

Pension Application for Robert Flint

S.23221

State of New York, SS.

On this twenty eighth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared before me, Azel Fitch, Esquire, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the said County of Allegany.

Robert Flint, a resident of the Town of Pike [was in Allegany County until 1846 when Wyoming County was formed] in the County of Alleghany in the State of New York aged seventy five years on the tenth day of March last, 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 of the United States under the officers hereinafter to the best of his recollection named and served as herein stated—

That in the month of April in the year of our Lord 1776, he resided at Bowman's Creek in the then County of Tryon now Montgomery County in the State of New York and was drafted with a part of the company to which he belonged to go on Service against the Indians to Harpersfield—He does not recollect the name of the Captain under whose command he was placed, but Col. Harper (1) commanded the Regiment and he was employed in that service about three or four weeks. He left home the 4th of April, but does not recollect the exact time he returned—that in July 1777 he was again called into the service of the United States with others of the company of Militia to which he belonged, which was drafted and divided into classes and went in turn as they were called upon—He went at this time under the Command of Captain Peter Bowman, (2) whose company was attached to Colonel Cox's (3) Regiment and marched to Unadilla (4) for the purpose of protecting the inhabitants against the Indians—That General Herkimer and Col. Cox there met with Brandt the Indian Chief and a treaty of peace was there agreed upon between them, which was however violated, on the part of the Indians (5) the next month—That he was absent on this service about three or four weeks—That in the summer of the same year he was employed about a week with others of the company to which he belonged in going to Wood Creek for the purpose of obstructing the navigation of the creek. (6) That this was militia service and performed under the direction of the officers of the Company. In the month of October in the same year he was ordered out with others of the company to which he belonged to join Col. Campbell's (7) Regiment at Saratoga for the purpose of opposing the British forces under General Burgoyne, (8) but before they reached the place of their destination they were informed of the surrender of Burgoyne and were ordered to return home—he was absent from home on this service about five or six days.

That in the month of May or very early in June 1778 he was drafted as one of a company of Rangers, drafted from the militia of Tryon County, that Adam Helmer was a Lieutenant and Captain Bakebread (9) was the Captain of the Company, which was attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. Peter Bellingier. That he joined the Company at Cherry Valley and marched to German Flatts which was the station occupied by the company, and when their rations were drawn through the season. That he was employed with Scouting parties against the Indians—that in such service he went several times to Unadilla and once on business connected with the service to Fort Stanwix where Colonels Van Schaick and Gansevoort were then stationed. That he together with the other members of the said Company was dismissed from the service on the first day of January 1779 when he returned home—That in the month of April 1779 (10) he was called out with a part of the company of Militia to which he belonged and marched to Cherry Valley for the purpose of protecting the inhabitants against the Indians—That he was there when the meeting house and the other buildings were burnt by the Indians—He was absent from home on this service about a week. Early in the summer of the same year he was drafted for service as one of the Garrison at Fort Plank on the Mohawk River where he served under the officers at the Fort during two weeks—That in October of the same year he was drafted for two weeks service which he performed at Fort Dayton under Colonel Bellingier—That in the autumn of the same year he was impressed with his wagon and horses to carry ammunition and Baggage for Captain Moody (11) of the Artillery from New England. That he was employed in this service, about three weeks—That in November 1780, he went under the command of Captain Lipe, (12) who was then under the Command of Col. Willett to Johnstown, (13) where he was engaged in a battle against the British and Indians and he marched thence under the same officers to West Canada Creek where they had a successful skirmish with the British and Indians (14) —That he was absent on this service about two weeks.—That at another time the exact date of which he does not recollect he went with others of the Militia to Tioga Point on and expedition against the Indians. That Colonel Winfeldt (15) commanded the forces employed in that expedition, though he does not recollect the names of his Captain and Lieutenant—He was from home on this service about three weeks—That during the greatest part of the Revolutionary War he was required to be in readiness to march at a moment's warning wherever his services should be needed—and he always to the best of his ability obeyed the call—That much of his time at home, as well as that of most of the Militia in the part of the country where he resided near the Mohawk River, was spent in Military exercises, that he was frequently called upon when there was an alarm in the neighborhood, and after marching a short distance was directed to return home, that sometimes two or three days and sometimes a shorter period of service was required and he cannot estimate with accuracy the amount of time he was in the service—That he has no documentary evidence, and he knows of no person in this part of the Country whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services except John G. Helmer of Pike—He was born at Canajoharie—

