

Pension Application for John C. Keator or Keaton

W.26174 (Widow: Rebecca) John Married Rebecca Elmore July 19, 1785. John died October 12, 1847.

State of New York

Delaware County SS.

On the ninth day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Delaware now sitting John C. Keaton a resident of the Town of Roxbury in the County of Delaware & State of New York aged 76 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 7th 1832.

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

In the month of September 1776 he resided at Marbletown in the County of Ulster and State of New York and enlisted for two months under Captain Frederick Schoonmaker—in a regiment or battalion commanded by Colonel Snyder he proceeded from Marbletown to Fort Clinton in what is called the Highlands—where he remained the two months for which he enlisted and aided and assisted in building the fort he also assisted in putting the chain across the river after serving the two months he received a discharge from Captain Schoonmaker (which discharge is lost) and returned home to Marbletown – where he continued to reside until the month of April 1777 when he was drafted for five months and served the whole of the five months in the before mentioned Fort Clinton under the Command of Colonel Snyder, the other officers of the Regiment this Deponent does not now recollect except James Bevier who was the adjutant of the regiment,

After serving the five months he returned home and remained there until about the 10th of September of the same year when the regiment to which he belonged was ordered to Stillwater and he marched with it Colonel Hornbeck of Hallenbeck having the command of the Regiment and Captain John Hasbrouck being commandant of the company of which this deponent was a member. He joined the Regiment in Kingston & marched from that place to Albany & from Albany to Stillwater at which place he removed until about the 10th of October when he was ordered as one of a Convoy our Detachment to take a number of prisoner to Albany and upon arriving at Albany & seizing the prisoners in the fort he was dismissed and arrived at his place of residence in Marbletown the evening before Esopus was burnt in the British found on the same night that he arrived at home he had orders to repair to Esopus which orders and was present upon or near the shore when the British troops landed from the shipping he remained after Kingston or Esopus was burnt in the service of the United States for about 10 days & laid at [?] Kill making in all about one month and a half from the time he started from home for Stillwater to the time he returned home from [?] Kill he then remained at home until the month of April 1778, at which time he was ordered up Shendaken & went to that place to watch the motions of the Indians and Torys where he remained on month when he started he was under the command of Captain

Jechem Schoonmaker but after being there a short time Captain Schoonmaker returned home he left the command to Moses Depey who continued to command the remainder of the month—after the expiration of the month this deponent was again Discharged and returned to his home in Marbletown where he continued to reside until about the 10th of August of the same year when he was again ordered to join a scout and march for Shendaken and what was then called Pockatachen (but now Middletown) upon which scout he was gone from home another month and upon which Scout the party found near Packatachen the body of a man by the name of Rider killed and scalped by the Indians or Torrys [Torys] –

That last month this deponent and the party to which he belonged was commanded by Lieutenant Westbrook after the expiration of the month he again returned home & remained there until about about [sic] the last of September when he was again ordered to join his regiment which he did & marched with it to Fishkill where it laid over one month & this deponent was with the regiment was commanded by Col. Wynkoop and Captain Frederick Schoonmaker commanded the Company to which this Deponent belonged—after being discharged from Fishkill he removed at home until August 1779 when he was again ordered upon a scout to Shendaken and Packatachen upon which scout he was out one month when the party arrived at Packatachen they found the lady of Hermanus Demond who had been killed which they buried when the party of which this deponent last [?] left Shendaken they were joined by a [?] under Cantine and when they arrived at Packatachen or what is now called Middletown they destroyed all the crops & grain that had been gathered & returned without seeing any thing of the enemy—after which he was discharged.

In the month of April 1780, he was again called upon & ordered to a station in the western part of the town of Middletown where he remained one month & was again discharged and returned home where he remained until the month of September following when he was again called upon and ordered to a place called [Luring?] Kill in the town of Rochester—when he removed one month under Captain Levi Dewitt when he was discharged & returned home and remained there until the ensuing year when he again served another month in Warwasing but he does not now recollect what officer commanded at that place—this deponent further says that often his return from [T?lfs] Kill as before mentioned he was classed and all the services done since his return as aforesaid from [?] Kill was done as one of his class he also says that the first two months of his service rendered in Fort Clinton he was a Sergeant in the company to which he belonged and that he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove any part of his services except a part of the services performed in Shendaken & Packatachen which he expects to prove by Cornelius Keaton neither has he any documentary or written evidence to prove any part of his statements as before made.

He was in no battles during the Revolutionary War nor can he give the names of any of his officers except as above stated.

He does not now recollect the names of any of the officers in the regular service with whom he served except Colonel Morgan who commanded a scout to which he

belonged while laying at Stillwater and which Scout took three prisoners near where Burgoyen's Army lay while said prisoners were dressing a hog that they had killed.

He was born in the town of Marbletown Ulster County & State of New York he has no record of his age except that made in a family Bible formerly belonging to his father & now in the possession of the husband of his brother Joseph he has resided in the town of Roxbury County of Delaware & state of New York for more than thirty years and previous to the time he had resided all his lifetime in the town of Marbletown aforesaid he never received any written discharge from the army except as before set forth now a [?] there are no persons now living to his knowledge except as before stated by whom he can prove his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pention or [pension] or annuity except the present and declares that his [he] is not on the pention [pension] roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) John C. Keator

Sworn & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid. C. B. Sheldon, Clerk

Letter in folder dated January 30, 1937, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the record of John C. Keator who served in the Revolutionary War from New York.

The record of John C. Keator follows as found in pension claim, W.26174, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

John C. Keator, son of Cornelius Keator, was born July 14, 1765, in Marbletown, Ulster County, New York. The name of his mother is not shown.

While living in Marbletown, New York he enlisted in September, 1776, and served at various times until sometime in the latter part of 1781, fifteen months and fifteen days in all, as a private and sergeant in the New York troops, under Lieutenants Frederick Westbrook, Chambers and DuBois, Captains Frederick Schoonmaker, John Hasbrouck, Jocham Schoonmaker, Conklin, and Levi DeWitt, and Colonels Snyder, Hoornbeek, Pawling, Wynkoop, Cantine, and Morgan.

After the Revolutionary War the soldier lived in Marbletown, New York, until about 1794 or 1795, when he moved to Roxbury, Delaware County, New York.

John C. Keator was allowed pension on his application executed October 9, 1832, while living in said Roxbury, New York. He was pensioned John C. Keaton. He died October 18, 1847, in Roxbury, New York.

The soldier married Rebecca or Rebakah Elmore July 10, 1785, in Marbletown, New York, at the home of his father.

Rebecca Keaton, soldiers' widow, was allowed pension on her application executed July 14, 1848, at which time she was living in Roxbury, New York aged eighty years.

The following names of children of John C. Keator and his wife, Rebecca, are shown in the claim:

Sally or Sary Sherwood, the oldest child, born July 22, 1786.

Elezebeth born July 18, 1788.

Ruth born November 2, 1790.

Anna born October 16, 1793.

Daniel D., in 1749 aged forty-four years and living in Roxbury, N.Y.

In 1832, one Cornelius Keator was living in Roxbury, New York, and stated that he had known the soldier, John C. Keator, since he was a boy, and that he served three months with him in the Revolutionary War, but did not state any relationship to him.

In 1832, soldier referred to the widow of his Joseph, but did not state her given name.

In 1848, one Nelly Pattison was living in Delaware County, New York, and stated that she was the sister of the soldier, John C. Keator. There are no further family data on file.