

### Pension Application for Rufus Paine

S.14096 (Thomas Paine of Farmington in the State of Conn't was a private in the comp. commanded by Captain Griffin of the Regt commanded by Col. Clinton in the NYork line.  
State of Connecticut  
Hartford County SS.  
Farmington August 18, 1832.

On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Probate for Farmington District in Hartford County now sitting, Rufus Paine a resident of Burlington in the County and State aforesaid 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832—

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

1<sup>st</sup> on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February 1776, he enlisted into a company raised as he understood during the pleasure of Congress, commanded by Capt. Daniel Griffin of col. James Clinton's (1) regiment, he joined the company at Southhold on Long Island, from thence he marched with the company to Shelter Island and was there encamped till the month of August 1776 – he then marched towards the City of New York, until he received information of the defeat of the Americans and the capture of the city by the British troops; (2) then his company took passage by water for Saybrook Con. And was there encamped for several weeks, and he was detained there sometime by sickness—he afterwards joined the regiment at Fort Montgomery and there remained in service until the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March 1777 (3) —when he was regularly discharged—

He knew no general officers of the regular line, while in service and knows of no person living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service—

In answer to the interrogatories propounded he says to them—

1<sup>st</sup> he was born at Shelter Island, State of New York on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of June 1756.—

2<sup>nd</sup> his birth is recorded in his family bible—

3<sup>d</sup> when called in service he was living at Southhold on Long Island lived there and at Shelter Island till about the year 1790, then moved to Bristol Conn, and lived there about ten years, then moved to Burlington and has lived there ever since.

4<sup>th</sup> already answered.—

5<sup>th</sup> – he does not recollect any regular officers, besides those of his regiment—nor does he recollect any other body of troops except his own regt—

6<sup>th</sup> he had a discharge in writing, but being, after he service, taken a prisoner by the British, while in a vessel in Long Island Sound, he destroyed his discharge, out of caution—

7<sup>th</sup> he is generally known in Burlington and in the neighbouring towns, and is well acquainted with the Rev'd Erastus Scranton and Zebulon Frisbie Esq.

He hereby relinquishes 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) Rufus Paine.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Lemuel Whitman, Judge of Probate Farmington District.

End Notes—Rufus Paine—S.14096

1. Rufus enlisted as a private on March 1, 1776 in Captain Daniel Griffing's Company in Colonel James Clinton's Second New York Regiment of 1776. Colonel Clinton had commanded the Third New York Continental Regiment of 1775. Colonel Clinton was promoted to Brigadier General on August 9, 1776 and Lieutenant-Colonel Henry B. Livingston commanded the regiment. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 67, Folder 21. National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. Rufus is referring to the Battle of Long Island which was fought on August 27, 1776.
3. So far I haven't found a muster roll for Captain Griffing's Company for any later than November of 1776. However, a return for troops at Fort Montgomery was found on page 145 in Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York, ed. Bertold Fernow, Vol XV, State Archives, Vol. I, Weed, Parsons and Company, Printers, 1887. The return of the officers and men in garrison at Fort Montgomery under the command of the hon'ble Brigadier General James Clinton, Jan'y 18<sup>th</sup> 1777.

Officers Names

Capt. Griffings 2d NY Regt

Capt. Jackson 2d NY Regt

Capt. Belknap

Capt. Childs

Capt. Rose

Capt. Davis.

It is not known how much longer these companies were kept in service. On November 21, 1777, the New York Continental Regiments were re-organized and Philip VanCortlandt was appointed Colonel of the Second New York Continental Regiment.