

Pension Application for Judah Baker

W.25205 (Widow: Lydia Chase) Married Feb 3, 1786. In 1857, Lydia was aged 81 when she applied for pension. Judah died May 7, 1851 in Enfield.

B.L.Wt.2499-160-55

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

State of New York

Tompkins County SS.

On this [blank] day of September personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting, Judah Baker, a resident of the town of Enfield in the county of Tompkins and state of New York, aged sixty nine years, who being first duly sworn according to law, both 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 of the United States, under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he resided at Frederickstown, Dutchess County NY at the time of entering the service—that in the fall of 1777 after harvest but the day & month he cannot recollect he enlisted under Capt. Eleazer Barnam of the militia for three months, does not recollect the Colonel—that he marched with his regimen to Fishkill—that at Fishkill a guard was detached of which deponent was one & sent to Morristown to take down some deserters—that he returned with the guard to Fishkill & there remained until the regiment was dismissed & he returned home the service lasted six weeks.

That in 1779, the year that Maj. Andre was hung sometime in August, but he cannot recollect the day, he enlisted at Frederickstown aforesaid for three months in the Militia, but was not called out. That very soon after he went to West Point and volunteered in the infantry—but as there was more than enough to fill up the company, he was put in the 2nd New York Regiment of Regular troops in Capt. Hottets Company—Colonel Cockland deponent joined the Regiment at Stoney Point—marched with his regiment to Hackensack & remained there about a month & saw Maj. Andre hung—that afterwards he marched with his regiment to West Point & then staid as part of the garrison until his three months was out—that he recollects assisting to carry the cannon back into the fort, which Arnold had taken out on the parade ground. That he was discharged & returned home at the end of the time.

That he knew Capt. French, Capt. Wright & Lieut. Wessenfelt of the same Regiment—that Colonel Cortland commanded a regiment in the same Brigade.

That in 1781 he thinks in April, but cannot name the day he was hired at Frederickstown aforesaid, by Colonel Ferris to serve in the militia for a class for nine months, in Captain Williams' company – one other company belonged to the troops commanded by Capt. Sackett—that the troop was raided for the purpose of guarding the lines between Bedford, West Chester Col. and the City of New York—that deponent served in this troop on the lines—that they had frequent skirmishes—that they once drove the British tories out of Morristown & had a fight at Volunteers Hill. That about a fortnight before the nine months wore out deponent was permitted to leave & did leave on account of sickness—the company was dismissed at the end of the time.

That deponent was afterwards out as occasion required during the continuance of the war but cannot state with precision—that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person except Joshua Baker whose affidavit is hereunto annexed whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service

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) Judah Baker

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid. S. Jones, Clk

Letter in folder dated March 14, 1939, written in reply to an inquiry.

The data which follow are found in the papers on file in pension claim, W.25205, based upon service in the Revolutionary War of Judah Baker.

Judah Baker was born in the year 1763, in Frederickstown, Dutchess County, New York; the day of his birth and the names of his parents are not shown.

While a resident of Frederickstown, New York, he enlisted and served as a private in the New York troops at different times, shown as follow: in the fall of 1777, six weeks in Captain Eleazer Barnum's company, a part of the time at Fishkill, New York; from August 1780, three months in Captain Hallett's company, Colonel Philip VanCortland's 2nd New York regiment, during which he saw Major Andre hanged and assisted in carrying the cannon back into the fort which Arnold had taken out on the parade ground; and from April 1781, nearly nine months in Captain Daniel Williams' company, during which he assisted in driving the enemy from Morrisania and was in the battle at Valentine's Hill, kalso in many skirmishes.

The soldier moved from Frederickstown, New York, after the war to Phillipstown, Dutchess County, New York, and from there to Coxsackie, New York, afterwards to Enfield, Tompkins County, New York.

Judah Baker was allowed pension on his application executed October 3, 1832, at which time he resided in Enfield, New York; he had resided there for twenty-eight years. He died there May 7, 1851.

The soldier married February 3, 1786 (shown also as 1784), Lydia Chase; they were married at her father's house, his name not designated. Lydia's sister, Huldah, was one of the bridesmaids.

Lydia Baker, the soldier's widow, was allowed pension on her application executed July 14, 1851, at which time she resided in Enfield, New York. She was aged then eighty-one years; the date and place of her birth are not shown. She was allowed 160 acres of bounty land on warrant #2499, under the Act of March 3, 1855, on account of her husband's service in the Revolutionary War.

Judah Baker and his wife, Lydia, reared a large family of children; th4eir names were not stated.

In 1855, Zillah M. Baker and N. Chittenden were resident of Ithaca, Tompkins County, new York; they were present when Lydia Baker made application for bounty land, no relationship to the family stated.

In 1851, Lydia's sister Huldah, and her husband, Edmund Hopkins, were residents of Hector, Tompkins County, New York, aged eighty-four years and eighty-two years, respectively. They were married in 1789 and had resided in the same neighborhood with Judah and Lydia Baker ever since.

In 1833, Joshua Baker, a cousin of Judah Baker, the soldier, was a resident of Broome County, new York; he had resided in Frederickstown at the time of the Revolutionary War. He did not state the names of his own parents.

In 1832, Ezra Chase, a clergyman, resided in Enfield, New York. In 1852, one Obadiah Chase was a Justice of the Peace for Tompkins County, New York. No relationship between these persons and the soldier's wife, Lydia, was stated.