

Pension Application for Ezekiel Roberts

S.43977

State of New York

Washington County SS.

Ezekiel Roberts of the Town of Hampton in the County of Washington and State of New York, being duly sworn on his oath saith that in the latter part of the summer of the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six in the town of Stillwater in the (then) County of Albany and State of New York aforesaid.

He enlisted into a Company of Rangers raised under the authority of Congress permitting the (then) Committee of the said County of Albany to raise two companies of Rangers for the defence of their frontiers, to serve during the Pleasure of Congress as Orderly Sergeant of the said Company under Captain Alexander Baldwin.

That in pursuance of that Enlistment he served in the said Company from that time until the nineteenth day of march (then) next following when on returning in his Company from Ticonderoga in obedience to the orders of Colonel Anthony Wayne commanding officer at Ticonderoga aforesaid he and his Captain aforesaid and seventeen others were taken prisoners by a party of British and Indians commanded by a Captain Samuel McRay at Sabbath day Point on Lake George and conveyed by them through the woods to St. Regis on the St. Lawrence, from thence to Montreal, where they were detained six weeks; thence transported to Quebec and confined on board the Triton at that place, and there kept until the fourth day of November then next, land then shipped for New York in the Ship Andrew Commanded by Captain Gear, and arrived at New York about the twentieth day of December one thousand seven. After three days detention then he was paroled and permitted to return home, on his parol to return again if not exchanged when called for.

That on or about the tenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty supposing from the best information he could obtain that his exchange had been effected, he received a commission as Lieutenant from his Excellency Governor Clinton in a company of the Levies of the State of New York to reinforce the Army of the United States commanded by Captain Adiel Sherwood to serve in said company against the common enemy during the Pleasure of Congress.

That he was immediately thereafter stationed at Fort Ann with his said Captain.

The Regiment to which his company belonged was commanded by Colonel Morris Graham. That he remained at Fort Ann aforesaid until the tenth day of October of the same year when his captain himself and company stationed there were taken prisoners by a party of British commanded by Major Carlton and conveyed to the Province of Lower Canada to Montreal and closely confined for several weeks when he was paroled, and thereby confined to the Limits of Isle Jesus.

That after a while he was taken from his parol on some complaint prepared against him and confined again at Montreal.

That afterwards on threatening to Petition the Governor of Canada the officer commanding the Prisoners again offered to let him at large on signing and this parol which he referred, but the said officers [?] the less after much altercation and abuse

sent him to the Isle Jesus aforesaid; where he remained until about the first of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty two when he and one captain Phillips made their escape, and after many adventures and hairbreath scapes made their way back to their own Country and he returned to Stillwater aforesaid, thinking himself at Liberty to come away having been taken from his parol as aforesaid.

That in the month of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty three on the general exchange of Prisoners at the return of Peace he was discharged. That about twenty years ago, not having been paid for his services aforesaid, he petitioned Congress for Compensation and at that time transmitted his said commission with his petition aforesaid to Congress and he has been informed and believes that they are now on file in the War Office.

That he is now and since his said service has been a resident Citizen of the United States and now lives in the Town of Hampton in the County of Washington and State of New York aforesaid.

That he is now in the seventy second year of his age, incapable of Labor, destitute of property and by reason of his reduced circumstances stands in need of the assistance of his country for support. (Signed) Ezekiel Roberts

Sworn this 14th day of April 1818 before me. Henry C. Martindale one of the Judges of the Washington Common Pleas.

Letter in folder dated January 15, 1924, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.43977, it appears that Ezekiel Roberts, while residing at Stillwater, New York enlisted in the summer of 1776, served as orderly Sergeant in Captain Alexander Baldwin's Company of Rangers, and on March 19, 1777, was captured at Sabbath Day Point, was confined in Canada and paroled in December 1777. He was commissioned July 1, 1780, Lieutenant of Captain Adiel Sherwood's Company, Colonel Lewis Dubois' Regiment, New York Troops, land on October 10, 1780, was captured at Fort Ann, confined in Canada and escaped in September 1782.

He was allowed pension on his application executed April 14, 1818, at which time he was seventy one years of age and a resident of Hampton, New York, where he was living in 1822, with a son in law, Beriah Rogers.

The names of other members of his family are not stated, nor are the dates of his birth and death on record.