

Pension Application for Valentine Smith

S.15295

State of New York

Cayuga County SS.

On this 25th day of September AD 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Cayuga & State of New York now sitting Valentine Smith resident in Owasco in said county aged 68 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That on or about the 12th day of August 1781 then being a resident of the town of "Marble town" in the County of Ulster in the State of New York he entered the service in the company of militia commanded by [Captain Benjamin Kortright, is crossed out] John Hasbrook (1) in the Regiment commanded by Col. John Cantine, that said Regiment marched towards the Delaware to a place called Beaverkill in pursuit of a party of plundering Indians and continued in said service about half a month—that he again entered said service as a volunteer in the company of militia commanded by Lieut Frierer (2) in Col. John Cantine's Regiment on the twenty fifth day of October 1781—that he continued to serve in said company as a guard upon the frontiers, as an Indian spy & in scouting parties a term of one month—he further says that on or about the first day of May AD 1782 he again entered said service as a volunteer in the company of militia commanded by Capt. John Hasbrook in the Regiment commanded by Col. John Cantine and continued in said service until about the twenty fifth day of October thereafter when he was discharged—that he was stationed during the whole time on the frontiers near Marbletown. That his services were keeping guard upon the frontiers and ranging the woods in scouting parties and as Indian spys to give notice to the inhabitants of the approach of the enemy. That said Regiment was divided into parties which were stationed along in different places on said frontier to guard the inhabitants.

He further says that soon after the close of the last mentioned term of service, about the first of November he again volunteered and entered service in the company of militia commanded by Captain John Hasbrook, (3) and under the immediate command of Joseph Hasbrook the second Lieutenant in said company, in the same regiment as above stated, and continued in said service as a guard upon the frontiers, a term of about two months. That he was stationed at Marbletown—during said term.

He further says that during the last years of the war and at other and different times than those above stated he was frequently engaged in service in scouting parties as an Indian spy in ranging the woods, & as a guard upon the frontiers, but at what particular times he is unable to set forth. That he lived upon the frontiers where the inhabitants were constantly liable to the incursions of the enemy, and were compelled to keep parties of men constantly ranging said frontiers to guard them. And thinks that his whole term of service in such short tours would amount to three months—that said tours would be for two or three days & sometimes a week or more and were frequent that he generally served with parties belonging to the militia company of Capt. John Hasbrook. (4)

That he was born in "Marble town" in the County of Ulster in which county he resided until he removed to the County of Cayuga where he now resides and has resided for the last thirty three years—that he never received a written discharge from said service and has no other proof thereof documentary or otherwise than the accompanying.

He hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state or territory. (Signed) Valentine Smith

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Asahel Fitch, Judge.

End Notes—S.15295—Valentine Smith

1. John Hasbrouck was Captain in Colonel John Cantine's Third Regiment of Ulster County Militia.
2. Daniel Frere served as the Second Lieutenant in Captain John A. Hardenburgh's Company in Colonel Cantine's Regiment.
3. Joseph Hasbrouck was the Second Lieutenant in Captain Hasbrouck's Company.
4. Valentine in the beginning of his declaration had stated Captain Benjamin Kortright was his captain but it was crossed out and John Hasbrouck was written in. According to a muster and payroll for Captain Benjamin Kortright's Company for service from June 4 to June 15, 1779, that he has served 11 days and £ ____ . . 19. . 6 ½ was due to him. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 73, folder 86, National Archives, Washington, D.C.