

### CLAUDIA:

The reason why I asked if your father knew anything about Jesse's service in the War of 1812 was that I hoped he might be able to throw some light on what I was trying to figure out -- why Jesse became a deserter. This fact in the N Y militia records that I had obtained was to my mind just out of character.

Shortly after I wrote to you, my great helper in western NY -- Gladys Grey -- happened to find in an old chest at her local historic society a document that helps to tell what actually happened: a muster roll of the militia company that Jesse was in-Sheer coincidence. Gladys didn't know I was working on that problem. She just keeps an eye out for the name Belknap.

The clues in that muster roll, at once, led me to dig for still further information at Albany and in Washington. So now I can tell the whole story. And I think I should make it a matter of record somewhere outside of my own files -- for some other industrious searcher may some day stumble on the fact of desertion, but without learning what led up to it. So I'm making you my repository. Nothing confidential about it. Feel free to tell others if you wish. There's nothing actually disgraceful about it, to my mind -- and I'm a one-time infantry captain, back in WW I, and might be expected to be intolerant about desertion.

So here's the story, as I now know it.

On Sept 28, 1812, Jesse enlisted in a new militia company (infantry) that was being formed by Capt Elizur Hills, along with other men from the area of Bristol, west of Canandaigua. Bristol, you'll remember, was where Jonas and his family lived at that time.

It was a small company: one captain, one ensign, four sergeants, one corporal, a drummer and two fifers, and 19 privates. Jesse was the corporal -- an unusual appointment for an inexperienced boy of 20.

The company, untrained, was marched to the town then called Manchester (now Niagara) on the Niagara River north of Buffalo. There it remained through October, without seeing action.

On October 13, the American regulars captured Queenston Heights, across the river in Canada, and the British commanding general in Canada died in that battle. The course of the war in Canada could have changed if the success had been followed up. But the N Y militia commanding general, Van Rennsalaer, failed to send his troops in as reinforcements -- and we lost Queenston: Heights -- which ended our chance of success in Canada. It also ended General Van Kennsalaer. He was forced to resign his command.

In the ranks of the militia, the immediate response was a wave of desertion. hundreds of men just went home. In the troops in and around Manchester, there were 446 such desertions. Among them was Jesse.

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With that notion in my mind. I dug for information about that captain and his ensign. What happened to them was precisely what should have happened. On Nov 10 both of show were given their discharges and an allowance for travel expense to their homes.

So ends the story. None of the many "deserters" was brought to trial. And I doubt that any of them felt any guilt.

Certainly Jesse never made any effort to conceal the fact that he had been in the service in that war. It was known to at least some of his grandchildren, who mentioned it when supplying genealogical information back in the early 1900's.

Technically, of course, there's no excuse for descrition. But in this case it's pretty obvious that the guilty man was Captain Elizur Hills -- and probably General Van Rennsalaer, too.

Carroll Belknap Feb 29 1972 Mrs Charles A Potter Librarian Resex Institute Salem, Mass. 01970

Dear Mrs Potter:

I think I should ask for a favor, if you think it preper to do what I request.

I should like to have the attached memo filed with the papers of Henry W Belknap, for the information of anyone who may use them in the future.

It is a copy of a memo addressed to a great grandchild of the Jesse Belknap who is #660 in H W Belknap's bound notes.

Though it is not encumbered with detailed notes on sources, it is based entirely on original military documents.

Yery truly yours.

Carroll Belknap:



# ESSEX INSTITUTE SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS 01970

OFFICE OF THE LIBRARIAN

November 13, 1969

Mr. Carroll York Belknap 25 Club Road Riverside, Connecticut 06878

Dear Mr. Belknap:

Many thanks for "The Parentage of Elisha Belknap, 1789-1839." It certainly has a place in our genealogical collections.

How's your progress with the Belknap Project?

My best to you.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Charles A. Potter Librarian

DMP/djd

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Carroll Belknap Feb 29 1972 GLADYS: Feb 29 1972

Wish I had waited one more day, before writing to you. Nat Archives documents finally arrived. And the case can now be closed. You were right -- and those county designations were wrong.

widow

Bounty land applications by wife of the Jesse Jr who was son of the Jesse who was probably an illegitimate cousin of Jonas show definitely that he was the one in Capt Baugherty's Co. (He, too, deserted -- but not till December.) So the Jesse in Capt Hills' Co. was undoubtedly my g g father.

I'm glad to say that what should have happened to Capt Hills did happen. He was kicked out, after the muster on Nov 10, as is shown on enclosed sheet from Nat Archives, which indicates allowance of \$1.34 for "time returning home," as was normal then at termination of service in NY militia.

Ditto, Ensign Doolittle -- as shown on similar sheet for him. Like Hills, he was paid for 1 month 15 days, one day more than actual service. But why he got \$1.67 extra for that travel day, when Hills (whose pay rate was twice as big) got only \$1.34 -- that's one of those militia oddities that defy explanation.

You may wish to add these two sheets to the records of the company, at your Historic Society. If not, don't bother to return them to me. I made copies for my files.

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GLADYS: Jan 24 1971

So you've made still another MANNIAMEN break-through for me -- albeit unknowingly. You couldn't have known that for more than a year I've been trying to find anything -- anything -- about Jesse's desertion in the War of 1812. And what you have come up with is probably the only surviving copy of the muster roll that gives any information on it. When the militia muster rolls for NY were turned over to the archives at Washington, about 1910, this one must have been missing, for there's no record of it there.

Before I comment on it. I ought to be a bit personal about myself, to show the point of view I'm expressing. It will be the view of a man who was an infantry captain in World Wat I and later worked on special tasks with the Army in Washington during World War II. In other words, I have some knowledge of the Army -- but as of the present time, not as it was in the militia in 1812.

