

Pension Application for James Keith

S.5650

State of New York

County of Herkimer SS.

On this the 4th day of February in the year 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the said County of Herkimer and said State the same being a Court of record having by Law a Clerk and seal now sitting James Keith a resident of the Town of NewPort in said County & State aged seventy five years and upwards, 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—

And he the said James Keith saith that he resided in the Town of Thompson in the County of Windham & State of Connecticut in the year 1776 and this deponent saith that on the 13th day of May 1776 he enlisted as a volunteer at Thompson in County of Windham in the State of Connecticut under Ensign Jonathan Nicholas into Capt. Daniel Allen's Company in Col. Andrew Ward's Regiment in the state service for one year and he this deponent was marched with the company under the command of Capt. Allen to Norwich in the State of Connecticut and from thence he this deponent embarked with Capt. Allen's Company and Capt Cutler's Company on board of a vessel and sailed directly to the City of New York and landed in said City and remained there a few days and from thence this deponent with Capt. Allen's Company went up the North River in Batteaux to a place called the English neighborhood on the west side of the said river nearly opposite Fort Washington on the East side of the river and this deponent was employed with Capt Allen's company & the whole of Col. Ward's Regiment on fatigue in building Fort Lee and also standing sentry and this deponent believes he remained there several weeks and then in the month of September 1776 he this deponent with Col. Ward's Regiment crossed the river aforesaid and marched with said Regiment under Capt. Allen to Valentine's Hill a little over a mile from said river & about a mile from Kingsbridge and was stationed there and Col. Ward's Regiment was joined to Col. Chester's Regiment and they remained at Valentine's Hill till the day [?] on the battle of White Plains and then he this deponent with said Regiment under the Command of Gen. Sullivan were marched to White Plains and arrived at White Plains the night before the battle of White Plains and on the day of said battle this deponent was employed in cutting down timber and making abatis against the enemy and throwing up intrenchments behind said abates.

And this deponent saith that said battle commenced between the advanced parties early in the morning & the American Army were routed in this engagement and in the dead of the same night this deponent with Col. Ward's regiment & the main army of the Americans retreated about three miles & a half to a place towards North Castle and on the second day after said retreat this deponent was taken sick as he believes by a vicious cold which he had caught by laying on the ground a few nights

before and this deponent was soon after carried to North Castle & put into a school house and this deponent was very sick and suffered extremely and this deponent said that John Keith in the affidavit made by him hereunto annexed came & removed this deponent on a litter born by two horses to Norwalk in Connecticut and put into a house there where the sick of Capt Allen's Company were kept and this deponent was insensible much of the time of his sickness and he was told he was removed to Norwalk in the latter part of November 1776 and this deponent remained sick till sometime before the middle of January 1777 and this deponent then recovered so much that he was able to be removed home in Thompson in the State of Connecticut and after this deponent got home he was confined to his house by his feeble state of health until spring following and he this deponent was not able to do any labor until the forepart of the summer 1777.

And this deponent saith he received no discharge in writing. The officers under whom he served were Capt. Allen, Lieut Wiley, 2d Lieut Baltour, Ensign Nicholas; Col. Ward, Lieut Col. Johnson, Maj. Cook, Col. John Chester being the oldest Col. took the command of the brigade in the fall.

He this deponent saw in this service Gen. Washington, Gen Lee & was personally acquainted with Gen Wadsworth, Gen. Putman who lived in the Town of [Pamfut?] adjoining the Town of Thompson in Connecticut State.

And this deponent served as above stated twelve months as above stated.

And this deponent saith that in the month of October 1777 he enlisted as a volunteer at Thompson in the State of Connecticut into Capt. Lyons Company in Col. McLellan Regiment in the state service for one month and was marched with the company under the command of Capt Lyons to Plainfield in the State of Connecticut & there the company received their arms and this deponent then was marched with the company under the command of Capt Lyons to Providence in the State of Rhode Island and from thence he was marched with Capt. Lyon's Company to Slades Ferry or Tanton River & after we crossed the river the company was marched down to Howland's Ferry & from thence to [Tanton] and the American Army was concentrated at the four corners as they were called under the command of Gen. Spencer and Gen. Douglass commanded the brigade to which this deponent belonged and this deponent remained at the said four corner until Gen. Spencer's expedition was give up and this deponent was then marched back to Providence & remained there until his term expired.

