

Pension Application for William Shute, Shoot, Shoots, Shutts, etc.

S.10012 Private, Captain Garret Putnam, Col Willett. Died November 24, 1839, leaving five children, Olive Smith wife of Nicholas F. Smith of Herkimer, Nancy Hilts wife of Nicholas G. Hilts of Herkimer, Eve Duly wife of Philip Duly of Butternuts in Otsego County, William Shute and Mary Shute who was unmarried. The last two names reside in the State of Michigan. William Shute made application but died before receiving the pension, his children then applied since William Shute's wife was deceased.

State of New York

Herkimer County SS.

On this eighth day of October in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of said County before the Judges thereof in open court now sitting William Shute a resident of the town and County of Herkimer in the State of New York aged Seventy Eight years in March last who being first duly sworn according to law does 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 in the Revolutionary War at the age of about eighteen years. That in the year after Oriskany battle (1) he served in a company of militia under the command of Captain Michael Ittig (2) at and about Fort Herkimer sixteen days when he was sixteen years old, (3) before he was enlisted & that afterwards he removed to Warrensbush which is in the now town of Florida in the County of Montgomery in the said State and in the years of the battle at Johnstown (4) at Warrensbush he enlisted about the latter part of August for four months in a company commanded by Captain Garret Putnam (5) and he thinks Lieutenant Dorr Putnam and Ensign Garret Newkirk the said company being attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. Marinus Willet with whom he was acquainted and he thinks a Mr. Throop (6) was Major that he does not recollect the given name of Major Throop that after his enlistment the company met at Fort Hunter where he remained some time when he with six others were and a Sergeant were ordered to go about twelve miles south of Schoharie to one John Ramback a Tory and take a quantity of wheat that after cleaning up a large quantity of the wheat at about midnight news came to them that Capt. Ballard's (7) company were cut to pieces, that then they were obliged to leave the wheat and return that he with a portion of the company proceeded to Fort Herkimer then to Fort Plain, that he was also with a portion of the company at Fort Windecker where he remained stationed eight weeks, from thence he proceeded with the company to Johnstown where a hard battle was fought called the Johnstown Battle in which this deponent was engaged. That after the Battle he remained at Johnstown three days to guard prisoners and after three days he with a few others escorted the prisoners to Albany, well recollects that one of the prisoners was very saucy.—that from Albany again returned to Fort Plain—that he served the said term of enlistment for for [sic] four months and received his discharge, (8) which he thinks was signed by Major Throop about a week before new years—that his discharge was burned nearly forty years ago when his house was burnt—that in the following year he again enlisted for nine months in a company under the command of Captain French, (9) but cannot give his given name, but thinks it was William that Dorr Putnam (10) was the Lieutenant and one Thomas McMasters (11) was Ensign, that after his enlistment he proceeded to Fort Plain.

That he served during his said second enlistment at Fort Plain and and from Fort Plain he and the company went to and were stationed in a fort at Stone Arabia and that he and five other soldiers were ordered to and that they did go north of Stone Arabia and guard a mill situated in a hollow where they were eight days then returned to Stone Arabia.

That he was also on a tour to a place called Durlagh during the same season—that on one occasion Major Throop (12) with one hundred & seventy men of whom this deponent was one proceeded from Fort Plain to go to Oneida. That they left Fort Plain about midnight when they got near Fall Hill they heard a great noise and supposed the enemy were near, but soon discovered that the noise was made by wolves, that they proceeded and arrived at Fort Herkimer at about eight or nine o'clock the next morning from thence they proceeded up along the river and when near the house of Shoemaker they were fired upon by a party of Indians & Tories who lay concealed under the banks of a small creek near Shoemaker's house and two of our men were wounded by whom one afterwards died in the hospital at Fort Plain, that the engagement lasted but a short time the fire being briskly returned some of the enemy were wounded and then the enemy fled, that he in this skirmish wounded an Indian, that they returned to Fort Herkimer, and then again set out for Oneida when they were there a short time and returned to Fort Plain. That for this excursion they drew rations for twelve days—that he does not recollect that he received a discharge from his services under his said second enlistment, thinks he did not get any discharge from said second enlistment. (13) That at the time he received his discharge from his first enlistment one John Kane or Cain (14) also received a discharge and they went home together. That he is now informed that the said John Kane is now living in Mexico Oswego County. That at the time of his said enlistments he was in the militia. The militia men classed and he thinks at the first enlistment one Peter Young (15) who was a Lieutenant was head of the class—and that at his second enlistment he thinks one Snooks was head of the class and one Osterman (16) was Sergeant.

