 7<sup>th</sup> of May last.

That on the third day of Instant June, his said agent we received, the Letter Dated May 26, 1834 from which the Extract first above stated, was taken, which requisition, thought gracious and unexpected, he now proceeds to comply with – as follows—

In the fall of the year 1775 he enlisted for three months into captain Samuel Delevan's Company which was raised for the purpose of guarding a quantity of Cannon above Kingsbridge in Westchester County, that the Lieutenant or Ensign name was Wallis—that deponent then lived in Delancyn Patent, now called North Salem, Westchester County & Capt. Delevan lived in the same place—that he served then & there the full term of three months & was discharged in January 1776—that deponent understood that said company was raised & ordered into service to guard the said Cannon by authority of the State of New York, although there was no other troops then on that station.

In March 1776 he enlisted into a company of N. York State troops commanded by Captain David Hoble of Horseneck, Peter Benedict Lieutenant & Ensign Little, which was marched to New York about the first of April & then & there joined the Regiment commanded by Col. Richmore, deponent believes the Lieutenant Col. was McDougall & the Major's name was Purdy—before the British took possession of New York, the Regiment was marched & Stationed near Hurlgate & afterwards to Harlem Heights, from there we retreated to White Plains, and after the enemy crossed over to New Jersey, our Regiment & all the troops at White Plains marched to Peekskill for winter quarters—But in December 1776 the company [ became so then & broken?] by enlistment & other causes that the officers dismissed us and the few remaining men of the regiment went home—having served nine months on this tour of service.

Col. Richmore deserted & went to the 'enemy while the Regiment was at the heights of Harlem.

That in 1777 Nathaniel Deleman was Captain of the local Militia in Delancy's Patent and there was a call for a draft from each company & he was drafted or volunteered, to command a company of the detachment & deponent volunteered under him and was first stationed near Tarrytown don't recollect the names of the other Officers—was stationed afterwards at Crumpond, and other places near and around that place— This service began the latter part of October 1777, or first of December & ended very near the first of January 1778 and lasted at least two months.

The deponent remembers one tour of service & he believes it was next & in the year 1778, when he served under Quarter Master Ebenezer Philips, who had a company there to guard the Stores at Crumpond & employed the deponent to serve as Quarter Master sergeant to assist him in which capacity he served three months according to his last recollection.—

In the same year the deponent was out in several short tours amounting to at least four months on alarms to guard the lines where he resided & where the enemy & Tories made frequent incursions, plundering & destroying & he well recollects that he could do no business to advantage so frequent were these calls—

The Deponent joined a company of horse raised by Captain Samuel Delevan, in the year 1779, as the deponent believes, in which Wallis was a Lieutenant—and was mustered in April & stationed first at Crumpond—then at White Plains—Pines Bridge over Groton river. This company was not stationed long at any one place, but was chiefly employed along the lines, watching the tories & enemy and scouring the Country—Deponent & the other man in the company furnished their own horses & all their equipments, but had no pay.

The Captain became a drunken dishonest man & cheated the men out of their pay except a few who happened to be present when he drained their pay.

This company served eight months but not all at once, an altogether for a part of the company was out at one time and another part at a different time, so that none of them did much business of any kind--& deponent feels safe in serving to four months actual service on this tour.

And the deponent further says that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods below mentioned and in the following grades.

For 1 year and 10 months I served as a private.

For 3 months I served as a QuarterMaster sergeant & for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) Benjamin June.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day & year aforesaid. G. L. Jess Clerk of Onondaga County.