

(2-1778)

SERVICE

*W. 18.839*

NUMBER

*Romaine Benjamin*  
*Mary*

*W. 18.839*

CONTENTS

Nov 21/14

Benjamin Remond  
of New-England in the State of N. Y.  
who was a Surgeon in the Army, commanded  
by Captain Remond of the 100<sup>th</sup> commanded  
by Col<sup>l</sup> Henry in the New Jersey  
line for 15 months

Engraved on the Roll of *New York City*  
 at the rate of  $\frac{7}{10}$  Dollars — *Cent per annum*,  
 to commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 1831.

Certificate of Pension issued the 2<sup>d</sup> day of Sept.  
1891 and paid to Sylvester  
Dunbar, Trade Agent New York

Amount to the 4th of March 1841 \$750.00  
Semi-annual allowance, ending Sept. 3. 50

18750

Revolutionary Claim,  
Act June 7, 1832.

Recorded by *W. H. Adams* Clerk  
Book *92* Vol. *4* Page *52*

Declaration.

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress  
of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832.

State of New York.  
City and County of New York }  
I, Benjamin Romane, a resident  
of the City of New York, and in the County and State of New  
York, aged seventy one years, who, being first duly  
sworn, according to law, do, on his oath, make the following  
declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision  
made by the Act of Congress: passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

I was born at Mean Pong the Place  
Delaware County, N.Y. on the twenty first day of September 1762: I have  
no record of my age: my father's Wendy Noble, in which the date last  
recorded was lost. When ~~sent~~ into the service, I was living, near Hackensack  
Bergen County, State of New Jersey. And since the Revolutionary  
War, I have lived in this City of New York, where I continue  
to reside.

In or about the month of August  
1776, my father, mother and myself fled from this City to  
Fort Washington, a few miles above on the Hudson River. On  
the approach of the enemy, we crossed the Hudson to Fort  
Lee, on the opposite shore, while the cannon balls were  
flying over our heads, from Fort Lee, directed at the  
enemy's ships, which were endeavouring to ascend the  
river in aid of the storming Fort Washington: the capture of  
which Fort. was effected by them the next day or two thereof.

ter. We became resident near Hackensack aforesaid and there, subsequently, continued to dwell, constantly however retreating from our home, on each advance of the enemy, and again returning to our desolate habitation, as they departed, for their strong hold, in this City. Such was the condition of all the Whig Families, who remained faithful to their Country cause, during the Revolutionary war. They were Captured and made prisoners of war, whether in actual service or not, while the Tory families, stood at their homes, unmolested, by the enemy, by paying a small price or by hiring substitutes for their drafted or personal military duties. The district of Hackensack became the separating line between the contending parties during the war. We were repeatedly plundered, and left destitute of any other bed to lay upon, except that of straw. On several occasions, the clothes were torn from our backs, and our bread and the means of purchasing it were taken from us.

In the year 1777, my brother, Elias Romane, obtained a Captaincy in the Jersey Line and was stationed by Colonel Dejeu, the Commander of this Regiment, at the nearest outpost, the Liberty Pole, in Bergen County. - Being advised by my father and brother to enlist, as all prospects and means of completing my education were lost by the war, I did accordingly enlist, in the fall of the same year, at the age of fifteen

years and three months, or thereabouts. In my said  
brother's Company of Militia And was accepted as  
a Sergeant thereof, in which station I became very  
useful; the education, which I had received in this  
City before ~~my~~<sup>our</sup> family fled from it, enabled me to  
perform successfully the various duties of the Company  
and Regiment, in making out orders, Pay Notes &c.  
In this <sup>only</sup> first enlistment, I served not less than  
three months.

