

Pension Application for John Kenneda

R.5866

State of New York

Oneida County SS.

On the eighth day of September 1832 before the Subscriber a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Oneida County came John Kenneda an Indian of the Oneida Tribe, a resident in Vernon at Oneida Castle, Oneida County aged Seventy eight years who being 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 7th 1832.

That he was a member of the Oneida Tribe of Indians in the State of New York, and entered and served in the Revolutionary War with the white men under Col. Willett on the Mohawk River—was at the battle at Canada Creek when Col. Butler was shot in the breast and killed—was at Oswego, Sandy Creek, Johnstown, and all along the Mohawk region—was in the battle at Stillwater—at taking of Burgoyne under Col. Lewey or Louis a Regis Indians & half breed—

He served as much as Three Years for the Americans – and served them faithfully. Has seen Gen. Washington and many other American officers.

There is no Indian now living at Oneida who was with Kenneda except one about 101 years old and who has lost his reason—Kenneda acted often with the Indians as [?] scout & runner for Americans.

He relinquishes all claim to a pension except present—and hopes his claims as a faithful Indian warrior will be remembered. (Signed with his mark) John Kenneda

Sworn to by above Indian the above being Interpreted to him by Capt. Greene who was sworn to interpret truly. J. Hathaway Judge of Oneida Com. Pleas [?]

State of New York

County of Oneida to wit:

John Kenneda above being duly sworn saith in addition to the facts set forth in his declaration that this deponent as this deponent is informed and believes, was born in the Province of Uper [Upper] Canada at a place called Caughnawaga on the river St. Laurence [Lawrence] near the City of Montreal and on the east side of the river St. Laurence bat which place then resided Indians then called the Caughnawaga tribe. That this deponent has no record of his age that when the Revolutionary War with great Britain commenced this deponent resided and continued to reside until about three years before the close of the war at Caughnawaga aforesaid.

At which time this deponent and three others to wit. John Saguatount which significant that if you get on his back hie will throw you off—and one [Sagua?] Big Bread and one [Wistowqua] which being interpreted signifies frozen; departed from Caughnawaga aforesaid for Oneida Castle in the State of New York, that they were pursued by the Canadian Indians and four days after their departure from Caughnawaga aforesaid, the two Indians last above named were caught by the Canadian Indians and taken back that his deponent and the said John escaped the

pursuers and reached Schenectady in twelve days after their departure from Caughnawaga that after remaining at Schenectady about twenty days this deponent joined a part of Oneida Indians [blot] of about two hundred and pursued the Indians unfriendly to the American cause who at that time had begun to commit depredations upon the white inhabitants along the banks of the Mohawk River, that Col. Lewes commanded the party of Indians; that ever since the American Revolution this deponent has resided with the Oneida Indians in the vicinity of Oneida castle and State of New York—that this deponent continued in the service from that period until the close of the war, that this deponent was in an engagement under Col. Willett on the West Canada Creek against the British Indians, after they had pursued them up that creek two days; that one American Indian was killed in the said engagement and six of the British Indians; that Major Cheny was frequently with the Indians and directed their movements, that he was present at the last aforesaid engagement and had some holes shot through his clothes, that this deponent being principally with the Indians and not acquainted with the English language does not recollect the name of any other officers; that this deponent was in Schenectady when peace was proclaimed; that this deponent knows of no person now living by whom this deponent can prove his said services although this deponent has made diligent search for such witness; that William Go The Ground an Oneida Indians was in the service with this deponent but that he died last summer. (Signed with his mark) John Kenneda

Sworn to this 28th day of June AD 1833 before me [blot, can't read remainder.]