

Pension Application for Christopher Lewis

S.23300

State of New York

County of Niagara SS.

On this second day of January A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas of the said County of Niagara now sitting at Lockport in said County, Christopher Lewis aged seventy seven years in October last, 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated—

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated—

That he first entered such service under Colonel Smith in Captain Rowley's Company of Militia and that one George Sloan was Lieutenant of such company at that time—

That he so entered the said service sometime on or about the first of July in the year 1776 (as near as he can recollect) and continued in such service at that time five months when he was discharged the time for which he had so entered such service having expired, and that on leaving the service as aforesaid he went home to Washington Massachusetts and arrived home sometime in January 1777—

That during the time he was so in the service as aforesaid he was engaged in no battle—That he with the other members of the Company mustered in Stockbridge Massachusetts and marched from thence to North River near Albany and thence went in a sloop to New York where they were stationed from two to four weeks as near as he can recollect, and then they were marched to the Kings Bridge where they stayed a few days and then they were marched to the White Plain where they stayed until his time was out and he was discharged and went home—

That no written discharge was given to this deponent as he believes nor to any other of his fellow soldiers but their time being out they were told they might go home.

That the month in which he entered the said service as aforesaid was this, the militia company to which he belonged was divided into classes and each class had to furnish his man to go into the service and the class to which he happened to belong agreed upon deponent to go.

That he [the] deponent accordingly wen tor entered the service as aforesaid, and as he [the] deponent calls it enlisted in such service for the said five months.—

That there were Continental regiments and companies at New York and at White Plains at the time he was stationed there as aforesaid but the deponent cannot recollect the number of any regimen tor the names of any of their officers—That the time when he left New York as aforesaid and marched to Kings Bridge and from thence to White Plains was the time when the City of New York was evacuated by the American Army and taken possession of by the British forces.

That as deponent believes, it was in July that New York was so evacuated. That the weather was extremely warm—

That deponent stayed at home during the winter of 1776 & 1777 and in the Spring of 1777 and as deponent believes in the months of April or May he again entered the service of the United States in the Army of the Revolution in Captain George Sloans Company of Militia and at that time entered such service for the Term of Eight Months—That deponent and eight or ten other went from the said Town of Washington aforesaid with said Captain George Sloan and marched from there to the Highlands on the North River where they were stationed between three and four months as near as he can rember [remember] and that from thence they went to Fort Edward.—

That they traveled in a sloop from the Highlands to Albany and from there they were marched on foot to Fort Edward when he stayed about four months longer when their times were out and they were discharged—that the occasion of his going to Fort Edward was a call for volunteers for that duty—That Millekin was the Lieutenant of said Captain Sloans Company at the time aforesaid—That deponent does not recollect the names of any of the officers of the Regiment.

That he resided in Washington aforesaid at the time he so entered the said service the second time.

That as he supposes he enlisted in the said service—That he started from Washington aforesaid with said Capt Sloan together with the said eight or ten others, and as they marched along through the country they were joined by several others, and by the time they got to the Highlands as aforesaid they had a company as the deponent should think of about eighty or ninety in number—

That he cannot recollect who commanded at the said Highlands or at Fort Edward aforesaid at the times above mentioned, nor can he recollect the names of any of the officers except the said Captain Sloan and Lieutenant Milliken—

That on being discharged as aforesaid at Fort Edward he went home to Washington Massachusetts aforesaid where he stayed during the winter of 1777 and 1778 and in the spring of 1778 as he thinks about May he with his father moved to Cambridge New York where he lived during the summer and winter of 1778 and 1779—and in the summer of 1778 he was chosen a Serjeant in a company of Militia at Cambridge aforesaid and served as such Serjeant until the spring of 1778 when and as he thinks about the first of April he entered or agreed to enter the service aforesaid again and as he calls it enlisted for the term of eight months and about a week after such enlistment he with several others who enlisted at the same time and from the same place went to Fort Edward where he entered upon duty and stayed eight months and that time he had the privileges of a Serjeant and actually did the duty of a Serjeant best whether he had a Serjeants warrant he cannot recollect—

That during the said last mentioned eight months service at Fort Edward one Lebestone or Levestone as Colonel and one Bloodgood was Serjeant Major of the Regiment to which he belonged at said Fort Edward—

That he cannot recollect the names of any other of his officers—That after staying at Fort Edward for the time last aforesaid his time being out he was discharged and he went home to Cambridge and that fall, to wit the fall of 1779 he again entered the service as a volunteer, as a ranger under Captain Hodge and continued in such service about one month during which time he ranged the country in the vicinity of Fort Edward and other northern parts of New York.

That he then returned home again at Cambridge where he stayed the remainder of the winter of 1778 & 1780 and in the spring of 1780 and as he believes in the month of March or April of that year he went to Sunderland? Vermont where in said March or April he again enlisted into the service of the United States for nine months.

That he joined his company under that enlistment at a place named Manchester from whence they were marched to Castleton in the State of Vermont where they were stationed until they were discharged. That they were discharged a few days previous to their time being out.

That soon after they arrived at Castleton the Captain of the Company was taken sick and returned home and deponent cannot recollect the names of any of the officers of the company or Regiment except Bronson who was the Colonel.

Deponent further saith that he was not out in any battle during any of the times he was so as aforesaid in the service of the United States.

That he has no documentary evidence or paper evidence of any such service—

That he never received any written discharge as he recollects, but when their time was out that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to such 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.

And in answer to the questions directly propounded to him by the court he says that –

He was born in the County of Dutchess in the State of New York. That he cannot tell in what year he was born except from his present age which was seventy seven years on the eighteenth day of October last.

That he has no record of his age—that when he first entered the service he lived in Washington Massachusetts. That at the close of the Revolutionary War he lived in Sunderland Vermont where he lived a short time and thence went back to Washington Massachusetts where he lived until the Shays Rebellion and then he removed into Cambridge Washington County New York where he lived several years and thence removed to Cornwell Vermont where he lived between thirty and forty years and until a year ago last October when he removed to Lockport Niagara County and has since resided a part of the time in Lock port aforesaid and a part of the time in Knowlsville with his children.

That he now lives in Lockport—that when he first entered the service of the United States the Militia Company to which he belonged was divided into Classes each class to furnish his [?] and deponent volunteered or as he calls it enlisted to go out of

his class. That the second time he entered the service he volunteered as he calls it enlisted—

That the third time he entered said service he as he supposes enlisted—

The fourth time he volunteered as a ranger and that the last time he enlisted as he supposes or volunteered.

That he cannot state the names of any of the officers or Continental or Militia Regiments that served with him except those above given and that he never received any written charge as he recollects or believes. (Signed) Christopher Lewis

Subscribed and sworn before the court in open court the day & year first above written. Henry Catlin Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of Niagara County.