

Pension Application for Daniel Chapman

W.23794 (Widow: Lucretia)

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832.

State of Illinois, Johnson County SS.

On this third day of June, 1833, personally appeared before the county commissioners' court of the County of Johnson aforesaid, now sitting, Daniel Chapman, a resident of the said county of Johnson, aged 76 years, on the 25th day of July last, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of congress, passed June 7th 1832.

That in the spring of the year 1775 this declarant volunteered under Captain Richard Sackett of the county of West Chester, in the State of New York, where this applicant was born, and had lived up to that time. Immediately after thus volunteering the company to which he belonged joined the regiment commanded by Col. Thomas, on the lines above New York. He had volunteered as a private for nine months, but at the expiration of this time, during which he had thus volunteered and during which according to his engagement, he had served as a private, their places not being supplied, he was kept in service for at least two months longer.

When he was discharged by Lieut. Mosier, 1st Lieut. commanding the company in the absence of the Captain who had been taken prisoner by the British at the town of Bedford in WestChester County, New York. His employment during the time of his s'd time serving was as before mentioned that of a private, and the regiment was employed in watching the enemy continually, and was several times engaged in skirmishes with the enemy, keeping him from foraging rescuing stolen cattle &c. After the expiration of this period of service, which this applicant according to the best of his recollection states to have been not less than eleven months, including the period for which he volunteered, and that for which he was afterwards detained in service, he was discharged by the same officer, the captain being still held as a prisoner at WestChester County in the now state of New York.

In the Spring of 1776, he volunteered again under the same Captain and Colonel, for a period of nine months and was again stationed on the same lines as before, in front of the enemy, after the expiration of his second tour of duty, and after he was discharged therefrom in WestChester County as before, by Captain Sackett, this applicant volunteered under Lieutenant Mosier, to go & prevent the burning of the houses of Col. Holmes, who had lived in Bedford, but who had joined the British, and had a command of horse. The rest of the town had been burnt by Col. Holmes some time before and a deserter from the enemy having notified us of the intention of Col. Holmes to come up and burn his own houses, a part of 45 or 50, of whom this applicant was one, turned out under the brave lieutenant Mosien to prevent it and save the property for the United States.

This was completely accomplished, although Lieut. Mosier and his men were surrounded by four lines their number of horsemen, with Col. Holmes at their head. We were formed into a hollow square, and received the enemy on every side at the point of the bayonet, and made a great slaughter of men and horses, without losing a man on our side, and finally dispensed them. Col. Holmes was badly wounded, and his horse killed, as he was in the act of drawing his sword upon Lieut. Mosin, whom he had summoned to surrender. The incident will be well remembered in that neighborhood.

During these two tours of duty, that of his first and second volunteer engagement, he was often with other regiment of militia or state troops. He was also with the regular army under General Washington several times. Of the militia or state troops, he remembers Col. Webb's regiment of Connecticut troops. This applicant was in no general battle during these two campaigns of '75 & '76, but in a great many skirmishes with the British and Tories, who held possession of New York, and who sent out their scouts, spies and foraging parties, which were constantly watched or kept in check by col. Thomas' & Col. Webb's regiments of volunteers—sometimes assisted by the regular army, and sometimes by the militia rangers. This applicant during these tours, was well acquainted with Colonel

Wisenfelps, who commanded a regiment, he believes, in the continental line—also, with his son George Wisenfelps, who had been a messmate with this applicant in Captain Sackett's company, but for whom his father got a commission as lieutenant in his own regiment. He also knew a Colonel Scampbell or Campbell, a very large man, who was engaged in a battle at King's mountain, also a Captain Hamtramack, of the Continental Army and Captain Cheny of the same, who raised, and recruited his company in the county where this applicant lived. He could mention the names of many other officers that he was more or less, acquainted with, but supposes it to be unnecessary.

In the year 1777, and not long after the fight and defeat of col. Holmes, this applicant turned out again as a volunteer under a captain, whose name he has forgotten, in Colonel Wisenfelp's regiment, to go as a scout, being well acquainted with the country and served in this capacity at least one year. The regiment was engaged with the regular army, and this applicant very generally with the scouts, frequently fighting with parties of the enemy. He was regularly discharged at the end of his term of service by his captain at West Chester, New York, or in New Jersey, he does not remember particularly which and kept his discharge for several years, but what finally became of it, he does not know. He was a 2d Sergeant during his third term of service, and was discharged as such. But he remained in the service under Col. Wisenfelp, until the main army under General Washington and LaFayette marched southward to meet Cornwallis. He was in the battle at Dobb's ferry on the Hudson River, when the British shipping came up the Hudson to attack the French. The French and American troops erected breast-works, and nearly destroyed the shipping.

This applicant was born in WestChester County, New York, in the year 1756, and has at his residence a record of his age, kept by himself from the best information he could obtain. He has lost his discharges. From WestChester county, where this applicant resided, when called into service, he moved after the revolutionary war had closed to Plattsburg, in the same state, where he remained until about twenty years ago, when he moved to Niagara where he lived two years, thence he moved to the State of Indiana, where he remained two years, and thence to Johnson County in Illinois where he has continued to live ever since. This applicant is acquainted with James Jones, a clergyman, and Hezekiah West, also a clergyman both resident in this county, who, he believes, will both testify to his character for veracity, and their opinion of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

This applicant has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person except John G. Simpkins, by whom he can prove any part of his services. This applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state.
(Signed) Daniel Chapman.

Sworn to, and subscribed, the day & year aforesaid. John McIntire, Clk.

Letter in folder dated December 7, 1810, written in response to an inquiry.

In reply to your personal request of this date, I have the honor to advise you that from the papers in claim Wid. File No. 22,794, Rev. War, it appears that Daniel Chapman was born July 25, 1756, soldier says in Bedford Township, Westchester County, New York, and resided in said County when he served in the New York troops as follows.

Enlisted in the Spring of 1775, as Private in Captain Richard Sackett's company, Colonel Thomas' regiment, and served eleven months.

Enlisted in the Spring of 1776, under the same officers, served nine months and was in the skirmish with Colonel Holmes at Bedford.

Enlisted in 1777, shortly after said skirmish, and served as 2nd Sergeant (Captain's name forgotten) in Colonel Weissenfel's regiment for one year and was in the Battle at Dobbs' Ferry.

Soldier married in Dutchess County, New York, October 25, 1788, Lucretia- - - born April 22, 1769.

He was allowed pension on his application executed June 3, 1833, while a resident of Johnson County, Illinois. He died February 8, 1841, and his widow Lucretia was allowed pension on her application executed May 22, 1843, while a resident of the same County where she died September 7, 1849.

Children of Daniel and Lucretia Chapman

Betsey Chapman, born February 2, 1769.

Sally Chapman, born September 9, 1791.

Samuel J. Chapman, born May 14, 1794.

Lucretia Chapman, born August 24, 1796.

Solomon B. Chapman, born July 10, 1798.

Daniel Chapman, born August 30, 1800.

Hiram Chapman, born January 28, 1802. Amanda M. Chapman, born July 21, 1804.

Pamelia A. Chapman, born February 9, 1806.

Warren Chapman, born April 28, 1810.