As a one-time infantry captain far away and long ago, I was shocked to find that my great grandfather had been a deserter. But I was also pussled by the fact that this desertion seemed out of character. Long since, as I gathered information about Jesse, it had seemed to me that the one word that summed him up was "Steadfast." He had always been the dependable leader wherever he was. I liked, most of all, the magnificently ungrammatical last sentence in an obituary printed in a Seattle newspaper, hundreds of miles from where he lived in Oregon: "He never joined but one church and he never joined it but once." And I knew that he had been elected captain of the 100-wagon train he led from Iowa to Oregon — and much more, all describing a natural leader who could be depended on.

Also I knew that has children and grandchildren knew he had served in 1812. It had not been a secret concealed from them, as if discreditable.

throwing

So I was pussled. So I'm grateful to you for INTHINE a lot of light on the pussle.

Now for my comments.

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In many ways, the story told by that muster roll is a bit amazing. I've summarised the story factually on an enclosed sheet. Now I'll try to interpret them, as an Army man.

Like this:

A militiz captain whose commission is two years old, not just newmade, comes to the area near Canandaigue and forms a company of men from that area. Repeably he is not himself a resident of that part of the world. Certainly was not elected as captain the by the men in the company, as was normal in militia companies.

After being mustered in, the new company goes into camp a few miles away - fax from where the action is. It stays there during the period in which the one decisive battle is faught by MY troops.

A few days after that dimetraus battles all but one of the non-commissioned officers and five of the privates are listed as deserters. Maybe they knew of the battle. Maybe they didn't. Maybe -- perhaps more likely -- they just wouldn't serve any more under that captain, and just went home.

I said: "Just went home." Merely a guess, of course. But lots of precedent for it. Both in the Revolution and in the War of 1812, there were many deserters -- especially among the stage troops. And usually the ANTIONE deserters made no attempt to hide. They simply went back to work on their farms or in their towns. And generally little or no effort to capture them was made, for men couldn't be spared for any such effort.

This time, the captain sent an officer and a private to pursue them. Seventeen days later, they hadn't been found. As far as I now know, they never were "apprehended." The birthdates of Jesse's first two children -- both in Ontario county -- give no indication that he was anywhere else in those years.

The first thought in my mind is that if anything resembling this had happened in the company I commanded, the company would have had a new commanding officer within 24 hours -- and I'd have never commanded troops again. The Army automatically judges that a commander who suffers any such mannagement is unfit to command. (loss of control

I'm not trying to absolve or even excuse Jesse. All I'm saying is that this captain was obviously unfit to command -- and that this "walk-out" by Jesse and three of the four sergeants, including even the most important man in the company, its first sergeant, was something for which the company commander had to be held responsible. It was a most extraordinary thing. Queer -- to the nth degree.

I should add that this is the only instance I've ever heard about, of such quick desertion. Generally, troops don't quit - as groups - until after long and continued provocation or dissatisfaction. An individual man might and did desert at any time, but his almost never so soon after volunteering. For 4 of the 5 non-coms to walk aut less than four weeks after being mustered in was something extraordinary.

Will I ever find out why these men quit? I don't suppose so. Perhaps all I'll ever be able to say is the obvious statement that in their own minds they doubtless felt justified in what they did.

But of course I'll try to discover what happened to that waptain.

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Why do I poster you with all this personal opinion? For good reason. In hope that in that collection of old papers you noted something more about Capt Elizur Hills --- or may someday run across his trail again.

Among many things that puzzle me, now, is the reason why this copy of that muster roll was made. It wasn't usual to make such copies, at some later date. . . But there are many points that seem odd, about that muster roll. Why was this muster held? Why was another muster held just a week later — a most unusual occurence? And so on. But I won't bother you with them. Not now, anyway.

PS: Rereading, I see I haven't stated my personal bias fully. . . In all of World War I - the US part of it - I was smugly proud of the fact that there were no desertions from my company and that, indeed, only one man ever went AWOL. So no doubt I'm not fair in judging this captain who got into this foul-up.

## RECORD OF CAPT. ELIZUR HILLS' COMPANY WAR of 1812

### As known Jan 24 1972

The following statements are based on (1) a copy of muster roll Nov 2 1812; (2) Payroll cards for Jesse Belknap; (3) Card record based on muster roll Nov 10 1812.

- (A) Sept 18 1812, the commander in chief of the NY militia -- Major General Stephen Van Rennsalaer -- XXXXXXX issues at Lewiston on the Niagara Frontier an order detaching this company ## -- which did not then exist.
- (B) The company INE is originally mustered on Sept 27 1812. Contains 2 commissioned officers, five non-coms, 3 musicians, 19 privates -- total 29.
- (C) Muster roll Nov 2 1812 shows 4 non-coms and five privates as having deserted Oct 21. All 9 were absent on Nov 2.
- (D) Same muster roll shows that the ensign, David Doclittle, and one private were detached to go "after deserts" on Oct 24 -- and were still absent on Nov 2.
- (E) Card record KHENNEN on Jesse Belkmap shows that another muster was held on Nov 10 1812 -- and he was still absent.
- (F) Capt Hills was still shown as in command of company on Nov 10.
- (G) In the muster roll Nov 2, the title "commander in chief" is crossed out and the name of General Van Rennsalaer is written above those words -- indicating that this copy of the roll was made after he had resigned from that position (following the defeat at Queenston Heights, across the river in Canada, as result of his failure to send militia reinfercements for the American expeditionary force which had successfully occupied those heights).
- (H) On Nov 2, this KANKAN was encamped at Manchester, just a few miles from the homes of the enlisted men in it. Presumably it had been there (125 miles from the front on the Niagara River) ever since being mustered in.
- (I) The defeat at Queenston Heights, which ended the chance of defeating the British on Canadian soil, occurred Oct 13.
- (J) The heading of the Nov 2 muster roll shows the commany as "attached to a battelion under the command of David White, capt.". . . Card based on muster roll Nov 10 shows the company as part of Brigade commanded by Brig Gen Daniel Miller. . . Records in National Archives appear to indicate that the company was an independent body, not a part of any larger organization.

