

Pension Application for Eli Rood, Roude

W.17560 (Widow: Mary)

State of New York

County of Columbia SS.

On this 17th day of July personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Justices Court of the City of Hudson in County & State aforesaid now sitting Eli Rood a resident of the town of Hillsdale in said County, aged seventy two years, who being 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 was born in the town of Northeast in the County of Dutchess in State aforesaid in the month of April 1760.

That he volunteered in the Militia of the State of New York in June of 1777, at which time half of the militia in said state were ordered out in Jonathan Bixsby (1) was Capt. & Peter VanNess was Colonel. They marched first to Albany thence to Fort Edward. The American Army was at that time coming in from Ticonderoga (2) after the evacuation of that place & this deponent was engaged with others in removing the military stores from Lake George to Fort Edward. The army then retreated back to Stillwater, where his term of six weeks having expired, he was there discharged & returned home.

In Sept following he enlisted for three months in the Company of Capt Abraham Fundy, (3) Major Rich'd Esselstyne, (4) Col. Henry Livingston (5) marched to Half Moon point in Saratoga County, thence to Bemis Point in Stillwater, was in the battle of Saratoga, (6) where his gun was unstocked by ball from the enemy. After the surrender of Burgoyne, (7) they marched down the River to Newburg where he was discharged at the expiration of said three months service.

In March of 1778 he again enlisted for four months in the same company as before. Marched first to Albany, thence to Saratoga, where they tarried some time, then returned to Albany & was there discharged Enlisted again the same year for one month under Captain Jacob Phillips (8) marched to Johnstown to protect the frontiers there & was discharged at the end of the month. Again enlisted for one month to go to Cherry Valley in Company of Capt Abel Whaling (9) & had returned the month before the battle of Butler & Brant; (10) is not certain whether this was in 1778 or 79.

Again in the spring of 1781 he enlisted under Capt. Stephen White, (11) Col Willet, for nine months; marched first to Albany thence to Balltown, thence to Fort Plain on the Mohawk, where he assisted in building a Block-house. Marched thence in pursuit of the tories & Indians & had a battle at New Canada Creek [West Canada Creek] where the Famous Butler (12) was killed & this deponent saw him scalped. While at Balltown this deponent went on a scout with the Oneida Indians for 13 days & afterward returned to Fort Herkimer alias German Flats, where he was discharged at the close of said nine months.

This deponent further declares that he has no documentary evidence & knows of but one person w(13) ho can certify to any of said campaigns & his testimony is herewith annexed & he further declares that he relinquishes every claim to any pension whatever, except this present one, that his name is not on any pension roll of the agency of any state & further saith not. (Signed with his mark) Eli Rood

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year aforesaid. Hiram Wilbur Clerk

Letter in folder dated May 26, 1930, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.17560, it appears that Eli Rood was born in April 1760 in Northeast, Dutchess County, New York.

While a resident of Hillsdale, Columbia County, N.Y., he enlisted and served as a private with the New York Troops, as follows:

From June 1777, six weeks in Capt. Jonathan Bixby's Company of Col. Peter VanNess' Regiment; from September 1777, three months in Capt. Abraham Fonda's Company, of Col. Henry Livingston's Regiment and was in the battle of Saratoga; from March 1778, four months in Capt. Abraham Fonda's Company of Col. Henry Livingston's Regiment; in 1778, one month in Capt. Jacob Phillips' Company; in the fall of 1778, one month in Capt. Abel Whalen's Company; and from the spring of 1781, nine months in Capt. Stephen White's company of Col. Willett's Regiment and was in the battle of New Canada Creek.

He was allowed pension on his application executed July 17, 1832, at which time the was a resident of Hillsdale, N.Y.

He died there in October 1841.

The soldier married in 1781 Mary, her maiden name not given.

She was allowed pension on her application executed February 28, 1843, at which time she was aged ninety years and was a resident of Hillsdale, N. Y.

Eli and Mary had the following children:

Sally born July 29, 1782, married December 24, 1799 John Richmond, who was born April 12, 1779.

Henry E. resident of Illinois in 1843 married January 1, 1804 Sally Rowly.

Polly or Mary died at the age about four years.

Children of the above noted John and Sally Richmond:

Eli born August 26, 1801.

Mary born January 10, 1803.

Rebeckah born June 13, 1805.

Hannah Amanda born October 10, 1807.

Stephen John born February 1, 1809.

Ira born July 20, 1811.

Betsy born September 3, 1816? (year Illegible)

Sally Ann born February 12, 1819.

End Notes—W.17560—Eli Rood

1. Jonathan Bixby was a Captain in Colonel Peter Van Ness's Ninth Regiment of Albany County Militia. He was commissioned as Captain on May 28, 1778. The following officers were commissioned on the same date: Joseph Heath as the first lieutenant; Abel Wheland as the second lieutenant; and Abraham Bless as the ensign.
2. Fort Ticonderoga was evacuated by the American forces under Major General Arthur St. Clair on July 6, 1777. The British forces under Lieutenant General John Burgoyne pursued the retreating American troops, and on July 7, a major battle was fought at Hubbardton, Vermont. The battle resulted after a hard fight an American defeat.
3. Abraham Fonda was a captain in Colonel Robert VanRensselaer's Eighth Regiment of Albany County Militia. He was commissioned as a captain on May 28, 1778.
4. Richard Esseltyne was appointed second major in 1775 in Colonel VanRensselaer's Regiment.
5. Henry Livingston was appointed the first major in Colonel Peter R. Livingston's Tenth Regiment of Albany County Militia. He was commissioned the lieutenant colonel of the regiment on May 28, 1778. This was a draft of Militia from various regiments sent to reinforce American Major General Horatio Gates at Stillwater.

6. Brigadier General Abraham Ten Broeck's Albany County Militia Brigade fought in the October 7, 1777 battle.
7. General Burgoyne surrendered the remnants of his invading army on October 17, 1777.
8. Jacob Phillips was appointed captain of the fourth company in 1775 in Colonel VanRensselaer's Regiment.
9. Abel Wheland appears not to have been a captain at anytime in Colonel Van Ness' Regiment. Wheland was commissioned a first lieutenant in Captain Joseph Heath's Company on February 6, 1779. Captain Bixby had resigned and Heath was promoted to captain in his place. Wheland probably as a first lieutenant commanded a detachment of the company sent with a detachment of Van Ness' Regiment to Cherry Valley.
10. Captain Walter Butler and Joseph Brant stacked and destroyed Cherry Valley on November 11, 1778.
11. Stephen White was appointed captain on April 27, 1781 in Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York state Levies.
12. On October 25, 1781 a battle was fought at Johnstown between American forces under Willett and British forces under Major John Ross. During the battle Captain White with others had been captured which Rood does not mention or the battle.

On October 30, the American advance guard caught up with the rear guard of the British at West Canada Creek and after several minutes of skirmishing Butler fell wounded and several of his men killed and wounded. The Oneida Indian Anthony who shot Butler crossed the creek, tomahawked and scalped Butler.

Eli is listed as Rude on Captain White's pay receipt roll. L Eli was paid £ 21. . 3. . 1 and it was delivered to Abraham Ten Eyck. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
13. John Clapper testified to being with Eli in 1777 at Saratoga and was standing behind Rood in the battle and saw his gun struck by a musket ball.