

Pension Application for Azor Cole

S.10473

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

State of New York

County of Livingston SS.

On this 28th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of common Pleas and general sessions for said county now sitting Azer Cole a resident of the Town of Springwater in the County of Livingston, and State of New York aged eighty eight years the 3rd day of August 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 Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the US under the following named officers and served as herein sated.

That at the commencement of the revolutionary war he resided in the Town of Ballston then in the County of Albany in the State of New York which was then a frontier Town in the neighbourhood of hostile Indians, and that owing to a Paralytic shock and extreme old age he is unable [to] recollect the dates of his service, but that in the spring of the year 1776 there was a requisition for ten men out of each of the Militia companies of Ballston to serve 9 month's] or a year is not sooner discharged and that he volunteered his services as one of the number that his officers were Ensign Shearman, Hezekiah Dunham 2nd Lieutenant, Silas Gray first Lieutenant, Tyramus Collins Captain, that in the month of May or June of same year the company to which he belonged was called into service and did first rendezvous at Stillwater, in col. Cornelius VanDyke's Regiment at which place he was appointed a sergeant, then marched with his regiment to Fort George situate on Lake George and that the next day after his arrival at Fort George his company was detached to join Col. Wyndkoops regiment at Ticonderoga and immediately marched to the place and that Philip VanCortland was the Lieutenant Col. and that General Gates was the commanding officer at Ticonderoga and that Genl Fish was his aide-camp that his regiment marched to Skeensborough from thence to Fort Ann from thence to Fort Edwards and that soon after he arrived at Fort Edwards his regiment was ordered to New York he immediately marched with his regiment to Fort Miller at which place Col. Wynkoop received countermand orders and immediately marched back to Fort Edwards and there remained to the end of that years campaign and was discharged he thinks sometime in the month of December that he was out in the service at this time about six months.

That he again volunteered his service in Capt Collins Company in Col. Gordon's Regiment does not recollect the month nor the [beat?] that it was the year in which the inhabitants were massacred by the Indians & Tories at Cherry Valley that he marched from Ballston to Fort Plank near Fort Plains for the purpose of guarding the inhabitants and assisting the garrison at place under Col. Alden and that before he arrived the Indians & Tories made an assault upon Cherry Valley and massacred a number of the Inhabitants and killed Col. Alden who was out of the fort a short distance taking dinner that the Indians came upon him on surprise & took the Lieutenant Col. Prisoner col. Gordon then took command of the fort at Cherry Valley, and that he with seven other of the regiment were selected out to accompany Col. Gordon through the woods to Fort Plank that soon after they arrived there it being in the evening the fort at Cherry Valley was alarmed by the return of a Scouting Party who incautiously fired off their guns previous to entering the fort which news was immediately represented to Col. Gordon that the fort was besieged by a large party of British & Indians and were about to enter the fort and that he was by order of Col. Gordon sent as a express to Col. VanSchaick who was as was then [surprised?] with his regiment at Caughnawaga but on the arrival found that Col. VanSchaick had moved his forces about four miles below to Fort Hunter that he stoped [stopped] at Caughnawaga at the house of General Fonda and being very much fatigued Genl Fonda and being very much fatigued Genl Fonda sent his clerk with the dispatches to Col Van Schaick & that he took some refreshment & went to bed and in about three hours another express from Col. Gordon to Col. VanSchaick with a request that Col VanSchaick would send on

to Genl Hand who lay at Schenectady and that the last express being very much fatigued he took the dispatches and proceeded on to Schenectady with all possible [line cut off] he delivered his letters to Genl Hand who gave him some money and directed him to proceed on to Schenectady & obtain some refreshment, and that as soon as he revived from the fatigue occasioned by the rapid progress he made on his express rout[e] he returned on his express rout[e] & replaced the horses which he had pressed & joined his regiment and was soon discharged was out upon this tour as near as he can recollect about two months.

And that he was in the expedition to Johnston [Johnstown] under the command of General Schuyler for the purpose of disarming Sir John Johnson and that in consequence of his residence being situation on the frontier near the theatre of Continual warfare he was alarmed and out on guard & scouting parties for the most part of the Revolutionary War and that it is impossible for him to recollect exactly how long he was in actual service but should judge that he served in all as much as one year. That he was three times driven from his home during the said war by the Indians & that the last time he was driven away several of his neighbors with Col. Gordon were taken prisoners & driven into Canada as he understood & that at this last mentioned time he lost all of his property, and that several of his neighbours were killed and scalped by the Indians at some time.

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) Azor Cole

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court. S. G. Haven, Dep. Clerk

Letter in folder dated September 20, 1938, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War records of the following soldiers—

Azor Cole, born in Wilton, Connecticut, about 1744, died about 1837 in Springwater, New York;

Matthew Cole, born 1745 or 1746 in Wilton, Connecticut, Captain of Militia, died in Yates county, New York;

Thaddeus Cole, born June 3, 1763, in Wilton, Connecticut.

Because of the great demand for Revolutionary War data and the limited trained clerical force available for furnishing such information, it is not possible to comply in full with each request which required so much time and research.

The record of Azor Cole is furnished herein as found in papers on file in pension claim, S.10473, based on his service in the Revolutionary War.

Azor Cole was born August 3, 1744, place not given nor were the names of his parents shown.

While residing in Ballston, Albany (which was later Saratoga) County, New York, Azor Cole volunteered in the spring of 1776, served six months as sergeant Captain Tyrannus Collins' company, Colonel Cornelius VanDyke's New York regiment, was stationed at Skeensborough and Ticonderoga to defend the inhabitants from incursions of the Indians. He volunteered "the year of the massacre at Cherry Valley" and served two months in Captain Collin's company, Colonel Gordon's New York regiment. He was in the expedition to Johnstown, under General Schuyler, and out on many alarms and scouting parties. He was driving from his home three times and his property taken by Indians.

The soldier, Azor Cole, was allowed pension on his application executed September 28, 1832, then a resident of Springwater, Livingston County, New York.

The papers on file in this claim contain no discernible data in regard to family. Azor Cole died April 4, 1839.