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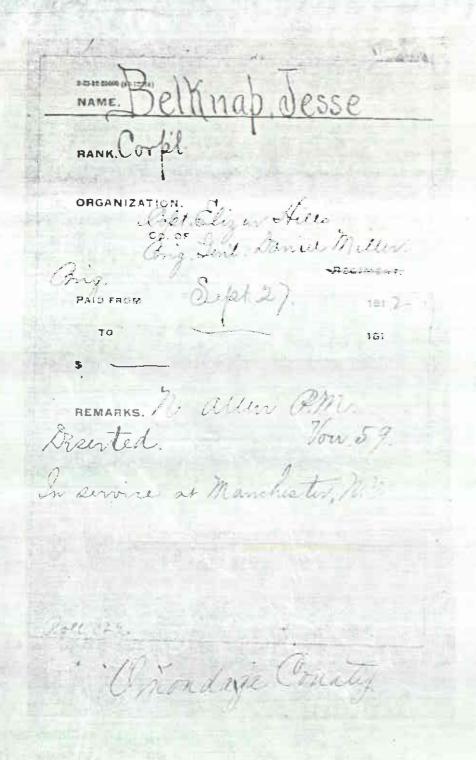
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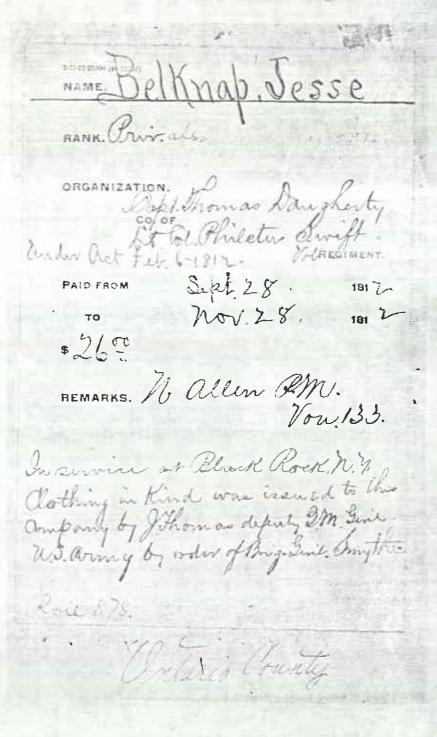
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FILE DESIGNATION

Belknap, Eli

157 Regiment (Westcote)

New York Mulitia

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# GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE

### EXPLANATION OF ORDER FOR PHOTOCOPIES

The August 1970 edition of this form supersedes all previous editions of GSA Form 6751 and NAR Form 288. Destroy all existing stocks of previous editions of GSA Form 6751 and all stock of NAR Form 288.

Use this form to order photocopies of records of veterans who served in the United States or Confederate armed forces. These records include:

Pension application files based on United States (not State) service before World War I.

Bounty-land warrant application files based on United States (not State) service before 1856.

Pension or bounty-land warrant application files usually include an official statement of the veteran's military or naval service, as well as information of a personal or genealogical nature. If we find such a file, we send copies of the documents we think will be most useful to you. If we do not find a file, we refund your money.

Military service records based on service in the United States Army (officers who served before June 30, 1917, enlisted men before October 31, 1912), Navy (officers and enlisted men who served before 1886), Marine Corps (officers and enlisted men who served before 1896), and Confederate armed forces (1861-65). If we do not find a file, we refund your money.

Military service records rarely contain family information. The record of a man's service in any one organization is entirely separate from the record of his service in any other organization. We are ordinarily unable to accurately establish the identity of men of the same name who served in different organizations. If you know that a man served in more than one organization and you desire copies of his military service record, submit a separate form and \$1 fee for the service record in each organization.

More information about these records may be found in the following free General Information Leaflets:

- No. 5. Genealogical Records in the National Archives.
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- No. 10. Records in the National Archives Relating to Confederate Soldiers.

Send the completed form with your check or money order payable to GSA (NNCS) to the address on the front of the form. When sending more than one form at a time, you may submit a single check or money order covering all the requests. Each order will be handled separately; you may not receive all your replies at the same time.

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Capt. Elizur Hills' Company Light Infantry.	oi
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Capt. Hills' Company. IN IN INTERIOR
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Capt. Elizar Hills' Company of Light Infantry.
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NAME. Delknap, Jesse HANK. Corfel ORGANIZATION. Clip or Files.

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Cong. Gent. Danie Miller.

Orig.

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NAME. BELLIAD. Clijah RANK. Priv. me Makais Regt. (Not Annual) PAID FROM Clug. 24 TO Nov. 8 \$ 20. 121/2 J. S. Richardson P. M. Vow. 142. 10 st - coty Rell. 1266. Intario County.

AWB 386 NAME Belkingh. Seth BANK. Captain. ORGANIZATION Cafet. North Beltmap. co. or Col. authory DE Samatre PAID FROM Sept. 18 181 4 181 4 \$ /00. J. P. Cox P. M. You. 120. Mall. 1742. Wester + Grange Counties

NAME. Belknap Seth ORGANIZATION & Seth Belkrap. Coleththong De Samatre. PAID FROM aug. 18 To Sept. 17 181 🗸 \$4000 g. P. Cex Ven 47. 1011-17 -1. Urange County

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Dear Gladys:

Feb 28 1972

Only five years? It seemed much more than that. . . as if I'd always known you.

