

Pension Application for Barnabas Lighthart

S.13756

State of New York

Saratoga SS

On this 25th day of September 1832 personally appeared on open court before the vice chancellor in the Court of Chancery of the 4th Circuit of said State now sitting Barnabas Lighthart of the Town of Corinth in the County of Saratoga aged seventy one 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 7, 1832.

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

On being asked where & in what year he was born? He answers in Fishkill Dutchess County in said State in the year 1761.

On being asked. Have you any record of your age? He answers no. He never knew of any.

On being asked. Where were you living when called into service. Where have you lived since the revolutionary war. & Where do you now live? He answers; when called into service he lived at Fort Edward in the County of Washington , Since the Revolutionary War, he has lived in Milton in said County of Saratoga Two years, he then moved to Saratoga Spring In Saratoga County, then to the said Town of Corinth where he has lived twenty eight years & upwards & where he now lives.

On being asked, Howa were you called into service; where you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute & if a Substitute for whom? He answers & says that he went in the service in March 17776 at Fort Edward aforesaid, as a volunteer in Capt. Bates' Company of Rangers & he was employed in Scouting & Ranging the woods & country from March till snow fell quite deep in the fall a winter. Says Capt. Bates gave him the command of several men & sent them out as rangers, he recollects the names of some of them to wit.

Albert White, one Gilbert, one Bush & one Cunning & does not know as they are living now. Says he was wounded in the leg by a part of Indians near Lake George & had a number of skirmishes with them, he was at Ticonderoga, Fort Ann, Whitehall & Poultney, says that Capt. Woodward with a party was with them at one time.

In the beginning of winter of that year he was dismissed, but had no written discharge & he don't remember the precise day.

Immediately after this service he enlisted for 9 months as a substitute for Joseph Munger under Captain Peak, Colonel Yates Regiment. Burgoyne was expected from Canada & the latter part of the season the army retreated from Canada & the latter part of the season the army retreated before him, I was assigned most of the time that summer & fall to do service in the Battoux's on the River from Stillwater to Albany. I remember that fall Burgoyne surrendered. General Gates was the American commander. I was in no general battle my business was transporting Baggage &c and ranging out in the outskirts of the camp principally I served that 9 months but never received any written discharge.

I remember the names of Genl Arnold & Col. Wilkinson, who were there.

In 1781 I again enlisted for 9 months under Capt Holton Dunham & Lieut. Benoni Grant served the whole time at Saratoga near the place of Burgoyne's surrender. I took no written discharge. My Capt & Lieutenant were suspected of having communication with 5 British men who came from Canada. One of whom was named Loveless & my Capt. & Lieut were seized & went to West Point in Irons as Tractors & Loveless was arrested & condemned & hung as a spy. Salmon Child Esqr late Judge of this county served in the same company with me & John Petit Esqr a Justice served in the same detachment which consisted of 3 companies under Major McKinstry in Col. Willis Regiment of New York State Troops, says he knows of no documentary evidence of his service, he knows of no person now living who can testify to his service except the aforesaid Salmon Child, John Petit & one Thomas Jordan whose testimony he intends to procure. But he says the said Jordan is very infirm & sick & unable to attend court. That he is known to Windsor Brown, Daniel Crawford, Ambrose Clothes & Salmon Clothes & Benjamin Rose living in his neighborhood & who can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

And he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

On being required to state the names of some of the regular officers who were with the Troops where he served such Continental & Militia Regiments as he can recollect & the general circumstances of your service & he answers that he cannot state more fully than he has already done hereinbefore.

On being asked if he ever received a written discharge from service? He answers no.

On being required to State the names of persons to whom he was known in his neighborhood & who could testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his service as a soldier of the revolution: He says his answer to this question is already contained above. (Signed with his mark) Barnabas Lighthart

Sworn to & subscribed the 25 Sept. 1832 before me in open court. G. M. Davison, Clerk in Chancery