He continued to reside in the County of Montgomery until about the year 1826, since which he has resided in Genesee County and in Allegany County in the State of New York. He believes that the time he was taken from his own business by service in the militia and in the Company of Rangers, in the Service of the United States

during the Revolutionary War would not amount to much less than two years, though as before stated, he cannot estimate the time with accuracy—he was in several skirmishes with the Indians in the different periods of 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.—

And the said applicant further states that he is acquainted with John G. Helmer and Samuel Flint & Alfred Hislip who reside in his neighbourhood and who will testify as to his character for veracity and as to their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution, the said Applicant has a record of his age and produced the same contained in a sheet containing the date of his birth with that of other members of his family. (Signed) Robert Flint.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Azel Fitch

Letter in file answering inquiry into Robert Flint's service.

I have to advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim S.23221, it appears that Robert Flint was born March 10, 1757 at Canajoharie, New York.

While residing on Bowman's Creek, Tryon County, New York, he served with the New York Troops, as follows—

In 1776, nine weeks as a private in Captain Bowman's Company, Colonel Harper's Regiment; in 1777, two months in Captain Bowman's Company, Colonel Cox's Regiment, and in same year, three months in Colonel Clyde's Regiment; from June 1778, six months in Captain Bakebread's Company Colonel Peter Bellinger's Regiment, and was in the battle of Cherry Valley; in 1779, two months as sergeant in Colonel Bellinger's Regiment; and later, three months as private in Captain Lipe's Company, Colonel Willett's Regiment, and three weeks in Colonel Weissenfelt's Regiment, and was in the battles of Johnstown and West Canada Creek.

He was allowed pension on his application executed September 28, 1832, while a resident of Pike, Allegany County, New York.

There are no data as to family.

End Notes—Robert Flint—S.23221

1. John Harper was Colonel of the Fifth Regiment of Tryon County Militia. Colonel Harper lived at Harpersfield, Tryon County now in Delaware County, N.Y.
2. Robert served under Captain Peter Bowman until he was killed at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777. John Bowman brother of Peter took command of the company after Oriskany.
3. Colonel Ebenezer Cox commanded the First Regiment of Tryon County Militia until he was killed at Oriskany.
4. This meeting between Captain Joseph Brant and Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer took place on June 27, 1777.
5. Robert is referring to the Battle of Oriskany as the Indians participated in this battle.
6. Detachments of the Tryon County Militia were sent in July of 1777 to cut trees to fall into Wood Creek to slow down the advancing British forces under Brigadier General Barry St. Leger. They were going to attack Fort Schuyler (Fort Stanwix).
7. Samuel Campbell was only a Major in 1777 in the First Tryon. With the death of Colonel Cox and Lieutenant-Colonel William Seeber, Samuel Campbell was appointed Colonel and Samuel Clyde as Lieutenant-Colonel. They were commissioned on June 25, 1778.
8. General John Burgoyne surrendered his British forces on October 17, 1777.
9. There are several muster rolls for Captain John Breadbake's Company for 1778 and Flint's name does not appear on them. The company was attached to Colonel Morris Graham's Regiment of Dutchess County Militia. As a militiaman he may have done service with this company but not as a member of the company. Adam Helmer was the First Lieutenant and the company did eventually go to the German Flatts. Peter Bellinger of the Fourth Regiment of Tryon County Militia would have been the commander in the area where they were stationed. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 74, Folder 106, Colonel Morris Graham's Regiment of 1778, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
10. Cherry Valley was attacked and most of the settlement was destroyed on November 11, 1778. Robert is referring to the April 24, 1781 attack on the remaining part of the Cherry Valley settlement. Moses Nelson and various members of the Shankland family were taken prisoner in this attack.
11. Captain Andrew Moody of the Second Regiment of Continental Artillery.
12. Captain Adam Leipe (Lape, Liebe, etc.) of the First Tryon.
13. The Battle of Johnstown was fought on October 25, 1781. Colonel Marinus Willett commanded the Americans during this battle.
14. The Skirmish at West Canada Creek was fought on October 30, 1781.
15. Robert is referring to the Generals John Sullivan and James Clinton who commanded the Expedition of 1779 against the Indians in western New York. Lieutenant-Colonel commandant Frederick Weissenfelt's of the Fourth New York Continental Regiment and his regiment were stationed in the Mohawk Valley prior to marching under General Clinton to Join General Sullivan at Tioga Point.