Once upon a tame, I amused myself by starting to compute—by sound statistical procedure — the odds against my ever having found you. But I quit when I reached a point at which I had to use the mathematical terminology of the astronomers — such as  $2 \times 10$ .

For your Carlinghouse file, here's a clipping dug out by Peg. If you want to write to this one, the office address of his company (A T & T) is 195 Broadway. New York 10007.

I agree that your amazingly complete record of the personal of Capt Hills' Company makes it seem obvious that the Jesse in that outfit was mine.

But I'm still troubled by the county designations on the pay roll slips obtained from Albany (copies enclosed).

Those slips were prepared in or about 1912, from paymaster's records. (Albany made no copiess from muster rolls, which were sent to Washington in or about 1910.) At some date not now known, someone added the county designations indicating place of enlistment. What bothers me is that in every other case where I know the residence of a HY Belknap who served in 1812 War, the county annotation is correct. This is the only one where an error can be assumed.

I'm still waiting for response by Nat Archives, on my requests for additional records which may help settle the matter -- I hope. The can give me copies of similar slips from both pay records and muster rolls -- and I've also asked for copies of muster rolls if available, but doubt I'll get imms them.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

I'm grateful for being told about Early Settlers in Washern HI. Got the books from Boston and discovered a few things that I didn't know -- such as final location of the Briggs Belknap who interested you long ago. He settled, finally, in Pen Yan. (He is notable mostly for having made the journey from Newburgh to Ontario Co. overland -- ten days -- which was unusual in early 1800's.)

Thanks -- as usual.

# CONCERNING THE MEN ON THE MUSTER ROLL, Nov. 2, 1812

# I. ELIZUR HILLS -

- A. 11 Oct. 1794 Ephraim Wilder sold to Elizur Hills of BO pounds the townof Canandaigua, 200 acres in (15 325) said township, part of lots #13 and #14.
- B. 1800 Census 1-0-1-1-0 2-0-0-1-0 Town of Bristol
- C. 1810 Census 3-1-0-1-0 2-2-0-1-0
- D. 15 Dec. 1817 Elizur Hills and Abigail, his wife, of
  \$4,000 Town of Bristol, sold to Gideon Granger
  (29 316) 132 acres having previously sold rest
  of land to one Boughton.
  (land abutted on that of Samuel Mallery see Horace Malary on muster roll.)
- E. Feb. 3, 1830 Abigail Hills died and letters of administration granted to Myron C. Hills "Abigail Hills, late of Granger, Medina Co., ohio, formerly of Town of Bristol."
- II. JOHN HILLS listed in 1800 census, Town of Seneca
- III. STACY HILLS son of Norman and Sarah Hills, died Nov. 24, 1812.
  - A. Norman Hills
    - 1. 1810 Census 2-1-3-0-1 1-0-101-0
    - 2. Died July 31, 1840, age 78
  - B. Sarah died Dec. 21, 1834, age 66
- IV. DAVID DOOLITTLE listed in index of deeds as buying land.

  A. Asa Doolittle, listed in 1800 census, Town of Canandaigua

B. Harvey Doolittle, listed in 1800 census, Town of Bristol V. CONSTANT SHAW

- A. 1800 Census shows Joseph Shaw, town of Canandaigua-3-3-0-1-0
  Daniel Shaw,
  Elizabeth Shaw,
  - B. 1810 Census, Town of Bristol
    Constant Shaw 3-0-0-1-0 2-0-0-1-0

## VI. NATHAN BRIGGS

- A. 1800 Census Zenos Briggs 3-1-1-0-1 1-1-0-1-0 1810 Census Enos Briggs 1-1-2-0-1 0-1-0-0-1
- VII. BRIGGS died Oct. 6, 1821 age 32 (wife Ruth)

#### VIII. ARTEMAS BRIGGS

- A. 1810 Census 0-0-1-0-0 0-0-1-0-0
- B. Artemas Briggs died 1870, age 83.

## IX. CALVIN PHILIPS

- A. 1800 Census shows Jonathan in Bristol, Luther in Bristol,
- B. 1810 census Jonathan, Bristol 1-2-0-0-1 2-0-1-1-0
- C. Mrs. Galvin Philips died 1825, age 22.
- X. LORIN PHILLIPS no mention

- XI. JESSE BELKNAPP in view of all these Bristol people, he has to be your Jesse!!!
- XII. JAMES WRIGHT -
  - A. 1800 Census shows 10 families in Ontario County William in Bloomfield, Gilbert in Bloomfield, Libens in Lima, Abraham, Daniel, Jacob, John and Joseph in Avon, etc.
  - B. 1810 Census shows a Wright living between Briggs & Elijah, plus couple of more farther down the road, in Honseye. (Didn't book them up again.
- XIII. JOHN CEASES (?) a fifer cannot be sure of last name.
- XIV. WILLIAM POOL -

A. 1810 Census - ISAAC POOL - 0-2-2-0-1 3-2-3-1-1

XV. THOMAS BOLD (?) - did not look up.

XVI. JOHN CLEVELAND -

- A. 1800 Census showed 5 families with this surname Canandaigua. Jerusalem, Naples, Naples, Sparta
- B. 1810 Census John Cleveland 0-0-0-1-0 1-0-0-1-0

XVII & XVIII - ZEPHANIAH, 3r. (?) & JOHN GOODING

- A. 1810 Census Town of Bristol Seth Gooding 0-0+0-0-1 1-0-1-0-1 David Gooding 0-0-1-0-0 0-0-1-0-0 1-0-1-0-0 0-0-1-0-0 Nathaniel Thomas 1-0-0-1-0 2-0-0-1-0
  - 1-2-1-1-1 William 2-0-1-1-0 0-0-1-0-0 1-0-1-0-0 Charles 0-0-1-0-0 1-0-1-0-0

XIX - DAVID GO ODWIN

- A. Census of 1800 three families, one in Bristol, one in Danandaigus B. Census of 1810 - did not check
- XX. BENJAMIN GARLINGHOUSE you know.

