

Pension Application for Benjamin Elliot or Elliott, or Eliott

S.9858

State of New York

Cayuga County SS.

On this 11th day of July AD 1833 personally appeared before me the subscriber first judge of the Court of Common Pleas in & for said County Benjamin Elliot of Auburn in said County aged 79 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 under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he was born in the County of Worcester in the State of Massachusetts in the year 1754 as he believes and has no record of his age. That he continued to reside there until he was five or six years old and removed from thence to the County of Dutchess in the State of New York where he continued to reside until during the Revolutionary War.

He further says that in the month of April 1776 he enlisted and entered said service at [torn] sergeant in the company of militia commanded by Capt. William Pierce & Lieutenant Benjamin Elliot in the Regiment commanded by Col. Fields, that soon after entering said service he marched to Long Island where he was stationed until the time of the landing of the enemy on Long Island when he retreated to New York and from thence with the army to Kings Bridge and from thence to the White Plains, and was in the battle of White Plains, and from thence retreated—with the army and continued in service until in the month of December following a term of eight months, when he was dismissed and returned home having served two months more than his enlistment.

He further says that in the month of April 1777, he again entered said service as a volunteer in the company of militia commanded by the same officers as above stated in the same regiment and marched to Tarrytown as above stated in the same regiment and marched to Tarrytown, and was stationed at that place at Peekskill and other places on or near the Hudson river to guard and scout down to the enemy's lines, that the army at & around that place was under the command of Gen. Putnam that he was with the army under Gen. Putnam on the opposite side of the river when Fort Montgomery was taken—that he continued in said service as orderly sergeant was employed in scouting as aforesaid until the month of December following a term of eight months until the Army went into winter quarters.

He further says that in the month of May 1778 he again entered said service as a volunteer in the same company & regiment and under the same officers—and marched on to the lines above New York where he was engaged in guarding stores and ranging the country to intercept the property taken by the cowboys and Torys on their way to New York—property that they had plundered from the inhabitants and were conveying to New York for the use of the enemy—That he continued in said service

until Gen. Washington's army went into winter quarters in the neighbourhood of the "Highlands" having served as orderly sergeant a term of seven months.—

He further says that from this time to the year 1781 he was frequently out in short tours but cannot remember when or how long at each time.

He further says that in the month of June 1781, the above mentioned Lieut. Benjamin Elliot was appointed Captain of said company of militia and he this deponent was appointed Ensign of said company and received the accompanying commission as such Ensign.

That his father was named Benjamin Elliot, was then living but is now deceased.

He further says that soon after receiving said commission he again entered said service in the same company & regiment as a volunteer and marched onto the lines down the Hudson river where he was employed in scouting and ranging the surrounding country to prevent the enemy from carrying off property to New York—that they would come up in foraging boats and plunder & carry away property wherever they could find it, and the business of his company was to drive them back to their boats and prevent their depredations that he continued in said service three months and a half as he verily believes—

He further says that in the summer of 1882 he again entered the service as a volunteer in the same company and marched onto said lines where he was employed as the year previous a time of one month or more—for one year and eleven months he served as orderly sergeant and for four months, and a half he served as Ensign and for such service he claims a pension—

That he lived upon or as near the lines that it was almost impossible to attend to any kind of business owing to the constant annoyance occasioned by the cowboys and Torys—That while in the first tour of service he was with the American Army in which there were many Regiments, both of Continental soldiers State troops and volunteers, that he saw and knew Gen. Washington, Gen. Putnam, Col. Webb, Col. VanSchack, Genl Sterling, Gen. Sullivan, and also Capt Star of New Haven who as he believes commanded a company and belonged, to a Regiment called the Leather Coprs—

That when the enemy sailed up the Hudson to meet Gen. Burgoine's army and took Fort Montgomery he was under Gen. Putnam who had under his command regular troops and militia but he cannot now particularize the number of names of them, that during his other tours of service he was stationed with small detachment on or near the lines to keep guard and was frequently in company with Continental, and militia Regiments and with Continental officers but is unable at this length of time to state who or what they were particularly, that he has above given the names of his Regiment and company officers under whom he served as far forth as he is able to do—

That after the close of the war he removed from Dutchess County to the County of Washington where he resided a number of years and removed from thence to the County of Cayuga where he has resided ever since.

He further says that he never received a written discharge from said service, that he has not the testimony of any living witness to said service and cannot procure it—that he has no documentary proof of said service except he accompanying Ensign's Commission.

He further says that he is not acquainted with any clergyman, now living in his neighbourhood—that he very seldom leaves home owing to old age and infirmity—He further says that John Grover of Auburn is a Justice of the Peace and William Dickinson is a resident of said town that they are well acquainted with him and can testify as to his character for truth and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

He hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension list of any state or territory. (Signed with his mark) Benjamin Elliott

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. J. L. Richardson, First Judge of Cayuga

Letter in folder dated March 24, 1924, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.9858, which are the original papers, it appears that Benjamin Elliott, Junior, (name also as Elliot and Elliott) was born in 1754 in Worcester County, Massachusetts and when about five or six years old moved to Dutchess County, New York he volunteered in April 1776, served eight months as orderly sergeant in Captain William Pierce's Company, (one Benjamin Elliot was lieutenant of said company) Colonel John Field's New York Regiment, was in the retreat from New York at the battle of White Plains.

He volunteered in April 1777, served eight months as orderly sergeant under same officers, then volunteered again in May 1778 and served seven months as orderly sergeant under same officers.

From this time until in 1781 he was often out on short tours, officers and length of time not stated.

He was commissioned June 19, 1781, Ensign in Captain Benjamin Elliot's Company (formerly his lieutenant), Colonel John Field's New York Regiment and served three and one half months, and in the summer of 1782 served one month under same officers. He stated that his father was also named Benjamin Elliot, but did not state that the lieutenant and captain was his father, though he, the applicant for pension, is noted as Benjamin Elliot, Junior.

After the Revolution he moved to Washington County, thence to Cayuga County, New York.

He was allowed pension on his application executed July 11, 1833, while a resident of Auburn, Cayuga County, New York.

Said Benjamin Elliot, Junior, died January 11, 1839 and left three children, Clarissa and Olive D. are the only names given and name of soldiers wife is not stated.