

Pension Application for Jacob Whitney

W.20125 (Widow: Mabel)

Jacob Whitney and Mary Yelverton married December 30, 1773.

Jacob Whitney and Mabel Smith married April 22, 1789

Jacob Whitney was born April 22, 1751.

Mary Yelverton was born 1754.

Mabel Smith was born March 10, 1762.

Hesia Whitney was born April 20, 1775.

Sarah Whitney was born October 20, 1777.

Esther Whiney was born February 16th 1780.

Mary Whitney was born August 12, 1782.

Jacob Whitney died September 22, 1843.

State of New York

County of Yates SS.

On this 6th day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared before the Hon. Abel Peck one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County aforesaid, Jacob Whitney a resident of Benton in the said County of Yates and State aforesaid 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated (viz)

That in the fall of the year of 1775 or 1776 he enlisted as a minute man under Capt. John Schenk, 1st Lieutenant John Childs 2nd Lieutenant Christopher Topper, but was not called out until the February following his enlistment, when he was marched to New York on the East side of the Hudson River through the highlands, by Fishkill and Peekskill that he was stationed at New York as a guard for two months and was under the command of Col. John Bailey of the New York Militia who resided in the town of Poughkeepsie but not in the village. That while he lay in New York the British Ship "Asia" lay in the East River and fired on the town twice. That Gen. Putnam came to New York, and that he saw the General on the Battery, and that after having served two months was discharged.

And the said Jacob Whitney further declares that about three weeks before the battle of White Plains he was drafted and marched to Fort Montgomery a little below WestPoint under Capt. Frederick Schoonmaker Lieutenant—Daniel Grahams and attached to Col. John Snyders Regiment of New York Militia. That he served there two months most of the time at throwing up breastworks—was out on a scout once down as far as Haverstraw—worked very hard at the breastwork—Heard the firing at White Plains during the engagement – After they had served their time out was discharged by the Captain and went home.

And the said Jacob Whitney further declares that in the latter part of the summer of 1777 he volunteered for three months under—Capt. Cantright—1st

Lieutenant James Rosekrants and 2nd Lieutenant John Low, and that they were commanded by Major John Cantine, Col. John Graham's and S. Lieutenant Roswell Hopkins.

That they Rendezvoused at Kingston in Ulster County on the North River, where he went on board a vessel and sailed to Albany from Albany marched to Schenectady and was on their way to Fort Stanwix, when the orders to march to Fort Stanwix were Countermanded and they were ordered to march to Half Moon Point on the North River. Lay there till Buruoyne's [Burgoyne's] Army reached Bemis' Heights—They were then ordered to Bemis Heights, and the said Jacob Whiteny was placed as a guard at General Gates Quarters, during the first battle.

Declares that he saw General Gates during the day and his Aiddecamp riding to and from him receiving orders and bringing information. That he saw the wounded brot in and placed in a barn near the generals Quarters.

That he was in the 3rd Battle that the Americans had with Burgoyne when General Arnold was wounded in the last action with Burgoyne himself with others were ordered to attack a British guard. The guard was drove in and the Guard House burned.

In this affair a soldier belonging to the same company was wounded whose name was John Rose. The night following the British Army retreated and left the Battle ground without burying the dead or removing his sick. The tents in which the sick were were [sic] left standing—next morning followed the British army to Saratoga where they made a stand on the North side of Fishing Creek, while the American Army encamped on the South side, where after a few days Gen. Burgoyne surrendered. Saw the british army march in and stack their arms, Gen. Burgoyne at the head of the army on horseback.

That after the British Army had surrendered they were marched down the River to Stillwater and he the sid Jacob Whitney was sent with them as a guard. At Stillwater the British Army crossed the river to the East side, but the said Jacob was retained and marched from thence to Albany where they encamped a few day[s] but provisions being scarce they were discharged and he the said Jacob went home, having served in this campaign three months. Simeon DeWitt the present surveyor general of New York was in the same company with the said Jacob Whitney further declares that previous to the capture of Burgoyne he served one month in Dutchess County N. York under Capt. Yeocomb Schoonmaker—that they kept guard part of the time and part of the time patrolled and scoured the County after toires and disaffected persons—Carried such before the committee of safety to be punished and dealt with according to the custom of the times.

He marched through Rhineback, Redhook, Livingstons Manor Dover and Oblong. Was discharged at Oblong—thinks it was in the winter of 1776. It was cold weather and they crossed the North River on the ice.

And the said Jacob Whitney further declares that he was stationed one month as a guard the same winter at Clarkstown in the County of Rockland and State of N.Y. under Capt. Peleg Ransom, Lieut Nathaniel Potter, and Insign [Ensign] William

Donaldson. The town of Hackensack in N. Jersey was burned a little previous to this time, and in consequence of the burning of Hackensack the militia were called out.

And the said Jacob Whitney further declares that he was called out one month in th spring of 1775 according to the best of his recollection and stationed as a guard at Marbletown in the County of Ulster NY under Capt Fred. Schoonmaker.

And the said Jacob Whitney further declares that he was drafted and served two months at a place called Lurenkill in the south part of Ulster County NY under Capt. Westbrook.

That the company to which he belonged were stationed at and occupied a large Stone House, where they kept guard against the tories and Indians, but in what year this duty was performed the said Jacob cannot now recollect.

And the said Jacob Whitney further declares that he was called out and served four different tours of duty of one month each beside those before mentioned, on the Frontiers stationed part of the time at Wawarsink and part of the time at Marbletown and other places, under Captains Hardenburgh, Westbrook and Schoonmaker, keeping guard scouting in the woods, and watching the movements of the Indians and tories, but the date of these services he cannot now determine with precision.

And the said Jacob Whitney further declares that besides and distinct from the services, before enumerated, he was called out on the frontiers, during the War of the Revolution in cases of alarm, to oppose the inroads of the Indians and the depredations of the tories, and cowboys (as they were then called) a very great number of times, on short tours of duty, from one to ;thirty days, the exact amount of which it would be impossible for him to ;tell, but to the best of his knowledge, and recollection it could not have been less than six months.

And the said Jacob Whitney further—declares, that the country where he resided during the Revolutionary War, was so continually harassed and alarmed by the Indians and tories, and the services he performed were of such short periods, often so sudden, and the services so scattered and various, that it is quite impossible for him to fix dates to them all, and in some of those which he has fixed, he may be mistaken, but as to the amount of time that he actually served, he is quite certain it is stated below, the amount performed.

And the said Jacob Whitney further declares that he was born in Canaan, Litchfield County Ct. in the year 1750. Has understood there was a record of his age in the Town Clerks office in the town where he was born but has never seen it.

That he was living in New Paltz Ulster County N. York when first called into the service & continued to reside there till 1810 when he removed to Benton in Ontario County now County of Yates—Where he still resides.

That he went into the service, as a volunteer, by enlisting and by being drafted &c.

He never received any written discharge from the service, but was verbally discharged from the service, but was verbally discharged by the Captain or other commanding officer.

He is known to Martin Gage, PostMaster at Benton—to Doctor Anthony Gage—John Coleman, Truman Spencer & others—that can testify as to his character for veracity and of their belief of his services as soldier of the Revolution.

And the said Jacob Whitney 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 that he has no documentary evidence whereby to establish his claim, and that he knows of no other persons, whose testimony he can procure except those whose affidavits are hereto affixed viz. Jonathan Presler, Phillip Lemunyan, and Nathaniel Perkins. . (Signed) Jacob Whitney

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Abel Peck Judge.