XXL. ISAAC HALE - did not check

Ebenezer

XXII - GIDEON HICKS

- A. 1800 Census 0-0-1-0-0 0-0-1-0-0 B. 1810 Census 2-0-0-1-0 2-0-0-1-0
- XXIII- PELEG HICKS do not know to whom he belongs other Hicks:
  - A. Aaron 1800, Bristol

1810 -. 0-0-0-0-1 0-0-0-0-1

B. Jabez - 1800, Bristol

, 2-3-0-1-0 2-0-0-1-0 1810, "

C. Otis - 1800, Bristol , 3-2-0-1-0 0-0-0-2-0 1810,

Page 3 - Individuals on Muster Roll

# XXIV - & XXV - ABEL INGHRAM AND ANDREW ANGHRAM

- A. 1800 Census lists Elisha in Bloomfield, Benjamin and Richard in Canandaigua, Eleazer, Nataniel and Nathaniel in Jerusalem
- B. 1810 did not check.

XXVI - PHILLIP SHAW - see No. V above.

XXVII - JOHN TRAFTON - did not find, except for a death of a Mrs.

Trafton - no first name - so family was in locale.

#### XXVIII - HORACE MALERY -

- A. 1800 Census lists a Samuel Malery in Bristol
- B. 1810 Census, Bristol 3-0-0-1-0 1-2-0-1-0

#### XXIX - SETH WADE -

- A. 1800 Census Bristol -
- B. 1810 Census Bristol 3-0-0-1-0 0-2-0-1-0 1-1-1-1-0

(NOTE: Remembering that your Jonas was living in Bristol in the 1810 Census, and noticing that practically everyone was from Bristol on the muster roll, including your poor Captain, this roster roll Jesse must be your ancestor!)

P.S. Old gazeteer of New York State says that Manchester became Niagara Village - modern Niagara Falls.



MR. C. Y. BELKNAP
25 CLUB RD.
RIVERSIDE, CONN. 06878

, of Dat Constant Show Nathan Briogs 300 ~ Cueb Jam buthon Elika Briggs Thomas Boles (?) John Cleveland Fideon Weto Pelag Wicks tread for Grant Briggs Stemma got Loren PR Sleps C13rd Seemen S. C.

Feb 7 1973

what a great-hearted person you are! Digging deep in our correspondence and other papers to help me, despite back spains. I had it once, years ago -- so I know how painful it was.

Now, as result of your letter Feb 2, we have a whole new ball games with a tie score. Your discovery of the location of Manchester and Black Rock as on the Niagara Frontier has opened the whole subject for complete reconsideration -- so that I'm trying to get additional information from National Archives. . . Maybe I should wait for that further information before troubling you again; but I long ago learned the profitability of sharing my problems with you. So hem goes.

For much more than a year, I have had two Jesse's to look at, either of whom could have been the one who deserted!

(A) Jesse, son of Jonas

(B) Jesse, son of the Jesse whom you found at Locke in Cayuga Co., on deed in 1814 (date of recording, I assume, not date of deed itself).

The Jesse at Locke was certainly related to Jemas in some way or other. His descendant in Utah claim on very tenuous grounds that he was a son of an uncle of Jonas, by that uncle's first wife. No one else has ever agreed to that claim. Opinipm of everyone else who has studied the problem (including some of his descendants) has been that he was almost certainly an illegitimate son of one of Jonas's uncles or even of Jonas's father. Be that as it may, an essential fact is that he had a fine record as a soldier on the Revolutionary war (he helped make the chain that Washington ordered strung across the Endson, below West Point, to bar the Bratish ships from attacking that fort); and, like Jonas, he served steadily from the beginning to the end of that war.

So, legitimately of illegitimately, Jesse's A and B were cousins -- and I have 1812 records for both of them and MM know which is which. I thought I did; now I'm uncertain.

The record for one Jesse shows him as in Capt Elisur Hills' company -- and an annotation on one card says he came from Gnandaga County, THEXTHERMAXIBLE COMPANY and says he was stationed at Manchester... and deserted.

The record for the other Jesse says he was in Lt Col Swift's Regiment, in Capt Daugherty's company (later commanded by Ensign Cradit ) -- came from Ontario County was stationed at Black Rock -- and was paid in full on Nov 28, after enlisting on Sept 28 -- presumably discharged on Nov 28, but this isn't yet proved.

Thinking that Manchester was the town near Canandaigua -- and having had reason long ago to think that a place then called Black Rock must have been near Rome or Syracuse -- I arbitrarily decred that the annotations "Ontario County" and "Onandaga County" wenede many years later, were just another instance of the blundering that characterizes many militia records. The apparent nearness of Manchester made me decide that the Jesse at that place must be my Jesse, and that the annotator had just confused the two Jesse's.

Then, when I saw familiar names (including Garlinghouse) on the roll of the company that was in camp at Manchester, I felt sure I had been right in over-ruling those annotations as to home counties. Now, when you tell me where Manchester and Black Rock really wase, I'm not at all sure.

It may be that I'll never be able to get plain proof as to which Jesseswas in Capt Hills' Co., so that eventually I'll have to base a decision on appraisal of indirect evidence. So bear with me while I try to summarise what I now know.

