

**Pension Application for John Benson**

S.45264

State of New York

Steuben County SS.

On the \_\_\_\_\_ day of February 1821 personally appeared in open Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Steuben being a court of record proceeding according to the course of the common law with a jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount and keeping a record of their proceedings John Benson aged seventy one years resident in Reading in said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows, he inlisted [enlisted] at Boston in the State of Massachusetts about the month of January in the year 1776 for one year in the company commanded by Colonel Joseph Reid in the Massachusetts line on the Continental establishment and continued to serve in said corps until the expiration of the year when he was honorably discharged at Peekskill in the State of New York after which he was several times engaged in the service as a militia man for two or three months at a time that he has received a certificate for a pension from the War Department numbered 14,824 and that the date of his original application was 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 1818 and I John Benson do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereof so to diminish [blot] to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval services of the United States in the Revolutionary War passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of march 1818—and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed, and the said John Benson further on his oath declares that his family consists of himself & his wife Margaret aged sixty nine years that he is himself unable to perform much labour in consequence of being seventy afflicted with the rheumatism and that his wife is healthy and able for a person of her years—that they are obligated to depend on one of their sons for subsistence excepting the support he has received from his country by way of his pension. (Signed) John Benson

Schedule of the property of John Benson

One gun, or fowling piece worth \$10—an axe \$2 \$12.00

One jack knife which has impressed on its handle a representation of the heads of Gen.

Washington & his lady, to me invaluable, commonly valued at .25.

One Calico knapsack for Sunday weak worth .50

One leather knapsack 37" and canteen 18 ½" .56

One small pot .50 copper tea kettle old \$1. 1.50

Three tea cups & saucers 12 ½ three bowls 37 ½ .50

Two plates 12 ½ two knives & one fork 12 ½ 25

Two pewter spoons & one of iron 12 ½ one old chest without a cover 25 one pail 50 87 ½

(Signed) John Benson

Sworn & declared this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February 1821 before us. Edward Howell, Clerk Com. pleas for the County of Steuben.