In the <sup>Spring of</sup> year 1778. I was enrolled  
in the year's service, under my said brother, Captain Elias  
Romane, in the same Regiment of Colonel Dex, at the  
Liberty Pole, during which service I was frequently  
ordered to various posts, under other <sup>during that year</sup> officers, but also  
under officers of the standing troops - Under Captain  
John Oakwater, at Shacknuck town, I served not  
less than three months - Under Captain Samuel  
Demarest, at New Bridge, ~~not less than three months~~  
& Under Captain Bowman, of the standing troops, for  
a short time. - Under Captain John Vreeland, at  
Pollyly, not less than two months - Under Captain  
Wood at Aquacknunk. not less than one month,  
and the remainder of the year, under my brother,  
Captain Romane - In the course of my service  
as I became twice a guide to General Wayne, when  
his head quarters were at Aquacknunk, in his ex

concerned upon the line - I was also in the reserve line  
of militia, when Fort Mifflin was stormed by Major Lee  
and the garrison force of the enemy made prisoners of war  
I was also in the unsuccessful attack on the Blockhouse  
in Bergen woods, near the margin of the Hudson River,  
when our troops were led by General Wayne - I was also  
at the side of Sergeant Marins, in a severe conflict upon  
the line - I was also engaged throughout the whole  
day, when the enemy burned Paramus and Hoppers  
town, about eight miles above Newbridge. Our troops  
harassed the rear and flanks of the enemy, on their  
march to the Hoppers - Mills, and continued to  
do so on their final retreat back to Fort Lee; at  
which place they recrossed the Hudson for fort  
Washington, then strong hold during the war -  
we recaptured almost all the baggage and ef-  
fects which they had plundered - In the course of the  
conflict the enemy <sup>horse</sup> made three attempts of attack,  
on our several companies, pressing on their flanks  
and rear, but at no time did they come to charge  
on me, <sup>on</sup> occasion, however, when I was present they  
surprised about one hundred of us, in a clear  
field: they advanced at full speed and with  
apparent determination: we instantly formed, as  
retreat was useless, when the enemy declined the  
attack and fled off: our officers, notwithstanding



to the great mortification, forbid us to fire. Though  
the enemy was at easy distance shot - I was also in  
a very severe affair of arms, at the Liberty Pole, where  
my brother was in command against the sudden attack  
of a far superior number of British horse. we there lost a con-  
siderable number of our Company in killed, wounded and dis-  
missed: the enemy were severely handled at the point of the woods  
through which we arrived out of the clear field where the conflict began  
- I was also under the personal command of Colonel Day  
when the whole County of Bergen was summoned to dislodge  
the enemy from Fort Lee, where they had commenced the es-  
tablishment of an outpost - The attack was made at daylight  
and the enemy fled in great precipitation, and never again  
attempted to form a station at that place.

My next service was under Captain  
John Huyler at Closter, in the same Regiment of Colonel Day,  
having been drafted to perform the same: in which ser-  
vice I continued not less than ~~three~~<sup>two</sup> months. This service  
was rendered in the spring of 1779 or 1780.

My next service was under Cap-  
tain Thomas Blauvelt, at Closter, in the same Regiment: for  
whom I served for a period not less than <sup>two</sup> ~~three~~ months. During  
this service, I was engaged with the enemy at the burning of  
Closter and also at the subsequent burning of Schraalenburgh,  
where my mother and myself, after my father's death, re-  
sided. - Being drafted, I entered this service in the fall of  
1779 or 1780.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 1781, myself  
with five others, while in arms at Closter, were taken by sur-  
prise of the enemy, who was led to the place of our nightly se-  
clusion, to which we were accustomed to retire, when off of  
duty, not daring to sleep in our houses. This place of seclusion  
was in the thick woods, and near it were driven our horses  
and cattle for safety. They were led to it by one Samuel  
Cole, who perpetrated this act of treachery: he was of Closter,  
a long resident of our neighborhood. He led on the enemy in his  
impudence: we were made prisoners, though not then in actual  
engagement, and with our horses and cattle, were hauled  
down to this City, where we were put in prison and held for  
seven weeks. An exchange was effected at nearly the exact  
time. Amos Allen was taken, and released to our forces, and  
I entered on military duty <sup>in my company best,</sup> as heretofore, and continued there  
till the end of the war. When captured, Mr. Elias Day was  
pierced through the thigh with a bayonet and myself was  
slightly wounded in the arm with a like weapon, by Captain  
William Gordon, the Chief of the Gang, who said, it was only his  
intention to make me feel a little for abusing Sam Cole, their  
guide.

