

## **Pension Application for John Phillips**

S.7308

Green Mt. Boys  
New York, Penn, Vt.  
Pennsylvania  
Luzerne County SS

On the ninth day of April Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and thirty four personally appeared in open court before the Hon. David Scott, Charles D. Shoemaker, and William S. Ross, Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County John Phillips a resident of Abington Township in said County aged eighty two 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

When General Montgomery (1) was killed and the Americans were defeated at Quebec there was an express sent to Lt General Schuyler (2) Commander of the Northern forces requesting him to send on a reinforcement immediately. He sent a commission to Col. Seth Warner (3) of Vermont to rais [raise] a regiment for three months and march them to Quebec with all possible speed and on the tenth day of January AD seventeen hundred and seventy six I enlisted under Capt. Samuel Wright (4) in the regiment raised by Col Warner and on the fifteenth of the same month started for Quebec and was there untill the sixth day of May ensuing when the British came up the river with three Frigates loaded with troops and we had to make our escape as well as we could.

We continued our retreat up the St. Lawrence to Point Shambe (5) from thence to three rivers from thence to the Sorrel Shambole (6) and St. Johns and from thence to Lake Champlain to Ticonderoga and from thence I arrived at home on the twenty seventh day of May, having served as a private four months and seventeen days under Capt Wright Col. Warner's regiment.

The next fall in November and about the first of the month the British hove in sight of Ticonderoga and the Vermont Militia were all called out. We marched to Mount Independence and were stationed there to keep guard night and day. I was there in service as a private twenty seven days under Capt. David Goff in Col. Herrick's Regiment (7) and received no pay.

In February 1777 I removed into Pittson on the Susquehanna in the Valley of Wyoming and in the month of June of the same year I spent ten days in building small forts of Pecquet [Piquet or Picket] and Fashun under the direction of Capt Jeremiah Blanchard (8) for the purpose of protecting the settlement of Wyoming from the Indians and Tories.

Near the middle of December in the year 1777 Col. George Dorrence (9) was ordered with a detachment of Militia to go up the river and take a number of Tories. I was one of the private soldiers under Col Dorrence in this expedition and we went up as far as New Sheshequin and took and brought down twenty eight of the Tories, some of whom were released and others sent to Litchfield jail having been engaged in service eight days.

Near the middle of June A.D. 1778 I was engaged with the Inhabitants of Wyoming under the command and direction of Capt. Jeremiah Blanchard in making preparations for defense against the Indians whom we expected. We build a Block House and kept guard night and day until the Indians did a arrive and on the third of July the Wyoming Massacre commenced on Abrahams Plains where they were nearly all cut off. I remained on duty at the Block House on that day and was not in the battle. I was engaged in building the Block House and keeping guard twenty days Wyoming being then in the hands of the Indians. I removed my family to Dutchess County N.Y.

Sometime in June 1779 the British appeared to be coming up the North River to West Point and the militia being called out I went with them as a private soldier into the Highlands under the command of Capt. George Head. (10) We were gone twelve days. Again in the last of July or first of August there was another alarm and I went again under the same Capt. Down as far as Fishkill and was gone six days.

In the spring of 1779 there was a call for every sixth man of the militia for nine months. We were classed six in a class and had the offer either to draft or hire a man in our place. My class hired a man who served the time and drew the wages. This is the whole of my service and makes in time counting one month and a half the one sixth of the time served by the man hired by my class eight months and fifteen days that I was engaged in the defense of my country.

1<sup>st</sup> I was born in Beekman Township Dutchess County State of New York on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of December 1751 old style.

2<sup>d</sup> I have no record of my age except one made by myself in Bible agreeably to the information given me by my father and sister.

3<sup>d</sup> I lived when called into service in Pownal in the County of Bennington Vermont where I lived until February 1777 when I removed to Pittson Luzerne County Penna from whence I removed to Dutchess county where I lived four years when I came back again to Pittson and have resided in Luzerne county ever since and at present In the Township of Abington except one year which I spent in Dutchess County after "Penninute War" in which the Yankees were driven from Wyoming.

4<sup>th</sup> I enlisted in the manner and at the times herein before stated.

5<sup>th</sup> While I was in Col. Warner's regiment at Quebec, Col Dubois (11) was there with his regiment and retreated with us. Benedict Arnold (12) was at Quebeck while I was there and had the command. Gen Montgomery having been previously killed. I do not recollect any other officer or regiment.

