

Pension Application for Nathan Niles

S.19008

State of Vermont

Grand Isle District SS.

On this 13th day of August AD 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Hon. Court of Probate for the District of Grand Isle, a Court of Record now sitting, Nathan Niles a resident of the Town of Alburgh in the County of Grand Isle and State of Vermont, aged seventy 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.

I entered the service of the United States in June 1777 at Stephentown in the State of New York as a substitute for my brother by the name of Robert Niles and as a private soldier.

I do not recollect the day of the month my company mustered at Stephentown aforesaid under Captain James Denison and my Father Stephen Miles and one Oliver Bently were Lieutenants in the same company to which I belonged, I was a servant for my Father my company belonged to the Regiment commanded by Colonel VanAlstine, we marched from Stephentown to Fort Edward and there kept garrison under General Schuyler for some time until the arrival of the English Army at that place, when the Army under Schuyler retreated across Hudson river towards Saratoga and then hauled and commenced erecting bust works on the bank of the Hudson river, and the enemy arrived on the oposite [opposite] shore and opened a fire on our batteries which continued one night, and General Schuyler retreated from this place to Saratoga and from Saratoga to Stillwater when my time expired and I returned home, and when my company lay on the south side of Hoosack [Hoosick] river on our return home we heard the musick [music] of Colonel Baums division was on the north side of Hoosack river we returned to Stephentown and we were then discharged, this term of service was two months.

I again entered the service of the United States a volunteer at said Stephentown in July 1778 or 1779, I do not recollect which year and mustered at Stephentown in the company under my Father who had now become Captain and from thence marched to Schoharie the Captain's name was Stephen Niles, we joined an other [another] company at Schohaire and kept Garrison there two months, the Garrison was under the command of a Captain whose name I do not recollect. The term of service for our company expired and returned home, this term of service was two months and I was discharged at Stephentown by Capt. Stephen Niles.

I again entered the service of the United States about the first of March 1780, at Stephentown aforesaid a Volunteer my company mustered at Albany from thence marched to Fort Edward under Captain John Chapman, Ezra Buel & one Bradshaw were Lieutenants my company belonged to Colonel Harpers Regiment. Colonel Harper

was not at Fort Edward as he recollects and the and the Fort [sic] was commanded by Captain John Chipman and there was but two companies there who kept Garrison.

While we lay at Fort Edward the Americans took batteaus and crossed Lake George, Johnstown to Lake Champlain but he escaped us. An officer by the name of Clinton went with us on this expedition but I do not know what command he had but he had some.

I understand that he has been Governor of the State of New York since. I stayed at Fort Edward into summer when I marched to Palmertown was transferred to Captain Harrison's company, I remained here about one and a half months, the Americans here built a block house, from here we marched to Schenectady and stayed a few days, there and from there marched to Fort Plain and then I was transfered [transferred] to Captain Drake's Company I stayed a short time then and from thence & was marched to Fort Stanwick, and I stayed there untill my time expired, and I received my discharge and returned home, during my stay here the Fort was commanded by Major Hughs, the last mentioned term of service was nine months my time expired and I received my discharge in the fore part of December 1780, and I have lost all my discharges and I know of no person by whom I can prove my service, and I was a private soldier during the three terms of service above mentioned.

I had no documentary evidence of my service.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. (Signed) Nathan Niles

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Joel Allen, Judge

Letter in file dated May 2, 1933, written in response to an inquiry.

Daniel Dunbar-W.24088

Nathan Niles-S.19008

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information relative to Daniel Dunbar and Nathan Niles, soldiers of the War of the Revolution.

Daniel Dunbar-W.24088

From the papers on file in the above noted pension claim, it is shown that Daniel Dunbar, while residing in Hingham, Plymouth Company, Massachusetts, served in 1776, six months in Captain Winslow's company. He served in 1777, two months and two day as a private in Captain French's company, Colonel Jonathan Titcomb's regiment; in 1777, fifteen days as private under Lieutenant Burrill; again in 1778, seven months in Captain Garzia's company of artillery, Colonel Elliott's regiment. He enlisted in July, 1778 and served four months in Captain Benjamin Beal's company of guards stationed around Boston.

Daniel Dunbar married April 26, 1781, Miss Phillipa Danron (?). She was then of Scituate, Massachusetts and he was of Hingham, Massachusetts. Their marriage was recorded on the books of the town of Scituate.

The soldier, Daniel Dunbar, died September 15, 1825 in Hingham, Massachusetts, then aged seventy-three years. The date and place of his birth are not given, nor are the names of his parents stated.

The widow, Phillipa Dunbar, was allowed pension on her application executed, August 28, 1838, then aged eighty years and living in Hingham, Massachusetts.

There is no reference to children. In 1838 one, Enoch Dunbar was eighty-one years of age and living in Hingham, no relationship to family shown.

Nathan Niles-S.19008

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.19008, based upon the service of Nathan Niles during the Revolutionary War.

The date and place of his birth are not shown. He was the son of Stephen Niles, the name of his mother is not given. It is stated that his father's family resided at Stephentown, New York during the Revolutionary War.

Nathan Niles enlisted at Stephentown, New York, sometime in June, 1777, as substitute for his brother, Robert Niles, served as a private two months in Captain James Dennison's company, Colonel VanAlstyne's New York regiment; his father, Stephen Niles was lieutenant in the company. He enlisted in July 1778 or 1779 and served two months in Captain Stephen Niles' (his father). He enlisted March 1, 1780 and served in Captain John Chipman's company, Colonel Harper's New York regiment, was on the expedition to intercept Sir John Johnson on his march from Johnstown to Lake Champlain; served until in the summer and was transferred to Captain Harrison's company, and again transferred to Captain Drake's company and was discharged in December, 1780.

Nathan Niles was allowed pension on his application executed August 13, 1832, then aged seventy years and living in Alburg, Grand Isle County, Vermont.

There is no reference to wife or children. It is stated in 1832 that his father had been dead about thirty years.

The soldier's brother, Ichabod Niles, was a resident of Alburg, Vermont in 1832.