

Pension Application for David Kelley

R.5839

State of New York

County of Delaware SS.

On this twenty seventh day of February 1838 personally appeared before the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, at a court of Common Pleas held at the Court house in Delphi in and for the said County of Delaware, David Kelly [Kelley] of the town of Middletown in the said County of Delaware, aged eighty seven years on the 25th day of February instant, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he enlisted in the army of the United States at a place called Frederickstown in the County of Dutchess in the State of New York where he then resided.

That by reason of old age and consequent defect of memory he cannot state precisely the time when he enlisted, and entered the service; nor with exactness (except by a reference to events and circumstances) the length of time that he served—and therefore he sets forth the following circumstances to giv[e] the time as nearly as his recollection will enable him to do it.

Soon after the British troops had taken possession of New York an alarm was excited at Fredericktown when this deponent then was, by a report that the British officers in New York had sent word to a person residing in Fishkill to have dinner ready for them on a certain day in about three weeks, at which time they intended to be there.—

That Col. Fields an officer in the service of the States on hearing this report commenced an enlistment of soldiers in Fredericktown for the Continental Service.

That this deponent enlisted under him at that time—one of the circumstances fresh in the memory of this deponent, being the summer in which Col. Field tried to quiet the fears of the inhabitants, as to the threatened visit of the British troops, by telling them, among other things, that “if the British officers went to Fishkill to dinner they would take supper in hell.”

That this Deponent soon after his enlistment went into actual service, and was stationed for sometime at Peekskill, and also at Rhinebeck and other places on the North river in guarding the river under the Command of Captain Joseph Dkieman, who belonged to Col. Field’s regiment—

That he was engaged in this service at different stations from Rhinebeck to White Plains during his term of enlistment which was for three years, and that he continued to serve under the name Captain and in the same regiment until the new arrived of the taking of Burgoine.

That this Deponent when he enlisted had a family and during occasional absences from the service to visit his family during the three years of his enlistment he furnished a substitute to supply his place but that the times of such above would n to in all amount to more than one half of the times of enlistment.

And this deponent further states that he never received any part of the pay to which he was entitled for his services above set forth.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State. (Signed) David Kelley

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.