

Pension Application for James Jones

W.21468 (Widow: Catharine)

State of New York

Rensselaer County SS.

On the 23d day of February in the year of our Lord 1837 personally appeared before me George R. Davis one of the Judges of Rensselaer County Courts, Catharine Jones a resident of Berlin in the County of Rensselaer aforesaid and State of New York aforesaid, aged seventy nine years of age the 24 day of July last who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of James Jones late of the town Stephentown in the said County of Rensselaer deceased, that she was married to the said James Jones at Little Hosick [Hoosick] now Stephentown aforesaid on the 28th day of May 1778, by Elder Joshua Maxson who she has been informed and verily believes has been dead a great many years, that she lived with the said James Jones as his wife from the marriage aforesaid to his death, July 26th 1803 at Stephentown aforesaid and has remained his widow ever since & is not his widow.

And this deponent further says, that her said husband James Jones was a soldier of the Militia in the United States Service in the Revolutionary War that he was out on duty in that trying period for more or less periods of time every year from the early commencement of the War to its final close, that it was generally said and believed before and at the time of their marriage aforesaid & afterwards, that her said husband has been in the service of the United States and militia soldier at the north at St. Johns Canada, Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Fort Edward, & other places at Lake George & Champlain, as Orderly Sergeant, in the years 1775, 1776, & 1777, and this deponent has no doubt & verily believes the truth of the above mentioned reputed services, as it was then a [salyest?] of general conversation and never questioned or disputed to her knowledge or belief.

And this deponent further says that after her marriage aforesaid he was called out as a[n] Ensign & Lieutenant of the Militia in the service of the United States at Albany, Schenectady, Schoharie & other places on the Mohawk River every year til the public alarm has ceased, from Indian Incursions & Tory depredations, that the mode of raising or calling out the militia was thus, when a number of militia were called out several companies drafted their quota & the militia thus drawn—went some times under one officers & then another and it is not in her power to recollect the names or rank of the officers who went out or were associated with her late husband in those various services.

That this deponent does not know whether her late husband was in the battle of Saratoga or not but thinks he was. Knows he was in the Bennington Battle for soon after that he returned home to his fathers in Stephentown & when on his way home in company with several other militia soldiers he called at Caleb Sweets, a neighbors of the deponents father then of little Hosick now of Stephentown this deponent was there

& assisted the family in preparing a dinner for him & his companions of which they all partook, that the incidents of the battle were all then talked over.

That this deponent knows that her said husband left home in the service of the United States as a Militia Ensign in July or August 1778 & after their marriage aforesaid, and went to Albany & from thence she does not now recollect and did not return until the leaves of the forest trees had fallen, a fact well recollected by her, from a circumstance, fresh in her memory, that on the day of his return she walked out with him in the company with others through a piece of woods & of walking on the newly fallen leaves and this deponent recollects that after her marriage aforesaid, that her said husband was out one other season & did not return until cold weather in the fall, and that they was in the service of the United States but whether as an Ensign or Lieutenant in the Militia cannot say.

That this deponent has not doubt but that she knew at the time who were the officers associated with her husband, and the places were [where] he served the United States, but from failure of memory & leaving no motive to cherish the recollection, it is out of her power to state either.

That the before mentioned part of his return late in the fall is recollected by her—from the fact—that she was without fire wood & was obliged for a long time to pick up her own wood until at length she got one Thomas Sherman an aged man to assist her in procuring & preparing fuel for her.

That this deponent recollects perfectly the frequency of his absence in the service of the United States as a militia officers, on alarms created by Indian incursions & Tory depredations and was no doubt but that he was in the service of the United States as a militia soldier before her marriage over one year—and she has the strongest impression that he has heard him say at the period of their marriage that he lead men in such service about one year & three months.

And this deponent has no doubt from her best recollection & belief, that her said husband was in the service of the United States as a militia office, for more than a year after her marriage with him as aforesaid.

That the annexed commissioners are the originals & were left at his death among his papers. (Signed with her mark) Catharine Jones

Sworn to and subscribed this 23d day of February 1837. Geo. R. David Judge of Rensselaer County Courts.

Letter in folder dated September 23, 1927, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information in regard to James Jones, who lived in the Mohawk Valley, and served from New York state in the Revolutionary War.

The claim for pension has been found based upon service of a James Jones who served from New York in the Revolutionary War; he is the only soldier with that name who served from that state found on the Revolutionary War pension records. The data given herein were found in claim, W.21468.

