

Pension Application for Joshua Sayre

S.14403

Ensign, Artificer, Sergeant. Under Captain Hulbert, Col. Clinton.

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

State of New York

County of Cayuga SS.

On this first day of September AD 1832 before me Augustus F. Ferris a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Cayuga personally appeared Joshua Sayre a resident of the town of Victory in the county of Cayuga and State of New York aged seventy seven 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, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit he entered the service under Captain John Hulbert (1) afterwards (Colonel Hulbert) in whole company was second Lieutenant William Haven and first Lieutenant John Davis in Colonel James Clinton's Regiment of the New York Troops or Militia on or about the eighth day of June 1775 under an enlistment or engagement for eight months as a volunteer or an enlisted soldier for the term of eight months that he cannot state whether he was termed a volunteer or an enlisted soldier for that term but that he signed his name to an enlistment paper that he was discharged from the service of the United States on or about the tenth day of March AD 1776—That he entered the aforesaid service at South Hampton in the County of Suffolk in the State of New York on Long Island in the State of New York. That he served a little over one month more than the engagement on account of there not being a relief sent on to the company and that in the whole of this service he served a few days over nine months—That soon after he entered this service the company of Captain Hulbert marched to Montauk Point and laid there about two months -- from there the company started for New York City and he was taken sick and left at South Hampton aforesaid and remained there sick about three weeks when he joined his company aforesaid at Fort Constitution in Dutchess County in said State where the company of Captain Hulbert then lay and remained there till January 1776 as he now thinks and from there went to Bedford to White Plains to Rye to Huntington and then to South Hampton and to the residence of Captain Hulbert in said South Hamton [sic] and was then discharged by the captain—That while he lay at Fort Constitution he was a short time put into the company of Captain Grinel while some part of Captain Hulbert's went to the north to Lake Champlain and in Captain Grinel's (2) Company he remained until Captain Hulbert's Company returned from the north when he joined his company again. General Schuyler (3) had the command of the Brigade to which Colonel Clinton's Regiment belonged—Colonel McDougles (4) Regiment was in the same brigade as he now thinks. That he was a second Seargent [sic] in Captain Hulbert's Company.

That he entered the service of the United [States] again on or about the second day of April in the year 1776 under Captain Machin (5) in Colonel Lamb's Regiment as a volunteer or under an engagement for one year that he signed a paper that bound him to stay in this service for the term of one year that he entered the service of the United States as an artificer under the last named officers at Fort Montgomery (6) that he lived at that time at the Town of New Windsor then Ulster County now Orange County New York and was discharged from this service about the tenth day of October in the year 1777. That Captain Machin was Chief Engineer at Fort Montgomery. That Hezakiah White had the Superintendance of the Artificers at Fort Montgomery. That he was employed on the Fort at Wagons Barracks platforms, ram rods for cannon & cannon carriages and remained at this service at said Fort Montgomery til December in the year 1776, then went up the River Hudson near and a little south of the Village of New Windsor in the said County of Ulster and was set to work at the Chevaux de frize and remained there so to work till in the first of October 1777 when he was down to Fort Montgomery together with all the rest who were engaged at New Windsor when the British were coming up the Hudson River to attack Fort Montgomery and that he was taken down by water and was in the Fort was stormed by the British and was in the whole engagement at the storming of the fort and escaped after the British had got possession of said Fort Montgomery.

That a few days after the taking Fort Montgomery by the British which was on the sixth of October 1777 he was discharged on or about the tenth of same month of October.

That he was in this last service one year and six months and a few days over. That he voluntarily remained in the above service the six months after his term of one year had expired and at the request and solicitations of Captain Machin the Chief Engineer at Fort Montgomery and at New Windsor aforesaid General George Clinton (7) had the command at the said Fort Montgomery when taken as aforesaid --Colonel Lewis Dubois (8) Regiment was there in whose Regiment was Major Logan. (9)

That he entered the service of the United States again in the month of May in the year 1778 under Captain VanKuran (10) and Lieutenant Coleman (11) in whose company he (this claimant) was ensign in Colonel Cantine's (12) Regiment of Militia that he was drafted out on this service and was out one month when he was discharged. That he lived at this time he went into this service at New Windsor aforesaid at which place he entered

the service under a draft and marched to a place called Nipenac on the Neversink River on the frontier against the Indians and Tories—That he received a commission of Ensign a short time before going into this last service in Militia of New York and in the spring of 1778 signed by Governor George Clinton.

That he entered the service of the United States again in the month of July as he now thinks in the year 1778 under Captain Leonard D. Nichols (13) & Samuel Arter First Lieutenant & Second Lieutenant Isaac Shultz and in same company he was ensign in Colonel Newkirk's (14) Regiment of Militia at New Windsor aforesaid at which place he then resided and marched to a place called Forrest of Dean (3) in a westerly direction from West Point went under a draft—was out less than a month and was discharged in the month of June as he now thinks AD 1778.

That he again entered the service of the United States in the month of November 1778 under Lieutenant John McNiel (15) who acted as Captain and he (this claimant) was ensign in Colonel Cantine Regiment of Militia afterwards Colonel Cantine was a General that he resided at the time of entering this service and was out about a month and over as he thinks and was discharged in December 1778 that he entered as draft and went to DeWitt's Fort which was a stone house stockade then in the County of Ulster, that he went against the Indians.

