

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Israel S44973

f35VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/29/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of New York, SS

To the Honorable Richard Riker

Recorder of the City of New York, and one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, called the Mayor's Court of the City of New York, which is a Court of record of the State of New York.

The Declaration under Oath of John Israel formerly a Soldier engaged in the Service of the United States during the Revolutionary War, now a Citizen of the United States and resident of the city and County of New York, respectfully sheweth,

That the said John Israel sometime in the month of November or December in the year 1776 he enlisted for the term of three years in Captain Joseph Mitchell's Company in Colonel James Woods' Regiment, General Scott's [Charles Scott's] Brigade, Marquis Lafayette, Division, and served upwards of two years until taken prisoner in the year 1778 at Phillips Manor State of New York, that he was taken by the British to New York and retained as a Prisoner in the North Church and Sugar House until exchanged in 1779 when he proceeded to Phillips Manor, and served under Captain Jonas Ansa [could be "Jonas Anson"] and Captain Jesse Baker's Companies of Militia, until the peace took place when he was discharged, and that while in the service he was at the battles of Germantown [October 4, 1777], Middlebrook and Monmouth [June 28, 1778].

Discharge lost

And the Declaration [sic] further sheweth, that the said John Israel is now a Citizen of the United States, resides in the city of New York, and is, by reason of his reduced circumstances in life, in need of assistance from his country for support being in indigent circumstances, very feeble and now 68 years of age.

Therefore the said John Israel conceives himself entitled to the benefit of the Act of Congress of the United States, entitled, "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war," approved 18th of March, 1818, and request your Honor will examine into the truth of the matter aforesaid, certify and transmit the testimony in the case, and the proceedings had thereon, to the Honorable the Secretary of the Department of War, to the end of such relief may be had in the premises, as his by law in such case made and provided. And in support of the facts set forth, the said John Israel refers to the testimony of Abraham Boyce and John Ackerman both of which are hereunto annexed.

S/ John Israel



City and County of New York, SS

Abraham Boyce & John Ackerman both of the City of New York being sworn, saith, that they are well acquainted with John Israel and know that the above Declaration of the said John Israel is in all respects just and true as to his service in the War of the Revolution & has no doubt of the truth of the facts by him above stated.

Sworn to before me this first day of April 1818

R. Riker

S/ Abraham Boice, X his mark

S/ John Ackerman



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County of Westchester SS

On this 22nd day of May 1826 personally appeared in open Court being a court of Record for the said County John Israel a resident in said County aged seventy-six years and one month – who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the first May 1820 that he the said John Israel enlisted for the term of three years sometime in the month of November or December (the Exact day of the month the declarant doth not recollect) in the year 1776 in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Joseph Mitchell in the Regiment commanded by Colonel James Woods in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said company upwards of two years and until taken prisoner at Philip's Manor in the State of New York by a party of British dragoons and carried to the City of New York where he was kept as a prisoner in the North Church and Sugar house for about one year and until he was exchanged in 1779 when he proceeded to Philips Manor and served in Captain Jonas Orser's and Captain Jesse Baker's Companies of militia until peace took place when he was discharged from the service in the State of New York, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present; that his name is not on the roll of any State except Virginia; and that the following all the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension to wit

That on or about the first of April 1818 he was a resident of the City of New York that he then procured a declaration and papers to be made out before Richard Riker Esquire Recorder of the Said City to enable him to obtain a pension under the act of the 18th March 1818 And the Recorder as he informed the Declarant and which he verily believes to be true sent the papers to the proper Department at Washington and that they were returned for correction. That Peter A. Jay Esquire succeeded the said Riker in office to whom the declarant applied for the return papers – that Mr. Jay showed him the papers and their defects; corrected them and told the declarant he would send them on to get his pension. And the declarant further saith that sometime after this when Mr. Riker had again been appointed recorder of said City he applied to him to know the result of his application of informed the declarant that he did not know or where the papers were but referred him to Mr. Jay who said the papers must either be at Washington or

York; that while in prison he became acquainted with John Israel; that he and Israel continued in prison until about the 2nd day of January 1781 when they were exchanged. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p 33: On April 14, 1829 in Westchester County New York, Jacob Acker ¹ gave testimony that he was taken prisoner by the British February 19, 1780; that he found John Israel already a prisoner of war; that they remained prisoners until January 2, 1781 when they were exchanged.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Acker". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured background. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent flourish at the end of the word "Acker".

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing January 1, 1828, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

¹ Perhaps the same man as FPA W2046