

Pension Application for Thomas Hawkins

W.2792 (Widow: Nancy) Married January 1, 1778. Thomas died June 2, 1842.

Order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

State of Pennsylvania

County of Luzerne SS.

On this fifth day of September one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting Thomas Hawkins a resident of Eaton Township in the County of Luzerne and the State of Pennsylvania aged seventy four 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 June 7 one thousand eighty hundred and thirty two.

That he entered the service of the United [States] under the following named officers and served as herein stated. The first two weeks I was a substitute in the militia of the New York Troops in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six in the month of June (does not recollect the day) was mustered at Wallkill (at which place I was residing) Orange County State of New York. Colonel McLaughlin Captain Stilfat, Lieutenant Johnson, Serjent [Sergeant] John McLure. We march'd from Wallkill to New Windsor Orange County on the North River were [where] we took passage in a sloop and went to fort Clinton on the river below West Point where we remained the term of two weeks and was regulary [regularly] discharged (does not recollect the day that he was discharged), but was in the year 1776. I then was a substitute for my master, Samuel Wickham to whom I was an apprentice.

In about a month after he came back from fort Clinton my master was again drafted in militia and I stood for my master Samuel Wickham which time I was a resident of Walkill [Wallkill] Orange County State New York. This was in the same year he went to Fort Clinton, he thinks the month of July the day he does not recollect. We were mustered again at Walkill march'd to New Windsor and then went on board a sloop sailed down the river to fort Constitution where we were stationed for one weeks and then was regularly discharged. Our officers for this one weeks service were Colonel McLaughlin, Captain Wadkins, Serjent James Crawford, it is so long since that he has forgotten the names of his other officers.

He then enlisted at Newburgh in orange County State of New York for the term of five months in the month of July (does not recollect the day) in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six. This enlistment was made on his return home from his last tour while a substitute for Samuel Wickham.

He then got a furlough for ten days and went home which was at Walkill Orange County at the end of the ten day I returned to Newburgh. There took passage in a sloop and went to New York where I joined my commander Colonel McLaughlin, Captain Jackson, Serjent Hillhouse, does not recollect the names of his other Field and Company Officers.

We lay in New York until drove out by the British we marched to White Plains, was there a short time when the battle of White Plains took place and was in said

battle. He recollects that General Clinton commanded his brigade and after hard fighting we drove them and the day was ours. Shortly afterward we march'd to Peekskill where we remained until regularly [regularly] discharged the day and month of this discharge he has forgotten. His discharge having been burnt, but recollects it was late in the season of seventy six.

In the month of April (day forgotten) one thousand seven hundred and eighty he enlisted at Walkill Orange County State New York in the New York State troops for the term of nine months under Captain Burnett, Col. Wiesenfelt, Major DeWitt, Lieutenant John English, 1st Serjent John Draper. We mustered at Peconneysink in Orange County took up our march against the Indians and Tories to Esopus thence to Saugerties where we remained some time. From thence to Mombackus where we were stationed. We had no engagements during these nine months but some light skirmishes with the Indians and Tories. He then received a regular discharge from his Colonel at Mom backus he thinks in January one thousand seven hundred and eighty one. He was then a resident of Wallkill Orange County State of New York.

The next spring he thinks in April in the year 1781 he enlisted a Mamakating Ulster County State of New York under Captain Abraham Westfall for the term of nine months. Our officers were Colonel Wisenfelt, Lieutenant Col. John Spaulding, Major Thomas DeWitt, Lieutenant John English (Ensigns name forgotten) Serjent Draper. We mustered at Mamakating. Marched to Peanpack where we were stationed to defend the country against the Indians and tories, we were in no battles during this term but was constantly out on scouting parties. At the expiration of said nine months, in January 1782 he was regularly discharged at Peanpack Ulster County State New York. He was then a resident of Walkill Orange County State of New York.

His discharges he has lost and have been burnt were burnt [sic] at the time when his house was burnt in the year 1800.

He knows of no living witnesses in this county the nearest if any are living is one hundred and thirty miles from his place of residence. He has forgotten the Continental officers names who he was in company with at any period. Immediately after the Rev[missing] he resided five or six years at Shawangunk Ulster County State of New York from there came to Minisink Orange County State of New York where he resided two years, from there he moved to Luzerne County State of Pennsylvania where he has resided ever since and where he now resides, are excepting three or four years he lived in Bradford County State of Pennsylvania at a place called Wysock. He was born at Ringwood State of New Jersey cannot tell the year. He has no record of his age. He is known to Elisha Harding, George Miller, Ebenezer Stephens and Elisha Harding Jr. who reside in his neighborhood and vicinity.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Thomas Hawkins.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. H. Pettebone, Prot.