That he entered the service of the United States again in the month of October in the year 1779 as he now thinks under Captain Cuddebeck (16) but don't recollect the name of the Lieutenant & he was ensign in Colonel Newkirk's Regiment of Militia was out a month and was discharged in the month of November in the year 1779 according to his best recollection. That he was marched in this service to Gorman's Fort so called which have a stone house stockade at which place he lay while in this last service.

That besides the times above enumerated and set forth he has been in the service for short periods of time some times but a day or two at others for a week or two both before and after he received his ensigns commission and that such service has been frequent and numerous but that he cannot set forth the precise time nor the names of the officers he was under on account of the great length of time.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services that he never received any written discharge from any of the above services that he has lost his ensigns commission.

That the only persons that he knows of whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services are Caleb Sayre of the town of Lodi in the county of Seneca and State of New York and George Humphrey of the Town of Phelps in the County of Ontario in said State.

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) Joshua Sayre.

Augustus F. Ferris one of the Judges of Cayuga Co. Courts.

End Notes—S.14403—Joshua Sayer or Sears

1. Joshua enlisted as a sergeant on July 3, 1775 in Captain John Hulbert's Third Company in Colonel James Clinton's Third New York Continental Regiment. On the descriptive muster roll Joshua is listed as follows: Age--20, where born—Southampton, Stature—5 ft 9 in with Light Complexion & Brown Hair. On muster roll dated October 15, 1775 "Camp at Lake George" Joshua is listed as sick at S. Hampton. A James Sayre enlisted as a corporal on July 3, 1775 in the same company and is listed on the descriptive muster roll as follows: Age—21, where born—Southampton, Stature—5 ft 7 in with Light Complexion& Brown Hair. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 69, folder 38, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. John Grenell was appointed captain on June 28, 1775 of the Fifth Company in Colonel Clinton's Regiment. He was appointed captain on January 22, 1776 of an Artillery Company, Captain Grenell resigned on March 27th as congress had appointed Joseph Crane as his lieutenant which Grenell had promised to a Mr. Goddardt supposing that he had the same right to nominate his officers as had been given to Captain John Lamb.
3. Major General Philip Schuyler
4. Alexander McDougall was appointed Colonel of the First New York Contine3ntal Regiment on June 30, 1775. He was appointed Brigadier General on August 9, 1776 and Major General on October 20, 1777.
5. Thomas Machin was appointed a Second Lieutenant in Colonel Henry Knox's Continental Regiment of Artillery. He was appointed First Lieutenant in November of 1776 in Colonel Knox's Regiment. On January 1, 1777 he was pointed Captain-Lieutenant in Colonel John Lamb's Second Regiment of Continental Artillery. He was wounded at Fort Montgomery on October 6, 1777.
6. On a list of Artificers &c employed by General Clinton at Forts Clinton and Montgomery for August 1, 1776 to December 1, 1776, Joshua is listed as a carpenter. Hezekiah White is listed as the master carpenter, list is signed by Teunis Tappan, Clerk who checked the list and Brigadier General James Clinton. Hezekiah White was also appointed Second Lieutenant on September 20, 1775 in Captain John Nicoll's Second Company in Colonel James Clinton's Second Regiment of Ulster County Militia. How long he served in this capacity is unknown but the company officers were all replaced on March 23, 1778.

7. George Clinton was also New York State's First Governor who had been elected to that office earlier in 1777.
8. Lewis DuBois was appointed Colonel of the Fifth New York Continental Regiment on November 21, 1776 with rank back to June 25, 1776.
9. Samuel Logan was appointed Major on November 21, 1776 in Colonel DuBois Regiment. He was taken prisoner at Fort Montgomery on October 6, 1777.
10. Captain Henry VanKeuren was appointed on May 2, 1776 in Colonel James McClaughry's Second Regiment of Ulster County Militia. McClaughrey had been promoted to replace Colonel Clinton.
11. Timothy Coleman was an ensign in Captain Benjamin Veal's Company in Colonel McClaughrey's Regiment. Coleman was commissioned on March 28, 1778.
12. John Cantine was commissioned colonel on February 21, 1778 of the Third Regiment of Ulster County Militia.
13. Joshua was commissioned ensign on March 23, 1778 in Captain Leonard D. Nicoll's Company. Leonard replaced John Nicoll who had resigned. Joshua's last name is given as Sears.
14. Jacob Newkirk was the lieutenant-Colonel in Colonel McClaughrey's Regiment.
15. John McNeil was the First Lieutenant in Captain Samuel Waters' Company in Colonel Roswell Hopkins' Sixth Regiment of Dutchess County Militia. This was probably a mixed detachment of Ulster and Dutchess County Militia.
16. Abraham Cuddeback was commissioned on March 23, 1778 in Colonel McClaughrey's Regiment. The other company officers were as follows: Robert Cook as the first lieutenant, Samuel King as the second Lieutenant and the ensign was Samuel Depry or Depue.