

Pension Application for Benjamin Woodward

S.46478

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution" approved on the fifteenth of May 1828, I Benjamin Woodward of Bath in the County of Steuben in the State of New York do hereby declare, that I enlisted in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued in its service until its termination, at which period I was a private in Captain Jonathan Hallet's (1) company in the Second N. York Regiment of the York Line. And I also declare that I afterwards received certificates for the reward of eighty dollars; to which I was entitled, under a resolve of Congress, passed the 15th of May 1778. (2)

And I further declare, that I was not on the fifteenth day of May 1828, on the pension list of the United States.

Witness my hand, this 22nd day of September 1828. (Signed) Benjamin Woodward

Henry Roberts, Justice of the Peace in the County of Steuben, State of New York.

State of New York
Steuben County SS.

James Sherwood (2) of the Town of Paltenev in said County being duly sworn deposeth and saith that in the winter of 1777-8 this deponent was a private Soldier in a company of infantry commanded by Lieut Abner French (4) belonging to the 2d New York regiment Commanded by Colonel Van Cortland in the revolutionary war on the Continental Establishment—That at the time aforesaid the said regiment lay at Valley Forge near Philadelphia. That one Jonathan Hollet was a Captain Commanding a Compny in the same regiment—That some time in the Winter aforesaid the said Captain Jonathan Hollet (5) left the Army at Valley Forge & went as this deponent was informed and believes to Orange County in the State of New York to visit his friends or upon business & returned in the month of April following to Valley Forge aforesaid and brought with him a young man (6) who was this deponent was then informed and believes he had enlisted as a waiter (7) to him the said Captain Hollet.

That about the middle of June following according to this deponent's recollection this deponent and the said 2d Regt together with the said Capt Hollet and the young man which he had enlisted as aforesaid left Valley Forge and marched to Monmouth in the State of New Jersey. After the Battle of Monmouth the said Regiment marched to West Point in the State of New York and remained there until late in the fall of the year 1778. From thence proceeded to Schenectady in said State of New York and from thence to fort Stanwix (8) in the same State and from thence to York Town in Virginia and were at the taking of Cornwallis—That when we were at Schenectady aforesaid and at the time of the new arrangement the said Company to which this dependent belonged was placed under the Command of the said Capt. Jonathan Hollet (9) who continued to command said Company until this deponent was

discharged at Snakes Hill near New Windsor in Orange County New York on the 7th day of June 1783 according to this deponents best recollection and belief—That during all the time aforesaid the said young man who had enlisted as waiter to the said Capt Hollet continued in Service in the Capacity of waiter as aforesaid and was discharged at the same time with this deponent at Snakes Hill aforesaid—

That this deponent cannot remember the name of the said waiter of said Captain Hollet but has no doubt but it was Benjamin Woodward and the same person of that name mentioned in the Affidavit hereto annexed of James Knapp—That he is now and has been for many years past acquainted with said Benjamin Woodward and from repeated Conversations between the deponant And the said Benjamin Woodward and from repeated Conversations between this deponant has no doubt whatever but that the said Benjamin Woodward was the same waiter—That he recollects the said James Knapp who was a drummer in the said company to which this deponent belonged as aforesaid—That this deponent is now in his seventy fourth year of his age.
James Sherwood

Sworn & Subscribed this 22d day of March 1828 before me. John ZPowers,
Justice.

Yates County

State of New York SS.

James Knapp (10) of Milo in the County of Yates being duly sworn saith that he well knew Benjamin Woodard [sic] during the Revolutionary War, that deponent & said Woodard were both soldiers belonging to the Second New York Regiment commanded by Colonel Philip Van Cortland, that he first knew said Woodard in the Spring of the year 1778 at Valley Forge—that Deponent & said Woodard both belonged to & did duty in the Company then Commanded by Abner French then a lieutenant and subsequently Commanded by Jonathan Hallet who was Captain & Commandant thereof, at the Close of the war. That said Company and Regiment were understood to be & always called Continental troops.—And deponent further saith that he was not present at the enlistment of the said Woodard, but when said Woodard joined the company he was said to have enlisted during the war, and that it was always understood & represented in said company that said Woodard was so enlisted--

And this deponent further saith that he continued in the service & in said Company until the disbandment of the army at the end of the War, and that said Woodard also continued it duty in said company until the same time was discharged at the same time this deponent was discharged.

Sworn before me this 11th day of February 1829. Jas. Knapp

Daniel Mosely

Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

End Notes—S.46478—Benjamin Woodward

1. Jonathan Hallet was appointed captain on November 21, 1776 of the seventh company in Colonel Philip Van Cortlandt's Second New York Continental

Regiment. Benjamin's name does not appear in the muster rolls or payrolls of Captain Hallet's Company or any other company in the Second New York.

2. In the pension file application is printed form "Revolutionary Claims" Treasury Department 24 Dec. 1828 which pertains 15th of May 1828 Act with the following on the lower half of the form: Treasury Department; Third Auditor's Office; 27th December 1828 [It appears by the records in this office, that a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars has been issued to [blank] in the [blank] is all crossed out]. It further appears that Benjamin Woodward is [not is written in] now on the pension list of any agency, and has [not is written in] been so since the 3d March 1826 [at the rate of is crossed out] [blank] [dollars per month is crossed out] and the following is written: "The name of Benjamin Woodward cannot be found among those of the New York line, to whom Certificates for the gratuity of Eighty Dollars were issued". Another printed form "Revolutionary Claims" Treasury Department 3 Jan 1829, the following is written on the lower half as follows: War Dept" Bounty Land office.". The records of his office do not shew that Benjamin Woodward of the New York line ever received or entitled to bounty land of the United States. Robert Taylor. 7 Jan 1829".
3. James Sherwood enlisted as a private in Captain Benjamin Pelton's Second Company in Colonel Van Cortlandt's Regiment on February 17, 1777 for during war.
4. Abner French was the first lieutenant of Captain Pelton's Company. French was appointed Captain on June 1, 1778 of the light infantry company.
5. Captain Hallet is listed as sick on the muster rolls in Dutchess County, New York and returned to the regiment in April of 1778 at Valley Forge. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series m-246, Roll 68, folder 27, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
6. Only two men joined the company from January to April, one on January 25, 1778, which was Francis Williams and he died on April 3, 1779 and another joined March 13, 1778 and he was Adam Himalar, Hemkin, or Himilicair. In May several men enlisted for the nine months service in Captain Hallet's Company but there was only a Benjamin Harington or Herrington.
7. If Benjamin was a waiter he was probably not part of the company and was paid by Captain Hallet and not by the government. How Benjamin was allowed a pension with only testimony from two soldiers is unclear as Benjamin never relates to his military service. The Second New York was in the Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey on June 28, 1778, the Sullivan Clinton Campaign against the Iroquois in Western New York in 1779 and the Yorktown, Virginia Campaign from September 28th to October 19, 1781.
8. The Second New York did not arrive at Fort Schuyler which was also called Fort Stanwix until late December of 1780 to replace the Fourth New York Continental Regiment which was disbanded on January 1, 1781. Under the "new arrangement" enlisted men from the Fourth New York that had enlisted

for “during war” or had time left to serve where transferred to the Second New York.

9. James Sherwood who had by 1781 been appointed a corporal and Drummer James Knapp were transferred to Captain Hallet’s Company in 1781.
10. James Knapp enlisted on February 26, 1777 for during was in Captain Pelton’s Company and served as a drummer.