

see letter 25 June
1834 to W. R. Hoffman
do. 5 July.
1835
July 19 - S. Cary - history - Prior

5750
5
28750

Ct. 25,782.
Ohio Agency.

Benjamin Flinn

Commissioned 115⁰⁰
as Pri and Serjt.

Cert. Issued Jan'y 6, 1834

Act June 7, 1832.

TM



230'04

Benjamin Flinn
to
The United States
Declar-
tion-
of-
Independence



State of Ohio
Hamilton County 38.

On this 2nd day of February 1833,
personally appeared in open Court, before
the Court of Common Pleas of said County of
Hamilton and State of Ohio, now sitting,
Benjamin Flinn, a resident in Colerain town-
ship in said County and State, aged seventy
years, the 1st day of this present month, 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 Con-
gress, passed June 7th 1832:-

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

I went from my residence in Washewidge,
Sumneret County, New Jersey to Woodbridge, Mid-
dlessex County, in said State of New Jersey, and
there volunteered in Capt. Matthew Freeman's

TM



Company of Minute Men for a term of ~~one~~
~~year~~ - this was in the month of March 1787,
that the term for which he then volunteered
was twelve months, - that there was no Regi-
ment to which said Company was attached,
or at least, none which is now recollect-
ed by said applicant, - that in two or three months
after he had joined said Company Capt. Free-
man resigned, and was succeeded by Capt.
Lieut. John Fitzgerald; that
upon said Fitzgerald's taking the command
of said Company, about the 1st of June 1787,
the said applicant was appointed an order-
ly sergeant in said Company, and continued
an orderly sergeant until the end of the war
& the return of peace; that the duties which
devolved upon said Company, were those of
guarding the lines, going out in scouting
parties, & frequently crossing to Staten Isl-
and, to take British prisoners, and ^{they} did take



several of them almost every time of going there;— that he does not recollect that any regular officers were ever with said Company in the service; that during said period, he however recollects that in one of their excursions to Staten Island, they were joined by Capt. Shaler of N. Jersey Militia, with part of his Company;— that said Company, to which said applicant was attached, was engaged, during said period of 12 months in several skirmishes with the enemy; the first near Wood-bridge, in which the British party were driven to Staten Island;— the next at a place called "Blazing Star," where the British were repulsed and some cattle taken by them and the refugees with them, were re-taken, and the Marauder driven to Staten Island;— the said applicant was also in the skirmishes at Starry Coy. and on Paritan river, as also on Staten Island, that on one occasion, the British drove



The company of Minute Men, above referred to; - that during this term of twelve months, the said applicant was taken prisoner by a party of the enemy, at the said "Blazing Star", and remained with them a prisoner three weeks & four days, when he was exchanged, that he immediately resumed his duties in said Company, to which he belonged, and after the twelve months expired, he again volunteered in the same Company of Capt. Fitzsimmons, and continued to perform similar duties to those before stated, until the return of peace, making nearly three years from the time of his first volunteering as before stated; - that after the capture of Lord Cornwallis, in October 1781, the enemy relaxed the vigor with which they had previously carried on the war; - and consequently, the duties which devolved on said "Minute Men" were not so arduous as they were before that period; but it was not until the Fall



of 1783, that peace was entirely resto-
red; - that the said applicant was then
permitted at said town of Woodbridge, New-
Jersey to return home and resume his usual
occupations; -

That he has no documentary evidence,
and that he knows of no person except Joseph
Coadington of Warren County, Ohio, now in
Court, who served with him the whole time
above mentioned, whose testimony he can
procure, who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim,
whatsoever 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.

Sworn to and subscribed
this day & year aforesaid.

Benjamin Flinn

San. Gaus Chm. p. S.



We William Burckitt Clergyman, residing in
the said County of Hamilton, and State of Ohio, and
Joseph Goddington, residing in the County of
Warren in said State last named, hereby certify
that we are well acquainted with Benjamin
Flinn, who has subscribed and sworn to the
above declaration; that we believe him to be
seventy years of age; that he is reputed and
believed in the neighborhood where he resides
to have been a soldier of the Revolution, and
that we concur in that opinion; - and the said
Joseph Goddington further states, that he
personally knows that said Flinn's state-
ment is entirely correct; he having served with
the said Flinn during the terms mention-
ed in his said declaration, and knows
him ever since he was a Boy. William Burckitt
Joseph Goddington

Sworn to & subscribed in open court
July 23rd 1833.

And the said Court do hereby declare
their opinions, after the investigation of the matter.



and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary soldier and served as he states. and the Court further certifies, that it appears to them that Wm. Turbe, who has signed the preceding certificate, is a clergyman, resident in said County of Hamilton and state of Ohio, and that Joseph Coddington, who has also signed the same is a resident in the County of Warren (but formerly in said County of Hamilton) in said state of Ohio, and is a credible person, and that their statement is entitled to credit.

Wm. D. Davis Clerk

The interrogatories put to the said applicant, by the said Court, and his answer to the same, are as follows:-

Q. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer - "I was born in Middlesex County, & state of New Jersey, on the 11th day of Feb^y 1763."



2nd Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it? -

Answer - I have no knowledge of any record of my age; - but was told by ~~my~~ father, in his life time, and by a sister, much older than myself, that I was born as I have stated above. -

3rd Where ^{were} you living when called into service ~~when called into service~~; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live? -

Answer - I was living at Washewridge, Sumner County, New Jersey, when called into service, and remained there until ~~one~~ ^{one} year ^{after} the Revolutionary War, when I removed into Essex County in said state of N. Jersey, & there lived until the year 1790; & then removed to Hamilton County, Ohio, where I have lived ever since, except a mere temporary visit to Indiana & other places.



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4th How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute?—and if a substitute, for whom?
Answer.— I volunteered, and served as a volunteer Minute Man, as stated in my declaration.— and never was drafted or a substitute.—

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers, who were with the troops, where you served;—such Continental and Militia Regiments, as you can recollect, and the general Circumstances of your service.—

Answer.— I know of no regular Officers who were with the troops where I served; nor do I know of any Continental Regiments being with me, where I served; but recollect seeing Gen^l Washington & Lee ~~at~~ the former passing near Morris town, N^o Jersey, and the latter when he was taken prisoner at Mr White's tavern Washingtonridge Summit County in N^o state.



6th Did you ever receive a discharge,
from the service, and if so, by whom was
it signed, and what has become of it?
Answer. - I never received a written dis-
charge; - but was permitted to return home
when my terms respectively had expired.

7th State the names of persons to whom
you are known in your present neigh-
borhood, and who can testify as to your char-
acter for veracity, and their belief of your
services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. - I am known in my present
neighborhood, and have been known for a
number of years by Gen. Findley (now in Con-
gress) Peter Mills of Cincinnati, Wm. Ruffin
Robt. T. Lytle Esquire, (also in Washington) Mem-
ber of Congress etcet. & numerous others who
would vouch for my character for veracity,
& answer that they believed that I had been



a soldier of the Revolution. - but I merely
refer to Genl. Findley and Prot. T. Lytle
Esquire, as they are now within the di-
stances which puts it into the power of the
War Department to consult them upon
the subject. - Benjamin Flinn

Sworn to and submitted
before me in open court
July 11th 1833. Daw. Gano C. J.

Daniel Gano, Clerk of the Court
of Common Pleas of said County of Hamil-
ton and State of Ohio do hereby certify that
the foregoing contains the original proceedings
of the said Court in the matter of the ap-
plication of Benjamin Flinn
for a pension -

In testimony whereof I
have hereunto set my hand
and seal of Office, this 23rd
day of February, 1833. -

Daw. Gano C. J.
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