# WHICH JESSE WAS IN CAPT HILLS COMPANY?

- (A) Jesse, son of Jonas: PRO -- Presence of others from Canandaigua area, in that company
  - CON -- Annotation showing home as in Onandaga County, for the Jesse in that company -- Rank as Corporal very unlikely for a man only 20.
- (B) Jesse, son of Jesse:

and had 3 children;

PRO -- Annotation of Onendaga Co as home, a likely place for this Jesse to be in 1812. He was then 31 yrs old; his family had been at Rome in 1800, before his father moved to Locke. MEMMEN

- -- Rank as Corporal for the Jesse in Hills' company (militia non coms were usually years older than privates, and pride in his father's military record might well have made this Jesse enlist -- for 90 days, probably -- at age 31).
- CON --- Presence of others from Canandaigua area, not Syracuse area, in Hills' company. (NOTE: If I can get a muster roll for Daugherty's company, it may ghrow light on the problem)

As is obvious, it boils down -- thus far -- to the question of which is the more conclusive: (a) the names in Hills' company, or (b) the annotations on home chunties.

The rank as corporal is only worth considering -- by no means conclusive.

Wish me luck in digging up more evidence.

Microcopy 602, roll 15. National Archives, Washington C. C. (8/14/67) har of 1812 Augustin Belknap, Adam's Regiment, N.Y. Volunteers -- Pay master Augusting Belknap, Davis' Frigade, N. Y. Volunteers -- Quarter Meater Fit Balknap 157 Reg. (Wescottte), N. Y. Militte Private Ellish Belknap, McMahanie Magiment, N. Y. Militia - Private Enhraim Belknap, Bellinger's Regiment, N.Y.Militia -- Private Ezra Belknap, 101 Regiment (Carter's), N.Y.Militia -- Brivate X G eorge Belknat, Me McMahan's Regiment, N.Y. Militia -- Private X - Gilbert Belknap, McMahan's Regiment, N.Y.Militia -- Private Tage Polknap, 1 Pegiaant (Androsts) Shio Militis . Private Ira Belknap, 1 Regiment, (Belknap's) N.Y.Militia -- Juarter Master Isac Belknap Jr. 1 Regiment (Belknap's) N.Y.Militia -- Lt. Colonel Is rael Belknap, Detached Cavalry Regiment (Warner's) N.Y., -- Sergeant Jacob Belknap, 46 Regiment (Coxe's) N.Y.Militia -- Private James Belknan, Consolidated Regiment (Smith's) N.Y. Militia -- 2nd Lt. Adjutant weese Belkman, Cant, Hilly's Concany, Light Infantry, N.Y.Militia - Corneral Visoso Bolkmap Jr., Swift of a Betach ont (1812-13) N. V. Volunteers - Private Order Not Archive John Belknap, Parmenio Adam's Battalion, N.Y.Militia -- Private John Bjelknap/s, 2 Regiment (Delemater's) N.Y.Militia -- Private Joseph Belknap, 46 Regiment, N.Y. Militia -- Musician Joseph Belknap, TXMARINAREXERESTERS 101 Regt., (Carter's), N.Y.Militia -- Fifer Cooking Bolkman 1 Reet (Dautel) N. H. Militte -- Prin Scame S. Relknap, Gol, McCol. Is Rept., U.S. Volunt Joshua S. Belknap, 1 Rest. (Davis!) N.H. Militia - Cortoral Woses Belknap, let. Regt (Fiskla) , N.H.Millitia - let. Mill Lieutemant Moses H. Bellnap, Battalion Artillery (Forbe's) N. . - Sergeant Tilgrim Belknap, (Bevist Rout) N. Y. Militia - Private Samuel Belknap, Detachment Caralry Regiment (Warner's) N.T. 100. Garnel A. Relknen, 2nd, Bast (Osgoodie) Manageing ratio Mills Seth Wolknon, 2nd Regt. (Dolaratoria), N.Y.Milli Thomas Helkmap, ? Regt (Squadovi) Virginia Miliain .- Frivate William Belknan, 1 Regt. (Davis'), N.Y.Militas -- Ensign William Belknan , I Regt. (Honkin's), N.Y.Militia -- Lieutenant

Soin Belknap, Crosby's Rogt., N.Y.Volunteers -- Private

# ~ Red 7/16/1 200

War of 1812 Microcopy 602, roll 15. National Archives, Washington C. C. (8/14/67)

Augustin Belknap, Adam's Regiment, N.Y. Volunteers -- Pay master Augustine Belknap, Davis' Brigade, N. Y. Volunteers -- Quarter Master Eli Belknap 157 Reg. (Wescott's), N. Y. Militia -- Private Telijah Belkmap, McMahan's Regiment, N. Y. Militia -- Private Ephraim Belkmap, Bellinger's Regiment, N.Y.MIlitia -- Private Ezra Belknap, 101 Regiment (Carter's), N.Y.Militia --Brivate George Belkna, Me McMahan's Regiment, N.Y.Militia -- Private - Gilbert Belknap, McMahan's Regiment, N.Y.Militia -- Private
Horace Belknap, 1 Regiment(Andrew's) Ohio Militia -- Private
Ira Belknap, 1 Regiment, (Belknap's) N.Y.Militia -- Quarter Master Isac Belknap Jr. 1 Regiment (Belknap's) N.Y.Militia -- Lt. Colonel Is rael Belknap, Detached Cavalry Regiment (Warner's) N.Y., -- Sergeant Jacob Belknap, 46 Regiment (Coxe's) N.Y.Militia -- Private James Belknap, Consolidated Regiment (Smith's) N.Y.Militia -- 2nd Lt. Adjutant Jesse Belknap, Capt. Hills's Company, Light Infantry, N.Y.Militia -- Corporal V Jesse Belknap Jr., Swift s's Detachment (1812-13) N.Y. Volunteers -- Private John Belkmap, Parmenio Adam's Battilion, N.Y.Militia -- Private
John Bjelkmap/s, 2 Regiment (Delemater's) N.Y.Militia -- Private Joseph Belknap, 46 Regiment, N.Y.Militia -- Musician Joseph Belknap, IXMARYMANEX 101 Regt., (Carter's), N.Y.Militia -- Fifer Joshua Belknap 1 Regt. (Davis') N.H. Militia -- Private Joshua S. Belknap, Col. McCobb's Regt., U.S. Volunteers -- Private

