

## Pension Application for Joseph Cole

R.2133

State of New York

County of Saratoga SS.

On this first day of January 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas in & for the said County of Saratoga now sitting at Ballston Spa in said county—Joseph Cole of Ballston in said County aged seventy two 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 United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

1. To the question where and in what year were you born? He answers, in CourtLandt's Manor, Westchester County in the State of New York July 21<sup>st</sup> 1761.
2. To the 2<sup>nd</sup> question. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it? He answers and says that has no record of his age.
3. To the 3d question. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live. He answers and says that during the Revolutionary War he resided in Stephen Town in Rensselaer County in the State of New York (except when in actual service of the United States as herein after stated) where he lived until the year 1780 when he moved to Ballston in Saratoga (then Albany) County in said state where he has lived ever since and where he now lives.
4. To the 4<sup>th</sup> question. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom? He answers and says. In June 1776, 1<sup>st</sup> August (when he lived at StephenTown in the County of Rensselaer & Sate of New York. He entered into the Service of the United States as a volunteer private in Captain Ichabod [???] company of Infantry in Colonel K. A. Van Rensselaer's Regiment of New York State Militia. The said Colonel lived at Greenbush, Joel Pease was Lieutenant.
5. To the question state the names of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental Militia Regiment as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services. He answers and says he can answer no further than he has already herein.
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it: He answers says that he never received any written discharge from the service.
7. To the question state the names of person to whom are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution. In answer to the last question, he names the following persons to wit, Samuel Deforest, Onesimus Hubbell, Aaron Nash, the Hon'ble John W. Taylor late member of Congress & speaker of the House of Representative.

He further states that there is no clergyman residing in the Town where he lives to whom his is know.

That one half of the Militia belonging to said Regiment was called and required to go to Fort Ann & that he this deponent at Stephentown aforesaid entered the service as a volunteer private & served under the said Lieutenant Pease and marched with the company made up of Drafts and Volunteers under the said Lieutenant Peace to Albany and joined the drafts & volunteers of other companies of the said regiment, the company so formed Marched & consisted of about 100 men under the command of the said Lieutenant Pease through Halfmoon, Stillwater & Saratoga to Fort Edward where we encamped for a few days and did garrison duty being the first company at Fort Ann other companies of militia joined soon after; don'' recollect the name or names of their officers he with his company was

employed on Fatigue in chopping & drawing timbers & laying the road, intended for our Army to pass over to Skeensborough, that he served in manner aforesaid for three months from the 1<sup>st</sup> of August to the 1<sup>st</sup> of November of 1776 and was discharged at fort Ann after Burgoyne went into winter quarters by Lieutenant Joel Pease and returned home. He received no written discharge; nor has he any documentary evidence of his said services & he knows of no person or persons now living who can testify to the same, or any part thereof & did duty in repairing the Fort & performing garrison duty about one month & were marched to Snooks Kill where we encamped in the woods & did duty on guard & scouting through the woods, when we continued until Burgoyne's Army advanced near to Fort Edward & our garrison at fort Edward retreated & came to the camp at Snooks Kill but marched on the next day towards Saratoga. The enemy was in possession of Kingsbury, our company marched 4 or 5 miles & were employed in building breast works for several days when he this deponent with other volunteers under Major Ford went as a Patrolling Party through the woods for one day we returned towards evening & had a skirmish with the enemy & retreated towards the camp the main body of the American army had retreated & the breast works on fire set by our people (while at Snook's Kill [?] Jane McCrea & a Lieutenant of our army were murdered by the Indians near Ft. Edward) & we marched down the river & joined the army at Saratoga from there we marched to Stillwater. Bemis Heights & encamped in open field where we continued until after the Stillwater Battle having served three months as a volunteer private.

And continued in service under the aforesaid officers as a substitute for his brother Aaron Cole & who had been drafted to serve for three months to relieve those who had taken the first tour of 3 mo. In said company that he this deponent did serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant for three months. When on the last day of October 1777 he this deponent was dismissed by Lieutenant Joel Pease, there were several of Continental & militia Regiment who served where he served during the aforesaid periods, he recollects the names of Generals Schuyler, Gates, Arnold & Lincoln of the Continental Troops & Colonel Waterman & Major Ford of the Militia.

In 1778—July—he this deponent again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer private in the company of Captain George White of the Militia of Stephen Town in the then county of Albany in Colonel K. VanRensselaer's Regiment aforesaid a volunteer company raised in order to keep guard at Old Hoosick in Albany County about 20 or 30 miles from Stephen Town, the company formed at StephenTown at the time aforesaid under the said Captain George White & Lieutenant Joel Pease consisting of from 40 to 50 men and marched through Little Hoosick to the month part of Old Hoosick where we were stationed to help guard, the officers made their head quarters in a house belonging to Widow Dought or Dott & he this deponent with other privates & non commissioned officers at said company encamped in open field on the premises of the said Dot—in huts builded by the company with boards &c and served on guard & on scouts from our said encampment to Looms [?] against the Tories &c to prevent them from taking away cattle & other property from the Friendly Inhabitants, who were exposed to the enemy—that there were no other troops stationed or did duty at Old Hoosick while we were there except said company under the said Captain George White, that he this deponent continued on duty as aforesaid for two months when under the aforesaid officers he this deponent with the said company having collected about 100 head of horses & horned cattle owned by the Tory—Inhabitants who had gone to the enemy, to prevent them from driving them away & drove then to StephenTown for the government of the United States as confiscated property – when we returned to our respective homes where we continued 4 or 5 days to recruit & prepare for a tour to Philips Town when we were again ordered & marched under the aforesaid of officers to Philips Town where we encamped in different private houses the officers head quarters at Lieutenant Schermerhorn where we continued on guard and on scouting parties in hunting the Tories through the woods & captured several tories & brought them to Schermerhorns before the Committees, appointed among the whit inhabitants for the purpose of holding a court over the prisoners one time when he this deponent was out on scout

commanded by Lieutenant Pease about 10 or 12 tories under arms resisted & a skirmish took place & one tory wounded, his leg was broken who we captured with the remainder of the company & brought them in to the committee he this deponent was in constant service as aforesaid for one month when we marched to Stephen Town under the aforesaid officers, when he with the said company was dismissed, having served as above stated.

He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his aforesaid services or any part thereof, nor does he know of any person now living who can testify to the same or any part thereof, his officers are all dead many years ago.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Joseph Cole.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. A Goodrich, clerk