

Pension Application for Alexander McCaleb or McKillip

S.18969

State of Maine

County of Washington SS

On this second day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty two personally appeared in a Probate Court holden at Machias in said County of Washington Alexander McKillip spelled by some McCaleb, aged about eighty two years, a resident of Steuben in the County aforesaid who being 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 June 7th 1832.

That he the said Alexander McKillip first enlisted for six months as a drummer at New York in the Spring of the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six under Captain Mott of Colonel McDougals Regiment New York Troops, and marched to Fort Edward, thence to Lake George thence to St. John's Chamblee and Montreal in Canada & to Quebec by Slegge on the Ice from whence we were driven by superior force (Burgoine's Army) and retreated back to Still Water. I then enlisted for three years or during the war in Captain's Copps Company of Colonel (Goose) Van Schaick's 1st New York Regiment, commonly called VanSkoik 1st Lieutenant Salsbury 2d Lieut Snow, Ensign Benjamin Gilbert, Major Grimes, Colonel Van Dyke, and during the last term of service, we marched through the Jersey's and took up quarters at Valley Forge & was in the battle of Monmouth and the taking of Burgoine and Ballstown and a nomber [number] of other skirmishes.

In the fall of the year 1780 at a place above Albany called New City (now Gray) myself and five other were surprised and taken by the British and carried to Ticonderoga from thence carried to St. Johns in Canada where I remained one year and a half or more, from thence I made by escape got on board of a British Schooner in disguise, master's name was Merritt, Schooner's name Gaspary in which Schooner I proceeded to Halifax. From thence by land to a place called [Copycutt?] from thence went on board a vessel bought to Passamigarda now Eastport, from thence by land to this town, in which town & the adjoining town of Gouldsborough. I have resided ever since.

I have several times employed sundry persons to assist me in obtaining a pension but being so extremely poor that I could not get money to pay their fees. They abandoned my case.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and I declare that my name is not on any Pension Roll of any agency in any State Territory or Province. (Signed with his Mark) Alexander McKillip

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. J. C. Talbut, Judge.

Letter in folder dated October 23, 1925, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.18969, it appears that Alexander McCaleb or McKillip was born February 21, 1761, place not stated.

He enlisted in New York City in 1775 and was a Drummer in Captain Mott's Company, Colonel McDougall's New York Regiment, was in the battles of St. Johns and Chambly, and served six months.

Soon after this, he enlisted and served in Captain Copp's Company, Colonel Goose Van Schaick's New York Regiment, he was in both battles of Stillwater, and battle of Monmouth; in the fall of 1780, he was captured by the British at Troy, New York, was taken to St. Johns, Canada and imprisoned and held one and one half years, when he made his escape.

The pension was allowed on his application executed August 2, 1842, while a resident of Steuben, Washington County, Maine.

Soldier married about 1795 at Gouldsborough, Maine, Hannah, daughter of Noah Young.

Soldier died May 16, 1845, leaving the following children -- Lovisa P. Yound; Alexander; ;and Abigail Wilson.

It is stated that two children died prior to soldier, namely -Moses, leaving eight children; and Mary Libbey, leaving six children; but the names of these grandchildren are not stated.

There is no further data on file as to family.