Some time thereafter, in the latter  
part of 1781 or beginning of 1782, I entered the <sup>Best</sup> Company of  
Captain James Christie, at Schraalenburgh in the same  
Regiment, under whom I served for a period not less than  
three months. I was <sup>then</sup> ~~was~~ an ensign of the <sup>Best</sup> Company,  
and performed the duty during the whole <sup>of the war.</sup> ~~communist~~ <sup>of the war.</sup>  
I declared, that my commission was come on, but had been  
misplaced: this was deemed, at the time, a matter of



misplaced. This was deemed at the time a matter of little consequence, as the commissions of several of the officers were lost. I performed the duty of ensign in the Company beat to the end of the war and full three months of active and enrolled volunteer duty.

The number of affairs of arms in which I was engaged were about twenty seven, including slight skirmishes and encounters, which were of frequent occurrence, mainly when the opposite & contending parties met.

I recapitulate to the best of my knowledge and belief, in it is not now possible after a lapse of more than fifty years and when young and headless, to recollect the month or even the year in which service was performed with sufficient accuracy for positive affidavits, and state that my first enlistment was in my brother's Company stationed at the Liberty Pole in the fall of 1777, as I was a sergeant and served three or four months. Day 3

In 1778 I was enrolled in the year volunteer service under my said brother, also at the Liberty Pole and as sergeant and during that year, was ordered on duty to the posts viz: Capt John

Overwater in Hackensack N.J. 3

Under Captain Demarest at New Bridge 3

Under Captain Veeland at Valley Forge 2

Under Captain Bowman of the Handedling Troops, by order of my brother and as

Captain Bowman's Regt - 1

Under Captain Ward at Red Bank 1

Under my brother to complete the year's service 2

In 1781 a prisoner of war I was 1. 3

The affidavit of Samuel Barakent herewith transmitted, has brought to my perfect knowledge the names of several officers under whom I served, which

That forgotten - And which services are not related  
in my preceding statement.

These services were inclusive  
of all those personal labors, on every alarm and actual  
capture of the enemy which were daily and nightly appear-  
handed and of frequent execution during the whole war. When  
of regular enlistment and at home, in Company service, it  
became my duty to warn every person in the town to turn out,  
this was indispensable to secure the safety of those who offered  
personal service - To estimate the time of service in these  
cases would swell the amount far beyond the above receipts  
which duties. On one of these warning performances, my pet horse  
was cut off at the Old Bridge Creek, about eight feet wide  
when I crossed, at the back of my horse. The canoe there  
was locked and the key refused to me by the red boy who  
owned it. In truth and in fact, the whole of this  
district of country may be truly said to have been sold  
during the whole of the Revolutionary war. I never re-  
ceived a written discharge from the service. That being then  
very little needed, nor did I ever receive a written com-  
mission.

I have no documentary evidence. All my op-  
inion to the best of my knowledge and belief, are now dead.  
except, Captain Samuel Demarest, who resides somewhere in  
the western part of the State. And whose testimony could be  
procured only with great difficulty. But I have two  
James Butler and Samuel Versen fellow soldiers. Can  
testify to my service. The Reverend John Demarest and  
James Hopson, can testify to my character for bravery and  
then belief of my service as a soldier of the Revolution. I  
thereby relinquish every claim whatever to pension or  
annuity except the present and declare that my name is  
not on the pension roll of any agency of this State.

Very truly  
yours  
John Demarest

To S. B. Romaine, Esq.  
Ann Nichols & Hannah  
Heston, only children

Rep.