6<sup>th</sup> I never received a written discharge from the service and don't know of any being given to soldiers in our regiment.

7<sup>th</sup> I am known to the Rev. John Miller of Abington—have been intimately acquainted with him for more than thirty years. I am also known to Lemuel Stone Esq, Andrew Bedford of Abington Center P.O. Dr. John Wilson Pick of Factoryville P.O. in same township and to Ezra Hall P. M. of Wallsville P. O. Same township. I am also known to Gen. Wm. Ross Post Master of WilksBarre, Isaac Bowman, Benjamin Perry, George M. Hollenback, David Scott and Zila Bennett Esquires all of WilksBarre. I was also well acquainted with Abraham Bradley Esq of Washington City when he resided in WilksBarre.

8<sup>th</sup> I have no documentary evidence of my service and know of no person whose testimony can prove my service.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and I declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State. (Signed) John Phillips

Sworn and subscribed in open court on the day and year first above written. H. Pettebone, Prot.

Letter in folder dated August 25, 1937, written in response to an inquiry.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim, S.7308, based upon the military service of John Phillips in that war.

John Phillips was born December 24, 1751 (Old Style) in Beekman Township, Dutchess County, New York. The names of his parents are not shown.

While residing in Pownal, Bennington County, Vermont, John Phillips enlisted January 10, 1776, served as a private in Captain Samuel Wright's Company, Colonel Seth Warner's Vermont Regiment, marched to the relief of the American Army in Quebec and served four months and seventeen days; he enlisted about November 1, 1776, and served twenty-seven days as a private in Captain David Goff's Company, Colonel Herrick's Vermont Regiment and was stationed at Fort Independence as a guard. In February 1777, he move to Pittston, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, on the Susquehanna River, where he enlisted in June, 1777, served ten days in Captain Jeremiah Blanchard's Pennsylvania Company and assisted in building forts for the protection of the settlement against the Indians and Tories; about the middle of December, 1777, he again enlisted and served eight days as a private under Colonel George Dorrence in the Pennsylvania troops; about the middle of June, 1778, he enlisted, served twenty days as a private in Captain Jeremiah Blanchard's Pennsylvania Company and assisted in making preparations for the defense of the settlement against the expected attack by the Indians but was in the blockhouse as a guard and was not in the battle when the Wyoming Massacre occurred. After the conclusion of this service, he moved his family to Dutchess County, New York, and in June, 1779, enlisted there and served twelve days as a private in Captain George Head's Company, New York troops, and about the middle of August, year not given, served six days under same captain.

John Phillips resided four years in Dutchess County, New York, then returned to Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, of which county, in Abington Township, he was a resident when he was allowed pension on his application executed April 9, 1834.

No names of wife or children are stated.

Soldier's sister is referred to but her name is not given.

End Notes—S.7308—John Phillips

1. Major General Richard Montgomery of the Continental Army was killed on December 31, 1775 while attempting to storm the barricades of Quebec City.
2. Major General Philip Schuyler of the Continental Army.
3. Seth Warner was appointed Lieutenant Colonel on July 27, 1775 of Colonel Ethan Allen's Green Mountain Boys Regiment. Colonel Allen was taken prisoner on September 25, 1775 in an attempt to capture Montreal. Warner then commanded the remnants of the Green Mountain Boys.
4. So far no company muster or pay rolls have been found for Captain Samuel Wrights Company.
5. Point DeChambelt or Deschambault.
6. Possibly Chambly.
7. Samuel Herrick, colonel of a regiment of rangers. Captain David Goff was not found serving in this regiment.
8. Captain Jeremiah Blanchard appears to belong to a militia regiment but he has not been found in the muster rolls of Pennsylvania or Connecticut troops.
9. George Dorreance was the lieutenant colonel of a Connecticut militia regiment. He was killed on July 3, 1778 in the "Wyoming Massacre".
10. George Head was the first lieutenant in Captain John Row's Company in Colonel Morris Graham's First Regiment of Dutchess County Militia. George was commissioned on March 18, 1778. George was appointed captain in place of Captain Row and was commissioned on June 29, 1781.
11. Lewis DuBois was appointed captain of the fourth company on June 28, 1775 in Colonel James Clinton's Third New York Continental Regiment. He was appointed

major about November of 1775 and he was still listed as a major as late as February 28, 1776.

12. Brigadier General Benedict Arnold of the Continental Army. Arnold was also in the storm of Quebec and was wounded in the leg.