

Pension Application for Johnson Brightman

S.12321

Declaration of a Revolutionary Soldier who served in the Militia, to obtain a Pension under the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

State of New York

Erie County, SS.

On this 3d day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas, now sitting at Buffalo, in said County Johnson Brightman—a resident of Hamburg in the County of Erie and State of New York, aforesaid aged 73 years who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 8, 1832, That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

He was born in the Town of Dartmouth in the County of Bristol in Massachusetts in the year 1759 in December. He has no record of his age & knows of none.

Was living when called into service in Dartmouth aforesaid, & he moved into the Town of Cambridge in Erie County where he now resides, has resided more than 15 years.

The first of his services was in the year 1776 he was a substitute for one Joseph Cornwall who was drafted but refused to go & hired him to take his place. He entered the service at Dartmouth aforesaid in the state Troops of Massachusetts does not remember the number of the Regiment but it was called Gen. Hancock's Regiment for three months under the following named officers viz. Col. Mallyre Hathaway. Gen. Hancock does not remember his first name, Maj. Hathaway does not remember his first name, Capt. Benjamin Wilcox, Lieut. Robert Earl, Ensign Benjamin Cory, John Hicks First Sergeant, Benjamin Cory Second Sergeant, Uriah Davis (he thinks) Third Sergeant, Benjamin Durphy Fourth Sergeant. Gerathan Cornwall First Corporal, Godfrey Cornwall Second Corporal, Anthony Any Third Corporal, Garet Cornwall Fourth Corporal, Job Crip Drummer, Obid Cushman Fifer. He passed muster at Dartmouth aforesaid before Col. Hathaway aforesaid and immediately marched to Cambridge in Washington County in the State of New York and from there to Fort Edward and from there to Lake George where they joined the army under Col. Thomas Smith and then marched again to Fort Edward and from there to sandy Hill where he was dismissed by Col. Thomas Smith he entered the service aforesaid about the last of December in 1776 and was dismissed about the First of April 1777 – he received no discharge except & verbal dismissal and served his time out.

The next time he volunteered in the Town of Ponneganset in Bristol County in Massachusetts in the year 1777 (he think) the last of June for two months in the State troops of Massachusetts and served his time out at Ponneganset aforesaid under the above named officers, he was verbally dismissed at Ponneganset (he thinks) by the Lieut Robert Earl, but is not positive he had no battles during the time.

The next time (he thinks) he enlisted was the First of September 1777 at Easttown in Washington County in the State of New York in the State troops of New York for two months does not remember the number of the Regiment, but it was called Col. Thomas Smith's Regiment under the following named officers: Thomas Smith Col., Ephraim Fish Capt. Ebenezer Duel Lieut., Ambrose Pease, Sergeant, and went from EastTown to Fort Edward and from there to Lake George & then back to Fort Edward and then to Sandyhill where he was dismissed verbally by Thomas Smith after serving his time out as stated above serving for the full period of two months according to his engagement.

The next time he enlisted was in the spring of 1778 about the First of April for two months in the State Troops of the State of New York at East Town aforesaid under the following named officers Gen. Simon Dereddi, Colo Handrick VanSchaick, Capt. John Buscanike, Lieut Leonard Pease, Ensign Eli Handy, First Sergeant Asa Badgn, First Corporal Luke Captain, Second Corporal Calvin Everris, does not remember any more of the officers names, and marched from East Town to East Greenwich in theState

of New York and continued that until his two months expired and was verbally dismissed by Col. VanSchaick aforesaid but no Battles.

Does not know of any one that he can prove his services positively by he has no other or documentary evidence to from his services as above stated.

And this deponent further says that he cannot without great inconvenience if at all produce any clergyman before the Court of Common Pleas at the County of Erie to make the certificate required by the War Department or otherwise to testify in regard to his reputation [reputation] as a soldier of the Revolution and that he offers Israel Baker, Stephen N.R. Graves, & Elisha Raker as persons residing in his neighborhood to whom he is known and who with others can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

And this deponent further states that he never received any written discharge from the service.

And this deponent further says that the above services were rendered as a private soldier.

He recollects Col. Soper a Continental Officer, Genl. Kipton, Capt. Hoskins, Continental officers, can't recollect any Continental Regiments, State Regiments or Militia Regiments, except those above stated in which he served so as to be able at this distance of time to designate.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever, to a Pension, or annuity, except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State. (Signed) Johnson Brightman.

Sworn and subscribed this 3d day of December 1832. Noah P. Sprague, Clerk of Erie Common Pleas.