Joshua S. Belknap, 1 Regt. (Davis') N.H. Militia -- Corporal

Moses Belknap, 1st. Regt (Fisk's), N.H. Militia -- 1st. KKIM Lieutenant

Moses H. Belknap, Battilion Artillery (Forbe's) N.Y. -- Sergeant

Pilgrim Belknap, (Davis' Regt) N.Y. Militia -- Private Samuel Belknap, Detachment Cavalry Regiment (Warner's) N.Y. Lieutenant Samuel A. Belknap, 2nd. Regt. (Osgood's) Massachuset's Militia -- Private Seth Belknap, 2nd Regt. (Delamater's), N.Y.Militia -- Captain Thomas Belknap, 7 Regt. (Sounder's) Virginia Militia -- Private William Belknap, 1 Regt. (Davis'), N.Y.Militaa -- Ensign William Belknan . 1 Regt. (Hopkin's), N.Y.Militia -- Lieutenant

John Belknap, Crosby's Regt., N.Y. Volunteers -- Private

7. Collections 2019 Harwood St Lincoln, Adesesho 6+502 5-2-68 Dear Carroll,

While I am reviving from a minor muscle spasm in lower back and now able to get up and down more easily, I thought I would send you a hasty answer to your two letters.

Some time ago you mentioned the state in which my correspondence to you had arrived, most evident when you tried to find something. I know exactly how you feel. I went back and forth through my files to find the answer to your question about the Benjamin on the muster roll. Had I known the extent to which my share in your project would expand, I would have numbered each page I sent you continuously and set up a card index of each name!

However, to keep you from plowing thru as I've just done, in my letter of Oct. 31, 1969, I wrote:

"I re-checked Allen's Hill cemetery and discovered stones for a Jane Garlinghouse, wife of John, who died May 27, 1841, age 77 years. This might be the sister-in-law of James, who married Moses Briggs? Another stone, same size and shape, next to hers was so weathered that nothing could be determined. Was this John's? The third stone - "Erected to the memory of Benjamin Garlinghouse who died December 28, 1812, in the 21st year of his life, by brother Joseph Garlinghouse."

I agree with you that he was a son of John and Jane Garlinghouse, and a brother of Joseph. Mrs. Keeney's list says they had five sons and five daughters. There is no doubt but what the stone above indivicates (?) the same Benjamin as the muster roll. The tombstone for the older Benjamin is "Revolutionary Hero, 1761-1850" (Hunt's Hollow Cemetery), and "Marcia Garlinghouse, died Nov. 18, 1845 - age 77". I talked with the wife of a descendant of this Benjamin, and she pulled out the genealogy for me. (See letter of Oct. 31, 1969). No mention was made of Anne Morehouse, and they listed a first son, named Stephen, not listed by Mrs. Keeney. I shall write her, of course, giving her the additional information, dates, etc., which I have. Her Rev. War record for Benjamin does not agree with one I got from New Jersey (she also says the three Garlinghouse men served from New York!) War record says this Benjamin was enlisted in 1778 at age of 16!

I did not keep a copy of the muster roll myself, but I recall there was at least one Briggs - more? - an Artemas Briggs. His tombstone states he died July 4, 1870, age 83 years, 10 months, 5 days. I find a note, source unknown (1), "a John Briggs died July 7, 1812, at Black Rock. Artemas' will mentions a grandson, Artemas, too, son of John G. who died Nov. 21, 1873, age 62. My letter of January 13, 1969, listing 1800 census records in order of families kinkwixxxx visited had Bright between a Briggs and Belknap so one of the Wrights in the muster roll may well have been a friend.

I was much amused by your military comments on the muster roll and poor Captain Hills. He had a great deal of company, - Captain Jehiel Moore \*\*Examtxafx\*\* "not a single man reported sick in hospital or on separate duty, and the whole 55 were absent without leave".

I started to review again the materials - our director thinks they may be the most valuable we have - a wonderful source for a Ph.D. in local 1812 War activities. There are general orders to Col. Dobbin, morning reports, etc., etc. Incidentally that regiment was not in Manchester, New York, Ontario County, as I thought at first - but "Village of Manchester on Niagara River". On reading some biographical material, and some accounts of the action, I discovered the reason for the muster at that time - see extra page. Col. Hugh Dobbin was one of our local celebrities a Revolutionary soldier of some ability apparently. Interesting enough, he also came from Orange County!

A couple or two other discoveries of not much more than interest:

- 1. "Return of a General Court Martial, Cayuga and Seneca, Tompkins, Steuben, Ontario and Genesee Counties reported to 31st Oct., 1812" -
  - Auburn, 18 May 1815 Moses Trumbull and James H. Trumbull fined 24¢ each had served under "Captain Belknap".
    No first name given.
- II. Saw a HISTORY OF STEUBEN COUNTY, Irvin W. Near, 1911, and of course checked for 'Belknap'.
  - A p. 373 "The Canadadea Rifles, also known as the Hornellsville Guards, was organized early in 1857 . . . The company was very prominent socially and on Jan. 8, 1857, gave its first annual ball in the Osborne House. The committees were as follows: "Honorary Committee . . . and Captain C. M. Belknap of Hornellsville."
  - B p. 445 Re: 47th Separate Company, N.G., N.Y., organized Sept. 30, 1891.

