
Pension Application for Caleb Ferguson

S.19293

B.L. Wt 13007-160-55

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

State of New York

County of Rensselaer SS.

On this second day of October 1832 personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Rensselaer Caleb Ferguson a resident of Berlin and State of New York, aged 67 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June, 7, 1832.

That he enlisted in the army of the United States 1780 or 1781 with James Cannon (1) Capt. and served in the regiment commanded by Col. Willett under the following named officers:

James Cannon Capt., Lieut Cole & Skinner (2) in the Regiment Commanded by Col. Willett.

That he previously inlisted under Helmus Simmons (3) head of a class for nine months in the month of April 1780 or 1781 & that we were marched to Albany & then put under the command of Capt. Cannon & in the month of June following inlisted under the said Cap. Cannon for two years in to the Continental Service which term of time I served at the following places we marched from Albany to Vaders Mills in the Mowhawk [Mohawk] River four miles this side of JohnsTown staid at the Said mill part of the season from there we removed to Johnstown fourt left Johnstown fourt in the beginning of winter & went to a fourt Plain was & there inoculated & had Small pox, staid at fourt plain till Spring we then marched to fourt Herkimer lay there a part of the season & marched to Schaharry there we staid till fall from there we marched to little Cattskill & from there we marched back to fourt Plain late in the fall in the beginning of winter the Rhode Island Regiment (4) joined our regiment we then marched to old Swego (5) but did not go to the fourt but returned to fourt Herkimer & there staid till spring of this [?] marched to fourt plain & staid at fourt plain till the first of September at which time I came home without a discharge.

Christopher Coats inlisted for nine months at the time I inlisted in the same company & served with me for 9 months also Thomas Havens for 2 years & served with me Samuel Harford for 2 years--Do Prasser Carpenter for 2 years Do John Myers for 2 years. Do William Lusk (6) for 2 years.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name if not on the pension roll of the agency in any State. (Signed with his mark) Caleb Ferguson

Sworn to, and subscribed the day and year aforesaid, Archibald Bull, Clerk

End Notes—S.19293—Caleb Ferguson

1. Caleb enlisted on May 24, 1782 as a private in Colonel Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies in Captain James Cannon's Company. Caleb is listed as residing at Little Hoosick, born in Berkshire County, Massachusetts, enlisted by Captain Cannon, age 16, Size 5 ft 1 ½ in., Complexion Dark, Hair Black, Eyes Brown and Occupation--Labourer. FROM: Colonel Marinus Willett's Descriptive Book No. 4, Doc. No. 11105, Special Collections and Manuscripts, New York State Library, Albany. A pay receipt or certificate was referred to as certificate No. 7017 for £ 19 . . 5 . . 9, 1782 Dec 31 for Captain James Cannon's Company. In Captain Cannon's Pay Roll for 1783

Caleb is listed as having been paid £26 . . 60 and he was owed £ 25 . . 30. He is listed as deserting on August 26, 1783 after serving seven months and twenty five days. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

2. Lieutenants Gideon Cowles and Thomas Skinner of Colonel Willett's Regiment and of Captain Cannon's Company.
3. *"I William H[elmus] Simmons of the Town of Sand Lake in the County of Rensselaer & State of New York of the age of Eighty six or Eighty seven years which I can't say—that I hired Caleb Ferguson for nine months to serve in the Revolutionary War in the case he would pass Muster (he being a lad) & he did pass Muster & was accepted & I paid him the sum agreed on & I also saw him after he came out of the Service & have occasionally seen him from that time up to the present day & that he now Resides in the Town of Berlin in this County & further I cant Recollect the year I hired him nor the length of time he was in the service. Dated at Sand Lake Sept 6th 1833 (Signed with his mark) William H. Simmons.*
4. The first Rhode Island Regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Jeremiah Olney.
5. In February of 1783, Colonel Willett with a mixed force of York Levies, Rhode Island Continentals, Tryon County Militia and Oneida Indians made a long march to Lake Ontario in hopes of surprising the garrison at Fort Oswego but the expedition failed. Willett and his men never even got a glimpse of the fort before they returned to Fort Rensselaer.
6. Coates, Prospect Carpenter, and Myers served in Captain Peter B. Tearse's Company in Willett's, William Lusk served in Captain Jonathan Pearse's Company in Willett's and Hartford served in Captain Job Wright's Company in Willett's. Havens served in Cannon's Company.
7. *"This certify that Caleb Ferguson inlisted in pursuance of an act of the Legislature of the State of New York entitled an act for raising two Regts on bounties of unappropriated lands for the defence of this state passed the 23 of March last passed Muster before me this 24th day of May 1782. Jacob Jno Lansing Commis'y of Musters. State of New York. Albany 27 May 1782 For Value received I do hereby grant and transfer to St. Leger Cowley his heir, and assigns all my right and Title to a bounty and right of three hundred and fifty acres of upnappropriated lands given by an act for raising two Regiments for the Defence of this state on bounties of unappropriated lands passed March 23d 1782 and the annexed certificate signed by Jacob Jno Lansing Commiss'y of Musters State of New York dated the 24th day of May Anno Domini 1782, as witness my hand and seal this twenty seventh day of May 1782. (Signed with his mark) Caleb Ferguson Sealed and delivered in the presence of T. W. Graham. Be it remembered that on this 27th day of May 1782 appeared before me the above named Caleb Ferguson who acknowledge that he signed, sealed and delivered the above transfer as his own voluntary act and deed on the day and year therein mentioned. Robert Yates, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of New York. State of New York, Secretary's Office. I certify the preceding to be a true copy of an Original document deposited in this office. Albany Aug. 9, 1839. Arch'd Campbell Dep. Secretary*