

Pension Application for Benjamin Bully

W.709

Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th June, 1832.

State of New York

County of Ulster

County of Ulster, SS.

On this eleventh day of September in the year eighteen hundred & thirty two personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, of the County of Ulster aforesaid, now sitting, Benjamin Bully a resident of the town of Marbletown in said County, aged sixty seven 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

This applicant was born in Virginia, town is not known in the year 1765. The only record of his age is his family Bible from which he receives his information.

In the summer of 1781, he enlisted in Captain Putnam's Company which belonged to Col. Marinus Willet's Regiment and served in the said company for the term of four months and until he enlisted into the company of Captain James Cannon in the same Regiment and continued to serve in said Cannon's Company until he was regularly discharged on the first day of January seventeen hundred & eighty four as will appear by the certificate of the said Captain Cannon bearing date the day aforesaid & hereto annexed. And as will more fully appear from the affidavit of John Coonrad Smith, also annexed.

This applicant was "brought up" in Stone Arabia on the Mohawk River, the commencement of his four months service he began at Fort Hunter at the mouth of the Schoharie Creek—after continuing there a short time he marched to Fort Plain where Col. Willet's head quarters were -- & there he commenced his three years enlistment under Capt. Cannon. He remembers the fact of marching to different places as below stated, but the dates he cannot recollect—from Fort Plain, he marched to Johnstown & was at the defect of a small party of the enemy under one Ross, early in Spring went back to Fort Plain and there the troops built Block House[s] & which was called Fort McKean after our Captain McKean who died there—from there he marched to Ft Herkimer, then back to Ft Plain, then back to Ft Herkimer, then at at [sic] German Flatts at a block house called fort Dayton—then at Ft. Plain, then at Ft Stanwix where they built block houses—then at Ft. Plain – thence to Schenectady where he was discharged.

Dates are confounded or not recollected, but he recollects positively that his marches & movements were as above stated and in addition to the matters already stated he further says that some time in one of the winters during his service he went on an expedition to Oswego under the command of Col. Willet—which expedition was accompanied by a detachment of Rhode Island Troops, but how many there were of said troops & who were their officers he does not recollect.

About two years after he was discharged at Schenectady, he left his residence on the Mohawk River & moved to Marbletown where he has ever since resided.

He refers to the Hon. Abm G. Hardenburgh the reverend Titus Bishop & Cornelius Krom, among others, as acquaintances who can certify to his age, credibility, &c.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on any pension roll of any agency in any state. (His mark) Benjamin Bully

Sworn to & subscribed this 12th day of Sept. 1832 in open court. A.G. Hardenburgh, John Jansen, Abm A. Deyo, Judges

Letter in folder dated March 14, 1930, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.709, it appears that Benjamin Bully (the name also appears as Buly and Buley) was born in 1765, in Virginia, and "Brought up in Stone Arabia on the Mohawk River".

He enlisted, place not stated, in the summer of 1781, served four months as a private in Captain Putnam's Company, Colonel Marinus Willett's New York Regiment; immediately re-enlisted, served as a private in Captain James Cannon's Company in the same regiment, was in a small engagement at Johnstown, and was discharged January 1, 1784.

About two years after he was discharged from the army, he moved to Marbletown, Ulster County, New York, where he was residing when he was allowed pension on his application executed September 11, 1832.

He died October 3, 1852.

The soldier married October 31, 1837, Elizabeth Bell, both were then of Olive, Ulster County, New York.

She was allowed pension on her application executed April 9, 1853, at which time she was aged thirty-five years and resided in Olive, New York.

It is stated that when the soldier died he left four children by his widow, Elizabeth, their names are not given.

Said Elizabeth remarried January 15, 1861, the name of her second husband is not shown.

Letter in folder dated July 14th, 1898, written in response to an inquiry.

Replying to your recent communication you are advised that a very careful search has been made and the name of Aaron Cass has not been found upon the Revolutionary War pension or bounty land records on file in this Bureau.

One Benjamin Bully made an application for pension on September 11th 1832, at which time he was 67 years of age and residing in Marbletown, N.Y., and his pension was allowed for two years' actual service as a private in the New York troops, Revolutionary War; a part of the time he served under Capt. Putnam and Col. Willett. Place of his enlistment not stated. His widow, Elizabeth, made application and received a pension for the service of her husband as above set forth.