

Pension Application for Joseph Hewins

S.29884

(Mass & New York)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

County of Berkshire, SS.

On this twenty seventh day of October A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Honorable Court of Common Pleas, within and for said County of Berkshire, now sitting, Joseph Hewins a resident of the town of West Stockbridge in the County of Berkshire, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, aged sixty eight 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, 1832.

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

That about the first of July in the year 1781 he entered in Capt Marches Company at West Stockbridge, aforesaid for the term of three months, that within a few days after he marched with said Company to Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie & fort Plain & was then joined to Col Willet's Regiment, where he spent most of the term of his enlistment, about three weeks previous to the Battle at Johnstown he marched to that place under the command of Capt Gross, where he remained about two weeks, & then back again to Fort Plain when he remained about four days & then in consequence of an alarm on account of some mischief having been down about ten miles to the North of Fort Plain he with about thirty others was detached to march thither, when we arrived near to Fort Herkimer, we were ordered to return back & on our march back heard the firing at the battle at Johnstown & at Stone Arabia [Stone Arabia] met our troops who had been engaged in said battle, that his term of service expired the day following -to assist in pursuing the enemy he consented to guard Fort Dayton where he remained nine days & then at that place was discharged & returned that he served in this engagement from the time he left till he returned home, three months & fourteen days, he was five day son his march home.

That some time in the month of April in the year 1782 he enlisted at West Stockbridge aforesaid for the term of two years in the company commanded by Captain Simeon Neville & soon after marched with the said company to Albany & Schenectady & Stone Arabia [Stone Arabia], where said Company was stationed about two weeks & thence marched in the right time to Fort Herkimer where the enemy had been & destroyed many buildings & much property, the buildings which they had burned were still smoking & the enemy had retreated from thence we marched to Fort Plain when said company was joined to Col Willet's Regiment—that he continued to do duty at Fort Herkimer & Fort Dayton & vicinity till about the month of November & was then stationed at Fort Plain where he did duty till about the middle of August following AD 1783 when he marched to fort Herkimer & was stationed there about seven weeks & then marched to Fort Stanwix (now called Rome) in the State of New York at which place & in the vicinity he continued to do duty till about the last of October following when he marched back to Fort Plain & to Schenectady where he

continued to do duty till the sixth day of January AD 1784 & where he received a discharge a Copy of which follows viz.

“By Peter B. Tearce Esqr, the bearer Joseph Hewins a soldier in the New York State Battalion is hereby discharged agreeable to the order received from his excellency George Clinton given at Schenectady, January the 6th 1784.”

“Peter B. Tearce, Capt Commanding .”

That the whole amount of his services in the two engagements aforesaid he verily believes was two years & upwards.

The said Joseph Hewins in answer to the Interrogatories presented by the War Department states as follows viz. In answer to the first Interrogatory he states that he was born at Canaan in the State of New York on the 2d day of March AD [1765?] where he resided till about the age of three or four ;years when he removed with his parents to West Stockbridge aforesaid as he has always understood & believes where he has resided ever since—and in answer to the second he says that in his Family Bible now at his house is the Record of his age, which was transcribed many years since from a similar Record of his Fathers & in answer to the third and fourth he says he was living in West Stockbridge aforesaid & then enlisted & has resided then ever since in manner before stated & that he was no time a substitute—in answer to the fifth he says in addition to the officers before mentioned he recollects Ensign Mason, Capt Peter B. Tearse, Capt Princ, Capt Cannon & Capt Conner the General circumstances he has before stated—in answer to the sixth he says that from his last engagement aforesaid he received a discharge (a copy of which is above inserted) which he now has in his possession, from his first engagement he has no recollection of receiving a Discharge & in answer to the seventh he states that he can mention the names of Jonathan Benton & the Reverend Nathan Shaw.

He further states that he has no documentary evidence except his discharge aforesaid & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services in the two engagements aforesaid except Mr. Jonathan Benton of West Stockbridge whos [whose] testimony he has hereto annexed unless it is Amos Hamlin & Williams Avery who resided in the County of Greene in the State of New York the last information he had of them, who were knowing to his services aforesaid & who can testify to the same if living whos testimony he has finally been able to procure and which is hereunto annexed.

He 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 the agency of any State. (Signed) Joseph Hewins.

Sworn to, and Subscribed, the day and year aforesaid. Before David Cummins, a Presiding Judge of the Court of Common Pleas.