

Pension Application for Wilhelmue (Wilhelmus) France

W.19295 (Widow: Anna)

State of New York

Ulster County SS.

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

State of New York

Ulster County SS.

On the eleventh day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Ulster, being a Court of Record for said County, proceeding according to the course of the Common Law, with a Jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount, and keeping a record of their proceedings having a clerk and seal of their own.

Wilhelmus France a resident of the town of Kingston in the County of Ulster aged Seventy Seven years who first being 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 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

1st The said Wilhelmus France Declares that he was born in the Town of Kingston, County of Ulster and State of New York on the fourth day of August 1755.

2d That the Record of his age is contained in [the] book of Records of the Lutheran Church at West Camp in Saugerties Ulster County.

3d That at the time he entered the service he lived in the Town of Kingston Ulster County and State of New York and lived there since the Revolutionary War and now lives there.

1st That in the month of June 1776 he entered as a Volunteer in the Levies of the State of New York in the United States for the Term of Six months and served in the Company commanded by Captain John L. DeWitt Lieutenants VanAken & Dubois, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Johannis Hardenbergh, that during said time he served on Long Island and thence crossed the East River to the City of New York retreated from thence through Harlem to Kingsbridge thence to White Plains in Westchester, was in the battle of White Plains, marched thence to Peekskill, land from thence crossed the Hudson River at Verplanks Point to Haverstraw, and was soon after discharged to the best of his recollection he was discharged in the month of December of said year, that he does not remember to have obtained a written discharge and if he did, it is now lost. That General Washing[ton] commanded the Army in person.

2d That he served for "three" months, at three several times the year he does not remember under the following officers viz at Schoharie under Captain Moses Cantine "one" month as a Volunteer: in Shandaken Ulster county under Capt. Mattlys Dederick in the fort at Jacob Longymars "One" month as substitute for Abraham Osterhoudt under the blue mountains in Saugerties at Tobias Wojukos under

Lieutenant Burhans "One" month, all in the capacity of a private soldier making in the whole 3 months.

That he served at Fishkill in Dutchess County in the 3 months service in the Militia Company commanded by Captain John Brodhead in the year 1779 for about two and a half months, as a volunteer and private and was discharged at Fishkill but got no written discharge. That Colonel Hathorn commanded the regiment.

That he served as a volunteer for "Three" Months as a private soldier in the company commanded by Captain Wesbrook of the town of Rochester ranging the lands to Delaware River was at the [?] house thinks it was in the year 1780.

That he served at Wawarsing and Susquehannah Ulster County for Three months the year he does not remember in the company commanded by Captain Philip Swart as a volunteer and private soldier.

That he served as a volunteer in the Company commanded by Captain Moses Yeomans for the term of "Four" months and does not remember in what year but thinks in the year 1780 that said company Ranged along the frontiers in Ulster County the whole of said term.

That he served for the term of "Nine" months in the year 1782 as a volunteer and private soldier in the company commanded by Captain Livingston in Colonel [Pawling's?] Regiment in a detachment commanded by Lieutenants John VanDeusen stationed at John VanEttens in the town of Kingston in a picket fort [??] House that this service commanded in the month of April and ended in the winter following that the company was at Kingston at [??]

And lastly he the Milhelums [??] declares that he has served in the Revolutionary War for more than two years as a private soldier and a volunteer but that as to the officer under whom the places where and the several times when the above mentioned services were rendered he cannot positively state. That he has no any documentary evidence in his possession relating to the same. That he knows of no other regular officers or no regiments nor militia regiments except as above stated. That all the living witnesses of his services that he could procure and knew of have testified and their affidavits are hereto annexed.

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. (Signed with his mark) Wilhelmus France.

HG. Hardenbergh, Abm. A. Deyo, John Jeansen.