

## **Pension Application for William Gailer or Gaylor or Golear**

S.15130

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. Marine Court of the City of New York.  
State, County, & City of New York SS.

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Marine Court of the City of New York, now sitting William Gailer, a resident of the City County & State of New York now sitting William Gailer a resident of the City County & State of New York aged eighty 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<sup>th</sup> 1832.

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

That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in Colonel Samuel Drakes Regiment of Militia (Capt. Ezekiel Hyatt's Company) at a place now called Yorktown Westchester County State of New York in September 1775 for 5 months and marched with said Regiment to Hornshook in the County of New York, where said Regiment built and garrisoned a Fort, after the expiration of said term he was discharged by Col. Drake and returned home.

That he again entered the service in the fall of 1776 in Colonel Drake's Regiment as Sergeant Major that he continued to act as Sergt Major in said Regiment that he was detailed to act as Sergeant Major in Col. James Hammonds Regiment which was doing duty on the lines with which he served 3 months, he then returned to Colonel Drake's Regiment and continued to act as Sergeant Major till the year 1778 when he received a commission from Governor George Clinton as First Lieutenant in Colonel Drakes Regiment that he was qualified by taking the necessary oaths and acted as First Lieutenant till intelligence was received that the Trumbull Frigate was laying at New London in want of men that he obtained a Furlough raised 30 or 40 volunteered with whom he joined the Trumbull Frigate and sailed on a cruise (took a prise and had a severe engagement with the enemy) and after finished the cruise, returned to Boston, and that he immediately reported himself to Col. Drake for duty and joined his regiment, that he was detailed and ordered to join Col. William Malcolm's regiment which was a[t] Fiskill, that he did join said Regiment -which was reviewed by Baron Steuben at Fishkill Barracks said Regiment marched to West Point (to relieve Col. Van Courtlandt's Regiment) and that he served in said Regiment on West Point nine months when he was again directed to Join his own Regiment (Colonel Drakes) which was then stationed on the lines near Croton River Westchester County State of New York - in which Regiment he continued to serve under the Commission of 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant til the close of the Revolutionary War. (Signed) Wm. Gailer.

The following interrogatives were propounded by the Court to the applicant who made the following answers.

First. Where, and in what year were you born? Answer, I was born in Oyster bay Township on Long Island State of New York on June 19<sup>th</sup> 1752.

Second. Have you any record of your age; and if so, where is it? Answer. I have no record of my age, but I have seen the record of my age in the family Bible.

Third. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live? Answer. I was living in Yorktown, Westchester County State of New York when called into service I have lived in Yorktown and the City of New York since the Revolutionary War and I now live in the City of New York.

Fourth. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom? Answer. I was a volunteer.

Fifth. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect; and the general circumstances of your service. Answer. L Colonel Philip VanCourtland, Col. A. Burr, Col. Jansen and Colonel Milan Colonel Sheldon of the [?] were (at different times) with the troops where I served on the lines. I can recollect Col. VanCortland's Regiment Col. Burr's Regiment Col. Jamisen's Regiment, Col. Jamison [sic] and Colonel Milan's Regiment of the Continental Regiment, and Col. Drake's, Col. Thomas's Col. James Hammonds, Col. Malcolms Regiment of the State Troops or Militia. The general circumstances of my service I have partially stated in the narrative of my declaration in addition I would state that I can recollect when Colonel Tarleton, in 1778 made and attach on our Regiment at Yorktown burnt the Barracks which was the meeting house and that Genl Abercrombie who lay on Verplanck's Point made an incursion into the Country, burn our Major Strang's House and drove off a quantity of Cattle & c I with a party of men attacked his rear guard and I was generally employed with the Regiments in guarding and protecting the lines from the incursions of the enemy from New York.

Sixth. Did you ever receive a commission; and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it? Answer. I received a First Lieutenant Commission which was signed by Governor George Clinton. But what has become of it I do not know.

Seventh. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief, or your services as a soldier of the revolution. Answer. I can state the names of Alderman James Palmer, Obadiah Newcombe, Nathaniel T. Boyd, David McKinney.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is only on that of the agency of the State of New York.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) William Gailer  
Affirmed, Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid John Barbarie,  
Clerk