

Pension Application for Benjamin Pelton

W.1990 (Isabella Timley or Simley married Benjamin Pelton Nov 30, 1800.) Benjamin died September 8, 1830.

B.L.Wt.61054-160-55

B.L.Wt1651-300-Capt.

Issued July 14, 1791. Also recorded as above under B.L.Wt.2587. No Papers.

State of New York

Tompkins County, SS.

On this 27 day of May 1820 personally appeared in open court, being a court of Record for the said county, in said state Benjamin Pelton aged 68 years, resident in the town of Ulysses in the said county, who, being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, the he served in the Revolutionary War, as follows:

In 1775, 18th of June commissioned first line in the first Regiment of New York Troops commanded by Col. Alex'r McDougall and went north with Genl Montgomery & to Quebeck.

In the winter of 1776 was appointed a Lieut. In a Regt to be commanded by (I think) a Col. Nicholson but was in May transferred to the 3rd Regt of New York troops commanded by Col. Rudolphus Ritzma and on the 21 Nov'r 1776 appointed a captain in the 2d Regiment of the line of New York troops commanded by Colo Philip VanCortlandt on the continental Establishment in which Regt I remained until March or April 1778 when I was deranged & dismissed as super numerary—and that my declaration of services was made out on the eighteenth day of July 1818 on which I obtained a certificate for a pension Number 6792.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States, on the 18th day of March, 1818, and that I have not since that time by gift, sale, or in any manner, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress, entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval services of the United States in the Revolutionary War," passed on the 18th day of March, 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts due me, nor have I any other income than what is contained in the schedule hereunto annexed, and by me subscribed.

And I would add that all my goods & chattles [chattels] set forth in my inventory are like myself aged & almost worn out & I have been for a number of years in a state of ill health & not able to gain a livelihood by labour,—and that I am now on the [?] limits on an execution of between four & five hundred dollars and the sheriff has another execution against me of between thirteen & fourteen hundred dollars for the satisfaction of which I have no property real or personal wherein to pay other than set forth in the schedule hereunto annexed & that I have a wife to support also of an advanced age. And there are several Judgments and debts against me to the account of more than one thousand dollars. (Signed) Benj'n Pelton.

Sworn to and declares this 27th day of May 1820 before me in open court.
Richard Smith, First Judge, Tompkins County.

I Benjamin Pelton was born in the City of New York on the sixth day of May 1752—was commissioned a Lieut in the 1st Reg't of New York 28th June 1775—went with the regiment thro the Campaign of the North down to Quebeck—was in the division of the Army Commanded by Genl Montgomery in person at the Attack of Quebec—after he fell, was by Genl Arnold appointed an Assistant to the D.Q.M. Genl Donald Campbell—served as assistant thro the winter of 75-6—in April 1776 was appointed a Lieut in a new Regt commanded by Col. Nicholson;--was on the 15th April sent to N.Y. on recruiting service—

When I arrived at New York in May was appointed Lieut & Adjutant in the 3rd Regt of New York Commanded by Rudolphus Ritzma—was in many skirmishes [skirmishes] in the course of that year, & in the Battle of White Plains and such was my conduct in that battle, that, on the 21st Nov. 1776 when the Army was re-organized, I was promoted from my stand as youngest Cap'n over several others to 2nd Cap'n in the 2nd Reg'n of New York commanded by Col. Philip Cortland—was in various trials before the battles of 21st Sep & 7th Octo'r 1777 in both which I acted well my part—was selected by Gen'l Gates to escort the British Officer who bore Gen'l Burgoine's dispatches to Gen'l How then in Philadelphia & from thence escorted him to his Quarters at Cambridge near Boston—was In the early part of 1778 at the then arrangement of the Army returned super numerary –

And retired while in service, ever active and industrious in disciplining & drilling my own company and most part of the time the Ref't often assisting our Major of Brigade & the different Adjutants, it then being my delight –have since continued a warm friend of my country.

