

Pension Application for Moses Evans

S.38685

Moses Evan's Declaration

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

State of Vermont

County of Caledonia SS.

At Lyndan April 20th 1836 personally appeared before me Benjamin Connor one of the Judges of said Caledonia County Court Moses Evans a resident of Lyndan in the County of Caledonia and State of Vermont aged about ninety six years who being first 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 in 1775 when Lexington battle took place he was a resident of Hartland in Vermont but happened at Northfield Massachusetts on business and turned int[o] a volunteer and served at that time two or three weeks and was discharged.—

That soon after he enlisted under Lieut. Alexander [Bonak?] into Capt Benedicts Company of Infantry in Col. VanSchaick's Regt was mustered—Majr Gansevoort took the command, the Col. Being master Master, & the Lt. Col. having died, and marched to Crown Point—there to Isle Aux Moix [Noix?] where the troops made a stand a few weeks [?] waiting and preparing for an attack on St. Johns and Chamblee—That Genl Montgomery lad the command of the troops.

That from Isle Aux Noix he was detached into a company of rangers under Major Brown and was in the engagement under his command at the taking of fort Chamblee which was in the forepart of October but after the capitulation of St. Johns they marched to Montreal which surrendered on the 13 Nov.

That at Montreal Capt. Fisher of Col. VanSchaick's Regt and there after Capt, the oldest in the Regiment were with their companies detached to march with Genl Montgomery to Quebec—that Capt Fisher's Co. not being full men were detached from the Cos. Of Capt. Benedict and Capt. Graham to make it a full Co. and that he was detached into said Co. as an Orderly Sergeant—that they marched thence to Quebec to winter with the forces under Col. Arnold in besieging that place—

That he was present under the immediate command of Genl Montgomery in his assault upon that place Dec 31, 1775 when the General was killed and himself wounded. That after the death of Genl Montgomery, Col. Arnold took the command of the American forces at that place until Genl Wooster came.-- -- That in the spring of the year 1776 after Genl Wooster took the command of that post Capt Jothan White a commander of a company of volunteers raised at and in the vicinity of Charlestown, New Hampshire with whom and with whose company he was personally acquainted being desirous to return home on urgent business proposed to him as he was experienced and intended to remain in the army.

That he should take the command of his company which was to be retained there as was understood as they were fresh troops and the Regiments which had been there through the winter were to be sent out to recruit and that he assented to the

proposition conditioned that the company should be willing and that Genl Wooster should approve of it and give him a captain's commission.—

That said company did express their willingness and that Genl Wooster approved it and gave him a Capt. commission and that he served as such the remainder of the campaign in Canada that year and in the retreat therefrom and until the company was disbanded.—

That Genl Thomas commanded when the army left Quebec but was taken sick and died soon after.—

That Genl Thompson took the command was engaged in the battle at Three Rivers and was taken prisoner—and that Genl Schuyler afterwards took the command & that the said Evans was engaged in said battle at Three Rivers—and that he lost said commission in the Revolutionary War when out upon a scout—

That after this and during the Revolutionary War, but not immediately after he received three commissions as Lieutenant that two of the commissions have been lost as he supposes soon after the death of his wife about seven years ago at which time he left his house alone which was broken open by some children and a great part of his papers ransacked and destroyed and that it is impossible for him to tell the precise dates of those commissions—

That recently in examining an old pocket book which belonged to his wife he found the accompanying commission to his from Gov'n Chittenden dated February 3d 1780 as Lieutenant of a Company of Rangers raised for the defence of the State which had been lost to him for many years, but recollects upon finding it that in returning from the service at one time he playfully told his wife that she should have a commission and supposes that it has remained in her pocket book ever since.—

That said commissions were intended for at least one years service each and that he served according to their intent—that during the terms he was at home some short time each winter but reckoning the time of his service as an officer in Canada, the time of his actual service on duty he believes to have been all of three years as an officer.

That he knows of no person living who can testify to his services while in Canada but as to a portion of his services whilst a Lieutenant in the Vermont troops he would refer to the accompanying deposition of Thomas Talman Esqr former Secretary of State of Vermont, who was paymaster of said troops, who is probably personally know to most of the Vermont delegation in Congress—and to shew [show] the existence of his other commissions a few years since he refers to the accompanying deposition of Ira Whilmarth esqr, and as to his reputation for truth he would refer to the certificates of the Hon. Levi Woodbury and of the Revd Reuben H. Deming of said Lyndon brother of the late Hon. Benj. F. Deming recent member in Congress from Vermont to both of whom he has been personally known for very many years.—

He further states that he was in the army of the Revolution either as a private or an officer the most of the time during the Revolutionary War—except when a prisoner—

That he was at Ticonderoga at the evacuation thereof by Genl St. Clair as a soldier—that he was also at the battle of Bennington in the Regiment commanded by Col. Warner—

That he was subsequently in 1777 at Mount Defiance under the command of Major Brown and was with him at the taking of [Portash?] landing and of their bateaux belonging to the British who at that time had a sentinel garrison occupying one of the Islands in Lake George which said Brown aimed to take but by the fortunes of war that a part of said Brown's men were captured and that he said Evans being sick was among the captains—

That he was carried thence to Ticonderoga and into hospital at Mt. Independence where he remained a month until the Reddo came and took aboard about two hundred and fifty prisons [prisoners?] and sailed for St. Johns – went from St. Johns to Chamblee thence to Montreal thence to River Sorell thence to Quebec—and thence to Isle of Orleans when he and four other prisoners made their escape and came out to the American Settlements near the head waters of the Kennebec River—

That they started from the Isle of Orleans the 13th May 1778 and were out twenty three and a half days before they came to the American Settlements and in the time endured many privations and hardships—That at another time he when stationed at Fort George the commandant Col. Warner sent out on a scout with about two hundred and was taken prisoner and carried to St. Johns, and made his escape and returned to his post.—

That when a Lieutenant Capt Jesse Safford was his Capt for the most part, that they were a portion of the time under the command of Maj'r Ebenezer Allen and a portion of it under the command of Col. Warner.—

That they were for the most part stationed in the vicinity of Lake Champlain at Arlington, Pittsford, Rutland and vicinity and that he was finally discharged at Arlington to the best of his recollection in 1783—

That in 1833 he made out his declaration to obtain the benefits of the act aforesaid and caused the same to be forwarded to Washington but the case was [deferred?] for farther proof since finding which he has caused repeated inquiries to be made for his former declaration at the pension office and has been as often answered that it cannot be found.—

If it should be found and there be any variance it may arise from imperfect recollection as to dates forth infirmity of years on the different views of the different writes as to the materiality of the relations given them—

That he was born in Northfield Massachusetts and supposes that he shall be ninety seven years on the twenty sixth day of October next, that he formerly had a record of his age in a Bible which was given away and the record torn out and lost.—

That he the said Moses Evans 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 any agency of any state except that of the agency of the State or Vermont at the rate of eight dollars per month under the Acts of congress of the 18th of

March 1818, 1st May 1820 and 1st March 1823, which commenced on the twenty fifth day of April 1828. (Signed) Moses Evans.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Benjamin Conner—Judge of Caledonia County Court.