

Pension Application for John English

S.22756

State of New York

Tompkins County SS.

On the thirtieth day of April one thousand eight hundred and eighteen [eighteen] before me the subscriber one of Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Tompkins and State aforesaid personally appeared John English aged sixty Three years and upwards a resident of the town of Huton in the County and state aforesaid. Who being by me first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the late act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval services of the United States in the Revolutionary War.

That the said John English enlisted as a private soldier for during the war at West Point in Orange County and State of New York in the month of March or April in the year seventeen hundred and seventy eight in the company commanded by captain Thomas Lee of the Regiment commanded by Lewis Deboys.

That in the month of May in the same year he was commissioned as an Insign [Ensign] that he continued to serve as the Insign until the month of April or May seventeen hundred and seventy nine at which time he was commissioned as a Lieutenant. That he was then attached to the company commanded by Captain Abraham Westfall of the Regiment commanded by Col. Albert Paulind.

That he continued to serve in the said corps as Lieutenant until the month of December seventeen hundred & eighty two when he was discharged from service at Ulster County in the State of New York.

That he was in the Battle of PeenPack [Wirsubg?] and as he was assigned to take charge of a Scouting party on the frontiers of Ulster County he had many engagements with the Indians &c.

And that he relinquishes and claims to all to all and every pension theretofore granted in allowed lines by the laws of the United States.

And that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) John Sutton, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, County of Tompkins.

Letter in folder dated March 28, 1939, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your request for information relative to the Revolutionary War soldier, John English, of Spencer, New York, who was born in 1755 and died in 1832.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim, S.22756, based on the Revolutionary War service of John English.

The data and place of birth of John English and the names of his parents are not shown.

John English enlisted immediately after the battle of Lexington but no further information is given in regard to this enlistment. He next enlisted at West Point, Orange County, New York, in 1777 or 1778 and served as private, sergeant and ensign in Captain Thomas Ley's company in Colonel Lewis DuBoys' New York regiment; on May 11, 1780, he was commissioned lieutenant and was detached and placed in Captain Abraham Westfall's company in Colonel Albert Pawling's New York regiment, was in the battles of Peenpack and Warwarsing and in many skirmishes with the Indians and served until December 1782.

John English was allowed pension on his application executed April 30, 1818, at which time he was a resident of Hector, Tompkins County, New York aged sixty-three years.

In 1820 he was living in Spencer, Tioga County, New York.

He died May 11, or 22, 1832.

John English's first wife was Lydia (her maiden name not given) and she was about sixty-three years of age in 1820. By this marriage he had the following children who survived him; Phebe Andrews who was living in Tioga County, New York, in 1852; Hannah Berkwith who died April 3, 1853, leaving heirs, their names not given; Levi who was living in Tioga or Chemung County, New York, in 1852. John English's last wife was Phebe who died April 5, 1846. It was stated that "he left no children surviving him by his last wife, Phebe."

In 1808 the soldier's brother, Samuel English, of Cayuga County, New York, stated that he served as lieutenant under Captain Thomas Ley in Colonel Lewis DuBoys' New York regiment in 1777. In 1810 Samuel English made the following statement: "John English now does or lately did reside in the town of Ulysses in the county of Seneca." In 1819 one Andrew Englis, who referred to the soldier as John Englis, stated he visited the soldier during his service in the revolution, relationship not given.

The papers in the pension claim of John English contain no further data in regard to his family.