

Pension Application for William Castle, Cassel, etc.

S.44226 (Va and NY)

State of New York SS

William Castle of the town of Hurley in the County of Ulster and State of New York being duly sworn, doth on his oath declare, that some time in the beginning or winter of the year one thousand, seven hundred and seventy seven, he enlisted in the Continental service of the United States of America, as a private soldier, in Captain Peter Bruen's (1) Company, at Winchester in the State [of] Virginia, for three years, and continued in the said service in that company about five months, and then was draughted in Colonel Morgan's Rifle Regiment under Captain Longs (2) company, and continued in the said service of the said company and Regiment (3) until the 12th day of January 1780, which completed the three years service for which this deponent originally enlisted, and thereupon this deponent received a certificate from Col Webb (4) now in the deponent's possession, whereof the following is a copy.

"Lancaster January 12th Day 1780—William Castle a soldier in the seventh Virginia Regt having served three years—the full term of his enlistment and conducted himself during that service as a good and valuable soldier, is now discharged from the service—And is entitled to claim every privilege of land &c allowed for that time by the State of Virginia. John Webb Lt. Col. 5th Regt. The commissioners are desired to furnish William Castle and his wife with provisions on their March to Virginia. John Webb Lt Colo 5th Regt."

And this deponent further saith that formerly he has resided about twelve years in the State of Virginia, and latterly about thirty eighty years in the State of New York—that he has never obtained even a foot of land from the State of Virginia, or the State of New York, or from the United States, for his said services, or any services in the revolutionary war, nor any compensation or bounty whatsoever, except his ordinary pay as a soldier while in actual service—

And this deponent further saith that when he was discharged as aforesaid in the winter of 1780, at Lancaster, he returned home, his wife and child accompanying him, to Winchester in Virginia and remained at that home, serving as a guard over prisoners of Burgoyne (5) army, until the next spring and then took the place of a soldier that was draughted [sic -- draughted or drafted] for three months service to drive the British from Richmond in Virginia, and was in that service only three weeks, when the enemy evacuated Richmond, and this deponent was again honorably discharged—

And this deponent further saith that in the next year thereafter, being in the year 1782, he moved with his family to the State of New York and shortly after his arrival there enlisted in the eight months (6) militia service as a soldier, and served faithfully during the whole of that time, in scouting parties against the Indians & Tories—And in the next year 1783 this deponent engaged for another eight months (7) similar service and served the said time faithfully until the general peace—

That the Tories during his said last term of service stole two horses from him of considerable value, which he has never received or had any payment therefore—

That he hath been engaged in the service of his country in the revolutionary war, in thirteen battles and skirmishes with the enemy—that he was so engaged at the Capture of Burgoyne's army (8) at Monmouth (9), Gen. Sullivan's battle with the Indians (10), Somerset Court-house (11) &c &c.

And this deponent further saith that on the 16th day of August next, he will be sixty six years of age and his wife now living [with] him whom he married in Virginia during the revolutionary war is three months younger than he is—that his family consists of himself, his wife, and grandchild—that him and his wife are at times much afflicted with the rheumatism, so that the one has not be[en] able to assist the other—that they have latterly frequently wanted resources of support but their own labor and personal exertions.

That he owns no real Property and that he is not and by reason of his reduced circumstances in life he verily believes will for the remainder of his life be in need of assistance from his Country for support. (Signed with his mark) William Castle

Sworn the 31st March 1818. Lucas Elmendorf first Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Ulster and State of New York

End Notes—S.44226—William Castle

1. Peter B. Bruin was appointed Captain on December 19, 1776 in Colonel Daniel Morgan's Eleventh Virginia Continental Regiment.
2. Gabriel Long was appointed Captain on July 23, 1776 in Colonel Morgan's Regiment. He resigned on May 13, 1779.
3. The Eleventh Virginia Continental Regiment was designated as the Seventh Virginia Continental Regiment on September 14, 1778.
4. Lieutenant Colonel John Webb of the Fifth Virginia Continental Regiment.
5. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his army at Saratoga (present day Village of Schuylerville, Saratoga County) on October 17, 1777.
6. William is a Corporal in Captain Gilbert J. Livingston's Company in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Frederick Weissenfels' Regiment of New York State Levies in 1782.
7. Weissenfels and Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Albert Pawling did not command regiments of levies in 1783. However, William is listed as a private in Captain John DeWitt's Fourth Company in Colonel Johannis Snyder's First Regiment of Ulster County Militia. This service would have been performed before and or after his service in the levies.
8. Colonel Morgan's detachment of about 451 men arrived at Saratoga on August 30, 1777 and joined the American Army under Major General Horatio Gates. Morgan and his men where in both Battles of Saratoga on September 19, 1777 and October 7, 1777.
9. The Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey was fought on June 28, 1778.
10. A detachment of the Seventh Virginia under Major Thomas Posey was sent to garrison the forts in the Schoharie Valley along with Major James Parr of the Seventh Pennsylvania Continental Regiment and overall commander Lieutenant Colonel Commandant William Butler of the Fourth Pennsylvania Continental

Regiment. All three detachments joined Brigadier General James Clinton's Army in the Mohawk Valley in May of 1779. They eventually joined Major General John Sullivan's Army in Pennsylvania. Together they marched against the Iroquois Villages in Western New York. The Battle of Newtown, present day Elmira, New York, was fought on August 29, 1779.

11. The Battle of Somerset Courthouse, New Jersey, was fought on January 10, 1777.