813  
N. York City.

Mary Romaine, do  
widow of Benjamin

who was a Sergeant  
in the N. Jersey Line

Husb. died 31 Jan. 1844.

Inscribed on the Roll at the rate of  
75 Dollars

Cents per annum, to commence on  
the 4th day of March, 1844, and  
14<sup>th</sup> May 1845, when she died.

Certificate of Pension issued the  
6<sup>th</sup> day of April 1847  
and sent to

S. B. Romaine,  
20 Nassau Street,  
N. Y.

[Acts of March 3, 1843, and June  
17, 1844.]

Recorded in Book 8.  
Vol. 2. Page 14.

9168 1394

Mary Romaine  
wid. of Benjamin  
N. Y.

acts 1843 & 44

admd

15mo less

\$75 from 31.

Jan'y 44 when her  
husband died to 14  
May 1845 when she  
died -

To S. B. Romaine  
Ex. for sole use of  
himself - Ann Nichols  
& Hannah Western  
my children

~~Wm. H. B. Maylay~~

~~S. B. Romaine~~

~~24 Nassau St~~  
New York

State of New York  
City and County of

New York ss: On this Fifth day of January one thousand eight hundred and forty seven personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas held in and for the City and County of New York in open Court Samuel B. Romaine, a resident of the City of New York, Attorney and Counsellor at Law who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the acts of Congress of the Third March One thousand eight hundred and forty three, and Seventeenth June One thousand eight hundred and forty four granting pensions to widows of persons who lived during the revolutionary war: That Mary Romaine late of the City of New York was the widow of Benjamin Romaine who was a pensioner of the United States: That the said Mary was married to the said Benjamin Romaine at or about the year Seventeen hundred and eighty four. That the said Benjamin Romaine died on the Thirty first day of January one thousand eight hundred and forty four. That the said Mary was not married to the said Benjamin prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January Seventeen hundred and ninety four viz at the time above stated. That the said Mary Romaine was never afterwards married and died at the City of New York on the Twentieth day of May One thousand eight hundred and forty five. That this deponent is the Executor of the said Mary Romaine deceased and is duly authorized by law to collect and receive all sum or sums of money debts due or demands belonging to the said Mary. That three children of the said Benjamin and Mary Romaine have survived them to wit the deponent Samuel B. Romaine, Ann the wife of Charles Miles, Consul of the United States at Amsterdam and Ham-

the wife of Henry M. Weston of the City of New York  
attorney and Counsellor at Law - And further this  
deponent says not -

Sworn in open Court this 3<sup>d</sup>

day of January 1847.

James Conner, Clk

WM. H. Romaine.



Know all Men by these Presents, THAT  
I, Ann Nichols, the wife of Charles Nichols of the  
City of New York, and the only surviving child of Benjamin  
Romaine of said City deceased

have made, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do make, constitute and appoint Edward J. Wilson of the City of New York and Richard H. Clarke of the City of Washington, District of Columbia - or either of them - my true and lawful attorneys for me and in my name, place and stead, to examine all papers and documents on file in the Pension Office of the United States in the City of Washington or any other office or department in said City of Washington or elsewhere in relation to the application of Benjamin Romaine or Mary Romaine his widow now both deceased for a Pension granted to Revolutionary Patriots under and by virtue of any act or acts of Congress.

giving and granting unto my said attorneys full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully, to all intents and purposes, as I might or could do if personally present, with full power of substitution and revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that my said attorneys or ——— substitute shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

In Witness whereof, I have herunto set my hand and seal the Twenty-second day of April ——— in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

*Ann Nichols*

State of New-York,  
 City and County of New-York } ss.

Be it known, That on the Twenty-second day of April ——— one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public,

in and for the State of New-York, duly commissioned and sworn, dwelling at the City of New-York ——— personally came Ann Nichols, to me known to be the same person mentioned and described in & who executed the above instrument and acknowledged the above Letter of Attorney to be his own act and deed.

In Testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name, and affixed my seal of office, the day and year last above written.