And in 1812 when General Smyth sent out an invitation to the Citizens to join him in the attack of Canada—headed a small party to within 20 miles of Buffalo from whence, old as I was, over 60, went on apart ahead of them and was in Camp & joined myself to Col. McClure who commanded the Irish Greens & Balimore Blues & with them was embarked ready for the enterprize when we were ordered to debark--& being dismissed with my party—have not since been called on to raise my sword.—

I Have thro life possessed the confidence of fellow citizens—have passed thro many griping misfortunes, and am at last reduced to real indigence, and am necessitated to apply for a pension. (Signed) Benj'm Pelton

Scott 11th July 1818. Declared and affirmed and subscribed before me this 18th day of July 1818. John Keep, First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Cortland.

Schedule of all the property of Benjamin Felton, a revolutionary pensioner under the Act of Congress of 18th March 1818.

	Dol. Cents		Dol. Cents
1 Bureau & 11 Chairs	31.00	Brought Over	104.52 ½
1 Bed & 2 Tables	8.00	1 tin pudding pan	00.50
1 Watch & 1 Clock (no case)	30.00	1 Tin Dutch oven (old and leaky)	00.50
2 pair And Irons	5.00	1 tin Coffee pot	00.12 ½
3 Sad Irons	1.25	1 tin Skimmer	00.6.
3 Candle Sticks	1.00	2. Tin Dippers 1 Brass Skimmer	00.60
1 pair snuffers & dish	1.00	1 Trammel & 3 Hooks	00.75
1 Iron Pot	1.00	12 Large Plate[s] Earthen (various)	1.00
1 Large Kettle	3.00	2 dishes 2 cream pots	1.25
1 small kettle	00.75	2 Shugar [sugar] dishes 4 bowls (various)	10.75
1 small kettle, cracked	10.25	2 pitches 1 gallon jug	00.75
1 spider & 1 Brass Kettle, small (old)	5.50	2 Washing tubs, 3 meat barrels	2.50
2 Iron Kettles, 2 water pails	1.25	7 old casks, 5 crocks	2.75
4 Tin Milk pans	00.50	2 meal or bread trays	00.50
2 Tin Milk Pans, pint	00.12 ½	1 Butter Tray & Laddle	00.25
1 old tea board	1.00	1 Butter try & ladle	00.25
1 old [?] 1 Decanter	00.50	1 soap tub, 1 old chest	1.50
3 foot glasses	00.25	2 old trunks	1.00
3 goblets	00.50	1 Foot Stove 1 bellows	00.75
2 black tea pots	00.40	1 Grid Iron 1 Small carpet (old)	2.20
20 cups & saucers (various)	2.50	1 Bible 1 concordance 2 H gram? Books	4.00
8 knives & 8 forks	2.00	1 shovel 4/ 1 hoe 1 Axe 4/	1.25
7 Table spoons 1 cullender [colander]	2.75	1 garden rake	00.25
	\$104.52 ½		\$128.76

I have no real Estate no debts, other than what I have long considered as Irrecoverably lost. (Signed) Benj'n Pelton

Sworn to and declared this 27th day of May before me in open court. Richard Smith, first Judge Tompkins County.

Letter in folder dated February 28, 1929, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.1990, it appears that Benjamin Pelton was born, May 6, 1752, in New York City.

He was commissioned, June 28, 1775, First Lieutenant in Colonel Alexander McDougal's First New York Regiment, was in the attack on Quebec, after which he was appointed assistant to Deputy Quartermaster General Donal Campbell, and in April 1776, was appointed Lieutenant in Colonel Nicholson's Regiment; in May was transferred to Colonel Rudolphus Ritzema's New York Regiment, was in several skirmishes and in the battle of White Plains, and November 21, 1776, was commissioned Captain in Colonel Philip VanCortlandt's Second New York Regiment, was in both battles of Stillwater and served until in March or April, 1778.

H also stated that he volunteers in the War of 1812 and marched to near Buffalo under Colonel McClure and was dismissed after a short tour.

He was allowed pension on his application executed July 18, 1818 in Cortland County, New York.

In 1820, he was a resident of Ulysses, Tompkins County, New York.

He died, September 7 or 8, 1830, in Ithaca, New York.

The soldier married, November 30, 1800, in New York City, Mrs. Isabella Smiley, of New York City, he was then of Dutchess County, New York.

She was allowed pension on her application executed February 18, 1853, at which time she was living in Ulysses, New York, aged eighty-four years.

In 1855, she was living in Glenville, Schenectady County, New York.

A son, Edmund G. Pelton, was living in Ithaca, New York in 1853.