

Pension Application for Henry Bonesteel

R.1006

The State of Ohio, Perry County SS.

On this tenth day of August AD 1857 personally appeared in open court before me R. F. Hickman Judge of the Probate Court within and for said County (the Court being a court of Record according to the laws of said state) Henry Bonesteel born on the 10th day of May seventeen Hundred and Sixty One (1761) a resident of Reading Township in said County, who being first duly sworn according to law doth under oath declare that he gave his name and age, as above to Capt. P.O. Tierce a recruiting officer in the war of the American Revolution, after he had served three months as a substitute for which he received 20 bushels of corn per month, and enlisted for three years or during the war, that he rendezvoused at Albany in the state of New York before being marched upon the line of service—that during his term of service he was under various officers at different points along the chain of posts from Albany to Fort Stanwix.

That he was marched into service under Lieut. Col. Marinus Willett of New York—that during his term of service he remembers having been under the command of Lieut. Fink, Capt. Newell of Conn., Capt. Vanhorn of NY, Maj. BenScotell, NY Capt. Phiny Moore, N.Y., Lieut. Hostotter, and Ensign Trotter, and Lieut. Thorrington—that his certificate of having been duly mustered into service was sent home to his father's shortly before the close of the war by one James Shaw a fellow soldier and close neighbor of his father, who resided near Albany—that said Shaw obtained the proper leave of his superior officer to stay away from camp some three weeks on furlough—that staying beyond the proper time he and ensign were sent to bring him into service—the distance they had to go was about 120 miles—that when they reached Shaw's home no information could be obtained of his whereabouts. That on abandoning the search and while on his return to camp when he reached Albany he met many soldiers on their return home who confirmed what he had learned before that peace had been declared and that his regiment had been disbanded. That he made diligent inquiry for the Captain in order to obtain a proper discharge but was unable to find him.

That at this time his term of three years had not expired by several months. That the only pay he ever got for nearly three years of service was twenty dollars in money before the peace and some broad cloths and other goods of a Dutch paymaster in Albany after the peace amounting to a mere trifle that he shortly after married and moved into the woods and was visited by a Connecticut gentleman on horseback who had found out that he had been in the service and who made a business of purchasing soldiers rights for \$5 each – That he sold his to this gentleman for that same thinking he could get no more judging from the manner he had theretofore received his pay from the government—that no other remuneration or pay was ever received by him than that before alluded to that he is poor and needs what he believes to be his by the statues of a grateful country, whose liberties he assisted to achieve. (Signed) Henry Bonesteel.

Witness present, R.F. Hickman, M. Ragay