    "The casualty list of the Company since its muster into the service of the state, Sept. 30, 1891, until May 22, 1911, is as follows:

    Walter H. Belknap.

This has developed into a lengthy epistle. Shall see what I can do to help Mrs. Keeney and in the meantime keep your military cool. How would you have fat had you been Col. Dobbin reviewing the results of the muster?

Always rootin' for underdog -

Glade

Battle of Queenstown had been fought on 13 October.

"On the 16th Lt. Col. Dobbin had orders to consolidate the 18th and 20th regiments into one regiment and report the number fir for duty to General Miller who now had the command of the 6th and 7th Brigades consolidated into one brigade headquarters at Manchester, where he ordered Lt. Col. Dobbin to station his regiment and Gen. Smyth marched his troops back to Black Rock. Northing more particular until the 3 of November Gen. Smyth in general orders directed Lt. Col. Dobbin to congolidate and . . . the brigade of Geh. Miller now in service into one regiment of Infantry and one Battalion of Riflemen and directing all the officers commanding companies to furnish Col. Dobbin with their proper muster rolls, he finds no less than 436 deserters and he reported the same to Gen. Smyth and that he had some 15 or 20 prisoners confined in the guardhouse at ... or waiting their trial by a general court martial. But no court martial was appointed to try them and Gen. Smyth had left an order to discharge Lt. Col. Dobbin and his command of the Militia from service dated 26 of Dec. 1812."

> (from the file of Col. Dobbin's papers both military and personal, plus autobiography and other personal deeds, etc.)

18at And 2/9/12

Jesse BELLEAP

1812

New York Militia

Regiment of Lt Col Philetne Swift Company of Capt Thomas Daugherty Ensign Issac Cradit

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Sain to be listed on NY State militia muster rolls 878, 1289, 1291

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& 21 Dec

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Col. John B Hayek Bureau of War Records Division of Military and Naval Affairs Public Security Building State Campus Albeny, N. Y. 12226

Deer Sir:

Thank you for your letter of 14 July, enclosing copies of pay-roll cards of some War of 1812 soldiers. I'm most grateful, for they show each man's county of residence - something not obtainable from Washington.

As you did not indicate what fee should be paid for this aid, it embarasses me to ask for still core such records. But I enclose a list of men on when I need similar information. I'll be grateful if you can supply it.

And of course I'll gladly pay whatever fee is proper. If you haven't yet established such a fee, but will now do so, please let me be your first paying customer. Ch Sun

C. Y. Belknap

(One-time Capt. Inf. U.S.A.)



# STATE OF NEW YORK DIVISION OF MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS PUBLIC SECURITY BUILDING STATE CAMPUS ALBANY, NEW YORK 12226

MAJOR GENERAL J. C. BAKER
CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE GOVERNOR

WR War of 1812

14 July 1971

Mr. C. Y. Belkmap 25 Club Road Riverside, Conn. 06878

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge your letter of 25 June 1971.

Inclosed are photo-stat copies of the pay-roll cards for each of the Belknap's in your request who served in the War of 1812.

The records we have on file for the War of 1812 consist of a pay-roll card file only. The original Muster Rolls for this war are not available at this office. They were sent to Washington some years ago at the request of the Adjutant General, Department of the Army.

Sincerely yours,

John B. HUYCK

COL, AGC, NYARNG

Chief, Bureau of War Records

Encl: (8)

Division of Military and Naval Affairs Public Security Building State Campus Albany N Y

#### Gentlemen:

I enclose (a) letter dated Dec 27 1970 to the Office of the Secreyary of State, Albany, and (b) reply received from the New York State Library, dated Jan 25 1971s, saying the inquiry had been forwarded to you.

Since that last date, I have heard nothing further.

So I assume your office was not in position to answer my inquiry. If this is the ease, I'll be grateful if you can suggest an other possible source that I should consult. National Archives, from which the original listing was obtained, have said that further information can be obtained only from New York State Archives.

Very truly yours,

C. Y. Belknap:

Office of the Secretary of State Albany, N. Y.

## ARCHIVES DIVISION

#### Gentlemen:

If this letter should be addressed to some other office, will you please pass it along to that office?

I am seeking information about the military service in the War of 1812 by the following men, who are named in Matienal Archives Microcopy 602, roll 15: (All said to be in MY Militia)

Belknap. Elijah -- private -- McMahan's Regt.. N I Militia Belknap. Jesse -- corporal -- Capt Hill's Co.. Light Infantray INNEXEL Belknap. Pilgris -- private -- Davis' Regt.

Belknap, Jesse, Jr., Swift's Detachment, H Y Volunteers Belknap, Seth -- captain -- 2nd Regt., (Delamater's)

Belknap. Eli -- private -- 157 Hegt. (Wesset's)

In each instance, what I hope to get is

# TYXAKIZETAKAREGUETOLTEREKUTAT

(1) Military Record of the man

(2) Place where his unit was raised or recruited

And, of course, what fee is required for this aid?

Very truly yours,

G. I. Belknap:

# THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ALBANY, NEW YORK 18884

THE NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY
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MANUSCRIPTS AND HISTORY LIBRARY

ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN

January 15, 1971

Mr. C. Y. Belknap 25 Club Road Riverside, Connecticut 06878

Dear Mr. Belknap:

Since the War of 1812 military records on file here contain no references to military service in this state of Elijah, Jesse, Pilgrim, Jesse Jr., Seth and Eli Belknap, a copy of your letter pilgrim, Jesse Jr., Seth and Eli Belknap, a copy of your letter is being forwarded to the Division of Military and Naval Affairs, public Security Building, State Campus, Albany, New York for further reply relative to records on file with that Department.

Sincerely yours,

Jamie Suita Assistant Librarian

Jamie Suits

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