*Charles F. Nichols,*  
 Notary Public  
 City of New-York

I Cornelius Bogert, Clerk, do certify that the following  
is an extract from the record of marriages  
of the Minister, Elders, and Deacons of the Reformed  
Protestant Dutch Church of the City of New York in  
my possession, except the date viz:

"Benjamin Korman and Mary Brower"

as witness whereof I have hereto subscribed my  
name and affixed the common seal of the said cor-  
poration by their authority this Twent-  
third day of October one thousand  
eight hundred and forty six

Cornelius Bogert Clerk

I, John C. B. Mayor of New York, do certify that Cornelius  
Bogert, of said city, being duly sworn doth depose and  
say that he is the Clerk of the Corporation styled "The Mi-  
nister, Elders, and Deacons of the Reformed Protestant  
Dutch Church of the City of New York", above mentioned,  
and has the custody of their records, and that the  
above is a true extract from the records of the records

of marriages of the said corporation, except the date,  
which is entered on said record in words and figures  
as follows to wit: "1784 Decr 12" Depoent fur-  
ther says that the above is the common seal of the  
said corporation and was so affixed by their authority  
on the 23<sup>d</sup> day of October, 1846 before me

A. B. Nichols  
Mayor

July 7, 1939

BA-J/MOS

Benjamin Romaine, W. 18839

Mrs. Carl S. Noble  
7136 Loubet Street  
Forest Hills, New York

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to your request for information relative to Benjamin Romaine who served as sergeant in the Revolutionary War, lived in New York City and died between 1840 and 1845.

The data which follow were taken from papers on file in the pension claim, W. 18839, based on the Revolutionary War service of Benjamin Romaine.

He was born on September 24, 1762, near Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, New York. Along with his parents (names not given) Benjamin Romaine, who was referred to as the youngest son, fled from New York City to Fort Washington about August, 1776, and when the enemy appeared they crossed the Hudson to Fort Lee which was near Hackensack, Bergen County, New Jersey, and lived there during the Revolution.

Benjamin Romaine enlisted in November, 1777, and served at various times until sometime in 1782, amounting to about thirty-four months in all as sergeant and ensign with the New Jersey troops under Captains Elias Romaine (his brother), John Outwater, Samuel Demarest, Bowman, John Vreeland, Ward, James Christie, John Huyler, Thomas Blanch, Abraham Herring, Board, J. Wade, John Mead, and Colonel Dey. Benjamin Romaine was engaged with the enemy at the burning of Closter and was at the burning of Schrawlingburgh, Schawlingburgh or Scrawlingburgh, where he stated that he and his mother lived after the death of his father (date of father's death not shown). On the night of September 6, 1781, while living in seclusion from the Tories and British in a house in the thick woods, Benjamin Romaine was captured, was slightly wounded in the arm by a bayonet, was carried to New York City and held in prison in the Sugar

House for seven weeks but was exchanged about the time of the surrender of Cornwallis.

Benjamin Romaine was allowed pension on his application executed May 27, 1834, while a resident of New York City, having lived there since the close of the Revolution.

He died, January 31, 1844.

Benjamin Romaine married in the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of New York City on December 12, 1784, Mary Brower.

She died in New York City on May 14, 1845, and was survived by the following children: Samuel B. Romaine, Jr., an attorney living at 20 Nassau Street, New York City, in 1847; Ann, wife of Charles Nichols who was United States Consul at Amsterdam and in 1862 she was living in New York City and stated she was then the only surviving child; Hannah, wife of Henry M. Western who was an attorney living in New York City in 1845.

On an application executed January 5, 1847, the pension due Mary Romaine as the widow of Benjamin Romaine was allowed for the benefit of their surviving children, named above.

In 1834, Benjamin Romaine referred to Robert J. Dillon as his grandson.

There are no further data relative to the family of Benjamin Romaine.

Very truly yours

A. D. HILLER  
Executive Assistant  
to the Administrator