And this deponent served under the command of Capt Lyon one month as above stated and was then discharged at Providence aforesaid sometime in November 1777, but he received no discharge in writing. The officers under whom he served were Capt. Lyon, First Lieut Bales, 2d Lieut Dresser, Ensign Kindall, Col. McLellan, Gen. Douglass.

This deponent saw Gen. Palmer who commanded the Massachusetts Troops.

And this deponent further saith that in the month of March 1779 he this deponent enlisted as a substitute for William Mory at Thompson in the State of Connecticut into Capt. William Latham's Company in the State servin [serving] for six

weeks and he was marched with Capt. Latham's Company to Fort Griswold on the River Thames opposite New London in Connecticut State & this deponent was stationed in said Fort under the command of Capt Latham and Col. Ledyard had command of fort Griswold & as called Major Ledyard then but had command of said Fort & this deponent did duty on guard in said Fort & was exercised daily at the heavy artillery and this deponent served as he believes about fifty days under the command of Capt. Latham and this deponent then served out his term for which he enlisted as a substitute for William Mory and he this deponent then enlisted as substitute for a soldier whose name the deponent thinks was Treadway in his place into Capt. Joseph Lincoln's Company in Fort Griswold and this deponent served in said Fort under the command of Capt. Lincoln in standing on guard & was daily exercised at the heavy artillery and [?] this deponent went up to Gales Ferry & brought wood to said Fort Griswold for the Troops—and this deponent saith that he served in said Fort under the command of Capt. Lincoln until the latter part of May 1779 and he this deponent was then discharged but received no discharge in writing.

And this deponent saith that he served two months and a half under Capt. Latham & Capt Lincoln as above stated—

The officers under whom he served were at first Capt. Latham, Lieut Way, no 2d Lieut nor any ensign; Col. Ledyard in the next place Capt Lincoln.

The Lieut not recollected nor the Ensign. This deponent saw no regular officers in this service as he recollects—Except Col. Ledyard.

And this deponent saith that in July 1779 in haying time he this deponent was drafted at Thompson in the State of Connecticut into Capt. Jonathan Cady's Company in Col. Storrs Regiment in the State service for only a month in the first place and this deponent was marched & Groton Bank near Fort Griswold aforesaid and this deponent saith that a Brittish Frigate lay off on Goshen [?] in the River Thames & this deponent was on guard frequently watching said frigate and this deponent was ordered on fatigue in cutting cedar in a cedar swamp to repair the pickets at Groton and this deponent after his month was expired for which he was drafted continued to serve one month more on amount of the said Brittish Frigate lying in the River Thames and this deponent served two months as above stated under the command of Capt Cady & was employed as above stated and this deponent was then discharged at Groton aforesaid the last days of August 1779 & immediately went home & got home on the 2d or 3d day of September but this deponent received no discharge in writing.

The officers under whom he served were Capt. Cady, Lieut Amos Carroll, Ensign John Barrett, Col. Storrs. He saw no regular officers there except Col. Ledyard.

And this deponent saith that he served has herein before stated eighteen months and a half.

And this deponent saith that he has proved said services performed by him in the war of the Revolution by the affidavits of John Keith, Amos Westcott and Josiah Comins which are hereunto annexed.

And this deponent saith that he was born in the Town of Smithfield in the County of Providence & State of Rhode Island on the 5th day of January in the year 1758. This deponent has no record of his age.

This deponent was living at Killinley afterwards called Thompson in the County of Windham in the State of Connecticut at the Commencement and during the War of the Revolution and since the Revolutionary War this deponent continued to live in Thompson aforesaid until the year 1798 and he this deponent then removed to NewPort in Herkimer County and State of New York and has resided in NewPort aforesaid ever since he removed there in 1798 and this deponent still resides in said Town of NewPort in Herkimer County.

This deponent never received any discharge from the service.

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) James Keith

Subscribed & sworn to this 12th day of February 1833 in open court. Julius C. Nelson, Clerk