

## Pension Application for Josiah Burnham

S.12393

State of New York

Saratoga County SS

On this twenty ninth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Vice Chancellor of the fourth Circuit of the State of New York at the Court of Chancery now sitting at Saratoga Spring in the County of Saratoga Josiah Burnham a resident of the Town of Moreau in the County of Saratoga and State of New York, aged Sixty Seven years and eleven months 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.

He enlisted in the month of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty two under Captain Thomas Burnham that some time about the last of March or the first of April in the same year he cannot tell the day he was called on and did enter the service of the United States and mustered at Albany in the State of New York, that after he was mustered he was attached to Captain Piercy's Company of which company Josiah Richardson was Lieutenant and \_\_\_\_ Trumpour was Ensign, don't' recollect his given name, that he was attached to Colonel Marinus Willet's Regiment of which regiment he believes Ben Scouter or Ben Schooten, he cannot tell exactly the name Fincks, cannot tell his given name were majors.

That he enlisted for the term of two years, that he left the service on the sixth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four.

That he did not enlist or serve at any other time than as above stated.

That he resided in the town of Sheffield in the County of Berkshire and State of Massachusetts at the time he enlisted that he enlisted and served in the state troops of the State of New York.

That he served in the State Troops of New York as a volunteer by enlisting as above stated.

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That he was never engaged in any particular battle. That soon after he was mustered at Albany he marched with his company up the Mohawk River his company was divided into small detachments and stationed along the county to protect the inhabitants from the incursions of the Indians. That during the summer of seventeen hundred and eighty two a small detachment of his company was stationed at a Fort or Stockade at what was then called Currystown or Currys Bush. That in the fall of that year the company were all collected and marched to Fort Plain and joined their Regiment, and remained there until the month of February when he marched with his Regiment under the Command of Co. Willett to take Fort Oswego, and failing in that expedition, he returned with his regiment to Fort Plain, and remained there until Spring when his company and two others of the Regiment marched to Fort Herkimer and remained there during the summer of Seventeen hundred and eighty three, doing duty in the Fort and elsewhere as required.

That in the falloff this year he went with his company and joined the Regiment at Fort Stanwix and remained there a short time building a stone house and block houses, and then marched with the Regiment of Schenectady, making a short stop at Fort Plain and remained at Schenectady until the sixth of January seventeen hundred and eighty four as aforesaid—when he was discharged from the service as aforesaid by Capt. Peter B. Tearse, which said discharge is in the words and figures following to wit "By Peter B. Tearse, esq. The bearer Josiah Burnham a private in the New York State battalion is hereby discharged agreeable to orders received from Governor Clinton. Given at Schenectady January 6<sup>th</sup> 1784. Peter B. Tearse, Capt. Commandant. Registered in the book of the Battalion. Pliny Moore Adjt."

That he did not serve with any Continental Regiment or company that he knows of. That part of a Regiment of Rhode Island Troops went at the same time with his Regiment to take Fort Oswego. That

he knew General Washington and was one of the Escort that escorted General Washington in the fall of seventeen hundred and eighty three from Fort Herkimer to Fort Stanwick. That he also knew General Lord Sterling who received his Regiment at Fort Plain, and Governor Clinton, but few if any of the Continental officers or troops served in this part of the state where he was stationed and served as above mentioned and was not acquainted with many and does not now recollect of the names of any except those above mentioned.

He hereby relinquishes ever 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) Josiah Burnham  
Subscribed and sworn the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 1832. G. M. Davison, Clerk in Chancery

Letter in folder dated March 22, 1937, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your request for the records of Revolutionary War soldiers, Josiah and William Burnham, Josiah and William Burnham, Silas Stillwell and Isaac Covenhaven.

Because of the great demand for Revolutionary War data and limited clerical force available for furnishing such information, it is impossible to comply in full with each request pertaining to soldiers of this war. The record of Josiah Burnham is furnished you herein.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim, S.12393, based upon the military service of Josiah Burnham.

He was born in September, 1764, in Sheffield, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. In 1832 he stated that is birth was recorded in a Bible which was then in the possession of his brother (name not given) who was living in Moreau, New York.

While living in Sheffield, Massachusetts, Josiah Burnham enlisted in February 1782, in Captain Thomas Burnham (relationship not shown) and about the last of March or first of April, 1782 he was mustered into active service at Albany, New York, as private in Captain Piercy's company in Colonel Marinus Willett's New York regiment and was discharged June 6, 1784, by Captain Peter B. Tearse.

After he left the service he moved with his father (name not given) to Moreau, Saratoga County, New York. After living there one or two years he moved to great Barrington, Massachusetts. Two or three years later he moved to Shelburne, Vermont. After living there about two years he returned to Moreau. Shortly afterward he moved to Queensbury, Warren County, New York, and lived there until 1824 when he moved to Moreau, New York.

Josiah Burnham was allowed pension on his application executed August 29, 1832, at which time he was living in Moreau, New York.

In 1832 one James Burnham of Moreau, New York, stated that he knew the soldier, Josiah Burnham, during his service in the Revolution but the relationship was not given and there are no further data relative to the family of soldier.