

Pension Application for Jeremiah Huntington

R.5409

State of New York
Otsego County SS.

In the matter of Jeremiah Huntington, an applicant for a pension now dec'd.

James Brockett at law agent of the said deceased applicant for a pension being duly sworn deposed & saith that sometime in the month of March 1833, he went to James B. Morse Esqr. That being first Judge of the Court of Com. Pleas of said County, now deceased, to the residence of the said Huntington who was then infirm in body & mind to draw up his declaration to entitle him to such pension for his services as a militia man in the revolutionary war: that he said applicant then made such declaration setting forth the extent of his services as to time & manner; & though his memory seemed impaired, he stated that he was at the retaking of Ticonderoga; was out under Col. Warner; was out at different periods in the whole near a year; & in several skirmishes & battles; that it was certified by the Judge that by reason of bodily infirmity he could not attend a court of record to make his declaration in open court; & the proceedings were duly authenticated according to the directions of the war department; that the said applicant was about six months of his service a sergeant.

That there were several affidavits appended, confirming his statement, & swearing to services, in the revolutionary war of said applicant for nearly the period stated by him.

That shortly after the said declaration was made, it was forwarded to the war department with such papers appended, confirmatory of the statement, as in the opinion of said Judge & this deponent would entitle the applicant to about a year's pension as a militia man & sergeant.

That afterwards in the same year, as this deponent believes in the month of August, this deponent as such agent for the applicant received the said declaration & papers back again in a brown paper envelope, postmarked city of Washington Aug 8, J.L. Edwards Comms of Pension, James Brackett Esqr., Cherry Valley, Otsego County N.Y. with a printed sheet enclosed with remarks with a pen in red ink on the same, pointing out the defects & omissions in the original papers; that the said applicant still continued infirm, as this deponent is informed & believes; & it was thought useless to try to illicit any further information from him & that the other confirmatory evidence was finally obtained especially of two witnesses, the main witness as to the services of the applicant, who resided in Vermont, & who were not certified by the magistrate, before whom they were sworn, to be credible, whose names were Solomon Fuller and John Fuller.

As this deponent is informed & believes; that when this further evidence was received & one or about 12th day of March last the said declaration & papers together with the confirmatory evidence of the credibility of the said witnesses together with the printed sheet containing the criticisms of the pension agent J. L. Edwards Esqr. were again forwarded by due course of the mail to the war department, enclosed in a letter of which the following is a copy:

“In the matter of Jeremiah Huntington an applicant for a pension to the Honorable the secretary of war: enclosed are the papers of Jeremiah Huntington applicant for a pension. It is believed that the objections made to the first set of papers are substantially obviated by the new affidavits of Ichabod Griggs, Nathaniel Antisdel, Simon Antisdel & Benjamin Huntington. They show the credibility of the two witnesses, Solomon & John Fuller not before certified to be credible; & that the bodily & mental infirmities of the applicant not only continue, but are increased since the first application. They account also for the top of the sergeant’s warrant. They communicate on the subject with the subscriber, Cherry Valley, Otsego County, New York. Your obedient servant James Brackett, Cherry Valley 12th March 1838—“

That from information derived from the war department & from the said commissioner of pension, through the agency of the Hon. John H. Prentiss member of Congress of said county, this deponent believes that said last mentioned papers never reached their place of destination, or have been lost, mislaid or destroyed without any decision or action of the proper officer relative to the same.

That the Hon. Jabez D. Hammond then & at present the first Judge of the said court of Com. Pleas authenticated the last mentioned papers, & took the last mentioned affidavits; which were verified as having been taken by him according to the directions of the war department by the seal of said court &c and that according to the opinion of said last mentioned Judge, as expected to this deponent at that time, the said papers were such as to entitle the said applicant to a pension according to the constitution of the said commissioner of pensions.

That the said applicant is now dead, as this deponent is informed & believes & that this deponent knows of no better evidence of the said declaration & accompanying papers now existing, than is herein set forth & herewith sent; and further this deponent saith not. (Signed) James Brackett

Sworn & subscribed this 16th day of February 1839 before me. Benjamin Davis, Justice of the Peace.