

Pension Application for Samuel J. Griffith

S.3427

State of Ohio

Lorain County SS.

On this 27th day of March AD 1833 personally before me Josiah Harris one of the county Judges in the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Lorain came Samuel J. Griffith Resident of Amherst in the County of Lorain and State of Ohio aged seventy four 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted into the Army of the United States into the five months service. This was in the year that Burgoine was taken but does not recollect the month, he enlisted as aforesaid as Orderly Sergeant under Capt. John Smith and served the full time but took no discharge nor pay for that about one week before the expiration of the Inlistment the Capt. deserted and the company could get no papers or pay on that account he further says that in the month of June the same year he volunteered in the militia corps under Capt. Nathan Herrick in Col [Venedick's?] Regiment served at Lake George and Stillwater part of the time and part of the time was detached as a [?] under at a stand in Greenbush and was discharged the latter part of November of the same year & received twelve dollars towards my wages in the year following I served in a Volunteer company of Militia one month to guard the Frontiers west of Saratoga on the borders of Saratoga Lake this I think was in the month of September. I served under Capt. Elisha Gilbert there were two companies of this guard the other company was commanded by Captain Bostwick.

The next fall following I served an other in the Militia tour on the Mohawk River near Johnstown the month of October and half of November under Capt. Daniel Harrick as a frontier guard and in the year following he served he served one month in the City guard in the City of Albany under Captain Jonathan Warner that during the period of my service I was in the summer with the Indians at Fort Edwards near what was called the half way Brook in which Cap. Murray was wounded by a shot through the lower part of the body and died the 2d day afterwards. One William Foster was wounded at the same time through the nose and eye but recovered. This took place the year of Burgoines surrender in the same year Levies in another surmish [skirmish] the [?] commanded by Capt. Samuel Green which took place some time in the month of August on Joseph Pattens in which we took one Indian Prisoner and or white man by the name of Ferguson.

Quests put by the Judge.

1. Where and in what year were you born. Answer I was born in the Town of Dartmouth in Massachusetts the 13th day of June 1755.

Qst 2. Have you any record of your age & if so when is it. Ans None.

At 2d where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live. Answer. When & were called into service and lived in [?] in the State of New York. Since the Revolution I have lived on

Delaware in the County of Delaware about six years and lived about six years and lived on the Susquehanna in County of Shenango [Chenango] about three years I lived north of Albany in Montgomery County about three years and lived in Canandaigua in the County of Ontario State of New York ten or twelve years and in the town of Berry [Barre] in the County of Orleans in the State of New York about six or seven years & then lived in the county of Cuyahoga in the State of Ohio about three years and now live in Amhurst in this county as above stated.

Qst 4th 5th answered above.

Qst 6 did you ever receive a discharge and if do [sic] what has become of it.

Answer I never received any written discharge. I will name Revd Caleb Ormsbie and Leonard Johnson Esqr as witnesses as to my character for truth and veracity &c. (Signed with his mark) Samuel J. Griffith

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written before me. Josiah Harris Associate Judge

Letter in folder dated February 9, 1931, written in response to an inquiry.

You are advised that it appears from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.3427, that Samuel J. Griffith was born June 13, 1755, in Dartmouth, Massachusetts.

While residing in Canaan, New York, he enlisted and served with the New York Troops as follows: from January 1, 1777, five months as orderly sergeant in captain John Smith's Company; from June 15, 1777, as a private in Captain Nathan Herrick's Company, Colonel VanDyck's Regiment, and was discharged November 15, 1777; from sometime in September 1778, one month as private in Captain Elisha Gilbert's Company, and guarded the frontiers; from October 1, 1779 as private in Captain Daniel Herrick's Company, again guarding the frontiers and was discharged November 15, 1779; from sometime in 1780, exact date not shown, one month as private in Captain Jonathan Warner's Company, and acted as guard in the city of Albany. He stated that he was in two skirmishes with the Indians, one of which was at Fort Edward, and that he received wounds in the service, nature of wounds and engagements in which they were received, not given.

After the Revolution, he resided on the Delaware River in Delaware County, state not given, about six years; on the Susquehanna River, in Chenango County, state not given, about three years; north of Albany, in Montgomery County, no state given about three years; in Canandaigua, Ontario County, New York, about ten or twelve years; in Barre, Orleans County, New York about six or seven years' in Cayahoga County, Ohio three years; and then in Amherst, Lorain County, Ohio.

He was allowed pension on his application executed March 27, 1833, while residing in Amherst, Ohio.

He died December 25, 1838.

In 1834, a son, Judah Griffith, is referred to. His age and the name of his mother are not given. In 1835, one Duty Griffith made affidavit in Lorain County, Ohio, in support of soldier's claim, no relationship to soldier shown.

The above is the history of the only soldier named Samuel Griffith, who received pension while residing in the State of Ohio, found on the Revolutionary War records of this bureau.