

## **Pension Application for William Erwin**

S.43529

State of New York

County of Orange SS.

On this second day of December 1828—personally appeared in open court being the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County of Orange William Erwin a resident of said County, aged eighty one years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provisions made by the Act of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818—and the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1820 – that he the said William Erwin entered for the term of three years or during the war—in the Spring of the year 1777 in the line of the State of New York on the Regular Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said Corps until 1780—when he was discharged from the service in the County of Chester at Valey [Valley] Forge in the State of Pensylvania [Pennsylvania] that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, that his name fi not on the roll of any State except the present; and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension—first that he did make an application in the year 1818—that from the neglect of his agent failed. 2<sup>nd</sup> that he considered the getting of the same attended with considerable trouble and expense and lastly that he was comfortably living upon the charity of his friends—but that his support has become troublesome and his friends have become tired of supporting him in pursuance of the act of the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1820—I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818—and that I have not since that time by gift, sale, or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled and act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me; nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed, and by me subscribed Viz: real property I had none, personal property I had none except my clothes and only such as I stood in need of for my own use and comfort.

That since the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 the following changes have been made in my property—viz. [it is in a chart and all areas are either blank or say none]

That I have no family my wife has been dead for 11 years & some months that I have never had any children. That I do not keep house that I am charitable supported by my relations, that I have no trade that I am eighty one years 2 months old that I am very feeble and utterly unable to pursue any business for a livelihood.

Sworn to and subscribed and declared on the second day of December before Samuel L. Sewerd, First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Orange in open court and in the presence of all the Judges. Attest: Samuel L. Sewend, First Judge for Orange County and of the said Court.

Letter in folder dated June 18, 1936, written in response to an inquiry.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim S.43529, based upon the military service of William Erwin, the only soldier of that name (searched under all spellings) who lived in the New York State, that is found in the Revolutionary War records of this office.

While living in Montgomery, Orange County, New York, William Erwin entered the service in the spring of 1777 as lieutenant in Captain Daniel Niven's company in Colonel William Malcolm's Continental Regiment and served three years.

He was allowed pension on his application executed December 2, 1828, at which time he was living in Orange County, New York, aged eighty-one years and two months.

In 1828 William Erwin stated that his wife (name not given) had been dead for eleven years and some months and that he never had any children.

This soldier died January 16, 1834, in Minisink, Orange County, New York.

In 1845 one Jonathan O. Dunning, aged forty-five years and a resident of Mamakating, Sullivan County, New York, was administrator of the estate of William Erwin.