James Jones was born July 22, 1754, the place not shown. He was the third child of Henry Jones and his wife, Eunice Miner, who were married January 19, 1749, in Stonington, the state not named. At the beginning of the Revolutionary War, the family resided in Little Hoosick, called later Stephentown, in that part of Albany County, New York, which was Rensselaer District.

James Jones enlisted in June 1775, as a private in Captain John Visscher's company for the defense of Albany County, New York, in March 1776, served as orderly sergeant in Captain Sandford's company and was on the expedition to Crown Point and Ticonderoga, was commissioned March 30, 1777, ensign, Captain James Denison's (Dennision's) company, marched against General Burgoyne's Army, was in the battle of Bennington and, after the surrender of General Burgoyne, returned home. He was commissioned April 1, 1778, ensign, Captain James Denison's company, Colonel Killian VanRensselaer's New York regiment, and served against, Colonel Killiam VanRensselaer's New York regiment, and served against the Indians in the Mohawk Valley; he was commissioned March 4, 1780, 2nd Lieutenant, Captain Stephen Miles's company, in that same regiment and served at Johnstown, New York, and other places as late as 1781.

James Jones married May 28, 1778, in Little Hoosick, New York, Catharine, a daughter of Daniel and Catharine (Avery) Denison; Catharine was born July 24, 1757 and lived only a few miles from the home of James Jones during the Revolutionary War. She was a niece of Captain James Denison, referred to herein. Her father died Mch 11, 1793 and her mother died ten or 12 years prior to 1838.

James Jones died July 26, 1803 in Stephentown, New York.

Catharine Jones, the officer's widow, was allowed pension on her application executed February 23, 1837, at which time she resided in Berlin, Rensselaer County, New York.

James Jones and his wife, Catharine, had a large family of children, their names and births given as follow:

James Jones born March 28, 1779.

Catharine Jones born December 31, 1780.

Eunice Jones born September 13, 1782.

Daniel Jones born November 3, 1784.

Jerusha Jones born April 25, 1787.

William Jones born August 26, 1789.

Rachel Jones born January 10, 1792.

Avery Jones born September 1, 1794, died March 1, 1811.

Elias Jones born February 6, 1797.

Clara Jones born October 6, 1799.

In 1840, William Jones, the son listed above, resided in North Stephentown, New York. In 1845, the son, James Jones, was a resident of that same place.

In 1839, Miner Jones, a brother of James Jones, the soldier, was a resident of Gainesville, Genesee County, New York. In 1839, Anna Rathbun, sister of James and Miner Jones, was a resident of Pike, Allegany County, New York; she stated that she

and her sister, Hannah Jones, were at home with their mother at the time of Burgoyne's surrender, and that their brother William was also in service then, as well as their brother, James.

In 1837, Ebenezer Denison, a resident of Berne, Albany County, New York, stated that he was present at the marriage of James Jones and Catharine Denison; Elizabeth Denison stated then that she lived in Little Hoosick, New York, when James Jones was in service, said Elizabeth was born July 3, 1776, and was a resident of said Berne, New York, in 1837; her brother, Nicholas Spencer, went into service with James Jones, from Little Hoosick, New York, in 1777.

The names of the brothers and sister of James Jones, the soldier, are shown as follow:

Henry Jones, Jr. born December 9, 1749.

Eunice Jones born January 20, 1752.

Roger Jones born December 3, 1756.

William Jones born August 25, 1759.

Amos Jones born May 2? 1762.

Hannah Jones born July 4, 1764.

Freelove Jones born August 15, 1766.

Miner Jones born February 20, 1771.

Anna Jones born July 13, 1771.

Elizabeth Jones born August 27, 1774.

The names of the brothers and sister of Catharine Denison, who married James Jones, are shown as follow: (the first nine, including said Catharine, were born in New London).

2. Daniel Denison born September 26, 1758.

Ebenezer Denison born January 26, 1760.

Jonathan Denison born May 17, 1761.

George Denison born April 12, 1763.

Grisold Denison born April 21, 1765.

Asenath Denison born February 24, 1767.

David Denison born March 19, 1769.

Latham Denison born March 8, 1771.

10. Stillborn.....August 18, 1773, in Little Hoosick.

Samuel Denison born October 24, 1774.

Elihu Denison born April 14, 1777.

Thomas Denison born May 5, 1779.

The following were shown also—Daniel Denison married May 8, 1783, Hannah Jones; Jonathan married January 15, 1789.