

Pension Application for Francis Clark

S.23162

State of New York

Franklin County SS.

On this 12 day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Franklin now sitting Francis Clark a resident of the town of Fort Covington in the said County aged 77 years, who being 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 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following name officers & served as herein stated.

That he was born in the Shire of Galloway in Scotland in the year 1755 and that in the year 1773 he came to America and has ever since resided here.

That in the year 1775 he resided at Cherry Valley in the then county of Tryon in the State of New York and there enlisted as a sergeant in the regiment commanded by col. VanSchaick in the month of September 1775. The officers of the company in which he so enlisted were Robert McKeen Captain, Abner French & Albert VanDerwater, Lieutenants & John William Ensign.

That he enlisted in this company for the term of one year and served the whole period—Thus remained two months with the company & in the service after the expiration of the year for which he enlisted & was then honorably discharged. He received no written discharge that he recollects if he did it has been lost.

After his said enlistment he proceeded to Johnstown in the same county of Tryon and remained there during the winter. And in the following spring proceeded to German Flats where he remained about six weeks.

That the regiment of Jersey Greys commanded by Col. White was at this time at [blot] huts building a fort in which he resided while there. That he then proceeded to Fort Stanwix & assisted in building the Fort there. Remained at Fort Stanwix till the November following when his company returned to Johnstown where he was discharged.

That towards the close of January 1777 he entered as a volunteer at Cherry Valley into a company commanded by Captain Whittaker & marched with that company to Ticonderoga where he remained three months under the immediate command of Col. Cox. Gen. Wayne was at the time commander in chief at that place. That he with his company then returned to Johnstown where he was discharged.

In the August following as near as he can recollect, he volunteered in Capt. Whittaker's company attached to a regiment commanded by Col. Campbell to proceed to Fort Stanwix against the British & Indians who had appeared in great numbers in that vicinity. That he proceeded immediately to Fort Stanwix and after the battle in which the American forces were defeated, he with some others were taken prisoners by the enemy and taken to Canada. Where on account of his being a natural born subject of the King of Great Britain he was not exchanged but detained in Canada & not allowed to return.

That just before the close of the revolutionary war he married in Canada and resided there till the commencement of the war with Great Britain in 1812.

That as soon after that as he could leave Canada he came with his family to Fort Covington in the county of Franklin in the State of New York where he has since resided & still resides.

That he does not recollect entirely the time he came from Canada to Fort Covington but is confident it was before the close of the first year of the late war.

That a part of his family had come to the said town of Fort Covington before the late war was declared.

That he has no documentary or other evidence of his service as aforesaid. That when he first came to this country he had a certificate of the record of his age signed by the clerk of the parish where he resided in Scotland which was left at Cherry Valley. When he left & went to Fort Stanwix & that he has never seen it since & supposes it lost. That he refers to Hon Samuel Howel one of the Judges of this court & to [?] Samuel H. Payne as persons of his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity & to their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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 with his mark) Francis Clark.

Subscribed and sworn to this 12th day of October 1832. John H. Russell Dep. Clerk