That after his service under his said second enlistment he performed some service also in the militia but that he is not now able to state the particulars having been services of short duration at a time a day or two at a time. (Signed with his mark) William Shute (17)

Subscribed & sworn Oct 8, 1839 in open court. E.A. Munson, Deputy Clerk

End Notes—S.10012—William Shute

1. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on August 6, 1777.
2. Captain Michael Ittig of Colonel Peter Bellinger's Fourth Regiment of Tryon County Militia. According to Captain Ittig's payroll of February 28 to November 30, 1778 William served 16 days in November and was owed £1. . 8. . 5. A Frederick Shute also appears on the payroll. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 72, folder 78, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. The militia law was when he turned 16 he was to enroll in the local militia company. Since he was born in 1761 he should have enrolled in 1777.
4. The Battle of Johnstown was fought on October 25, 1781.
5. Captain Garret Putman of Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. The officers serving in his company were lieutenants Victor Putman and Garret Newkirk.
6. Josiah Throop was appointed to Willett's Regiment on April 28, 1781.
7. Captain William H. Ballard of Colonel Ichabod Alden's Sixth Massachusetts Continental Regiment. He is mistaken as Captain Ballard was not in the Mohawk Valley after 1779 and was not "cut to pieces" during that time period. He is either referring to Captain Peter Elsworth who was ambushed near Steel's Creek which was near Fort Herkimer on July 6, 1781 or Lieutenant Solomon Woodworth who was ambushed on September 7, 1781 near West Canada Creek.
8. According to Captain Putman's receipt roll William was owed £10. . 2. . 8 and the amount was delivered to Henry Beekman. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C. The New York

State Comptroller's Office supplied for William's Pension application that Certificate 11095 (this number was not on Putman's receipt roll) dated November 30, 1781 for £10. . 2. . 8 for 3 months and 23 days service.

9. Abner French was appointed Captain in April of 1782 in Colonel Willett's Regiment. He retired on November 1, 1782 and Lieutenant Jellis A. Fonda was appointed captain of the company.
10. Victor Putman was appointed a lieutenant in Colonel Willett's regiment in 1782 but to what company is unknown. So far a muster roll for Captain French's Company has not been found. Victor was commissioned on July 24, 1782.
11. There is no evidence that a Thomas McMaster served in Willett's Regiment in any capacity. Thomas served as a private in Captain David McMaster's Company in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia.
12. In 1782 Andrew Finck and Elias VanBenschouten were the majors of Willett's Regiment. Major Throop was not part of this regiment in 1782 or 1783.
13. Again the NYS Comptroller's office sent proof of William's service for 1782. On December 31, 1782 certificate number 7522 was issued for £108. . 16. . 0 for six months and 24 days in Captain French's Company which later was Fonda's Company.
14. John Cain served as a private in Captain Putman's Company in 1781. His pension application number was W.18847.
15. Peter Young was the second lieutenant of Captain William Snook's Fifth Company in Colonel Visscher's Regiment. William served as a private in the company at various times.
16. Christian Osterman served as a private in Captain Putman's Company in 1781. His pension application number is W.18847. The following was sent by the NYS Comptroller's Office: "This certify that Christian Osterman, Superintendent of a Class in Coll Fishers Regt, has this day delivered and mustered before me an able bodied man, namely William Shutt duly enlisted to serve for said Class in the Levies under the Command of Col Willett till the first day of January next, unless sooner discharged. Fort Hunter 2nd May 1782 Abner French Dy [Deputy] Muster Mastr Levies. State of New York, Comptrollers Office, Albany Dec 26, 1839. I hereby certify the above to be a true Copy of an original paper now on file in this office. Bates Cooke, Comptroller."
17. William married Anne Pettingell on December 2, 1788. FROM: Rev. James Dempster's Records, Founder of Log Meeting House 1778-1803, ed. By Robert M. Hartley, Collections of Montgomery County, New York, Department of History & Archives, 1934, No. 76.