

Pension Application for Robert McCarter

S.9429

State of New York

Washington County SS.

On this 28th day of August 1833, personally appeared in open court before us the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Washington now sitting Robert McCarter of the Town of Argyle County of Washington and State of New York aged Eighty years on the 4th day of April last 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 entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That while he lived in the town of Salem then White Creek of Washington and State of New York and in the month of January AD 1776 he was called out with all the Militia in mass & he entered the service under the command of Capt Thomas Armstrong does not remember the names of his Lieut and Ensign [Ensign] was in Col. McCracken's regiment, that Armstrong was the Major he thinks and he was conveyed with all the troops to Johnstown In Montgomery County in Sleighs (this alarm was occasioned from the fact that Sir John Johnson who then resided in said town was collecting and enlisting soldiers with arms and ammunition for the enemy in hostility to the troops of our arms) and when he arrived within a short distance of Johnstown they left the Sleighs and formed in Companies and was marched under arms into the town and at Sir John Johnsons residence and made him and all his men prisoners of War and he was marched with them to Albany where they Johnson & his men were he thinks put in prison he was then marched to Salem and discharged by parole. That he served at this time more than two weeks as a private soldier—and this declarant says he believes there were no other troops out at this time but this regiment.

And he further saith that while he lived in the town of Salem aforesaid and in the Spring of the year he thinks in March A.D. 1776 he enlisted In the New York State Troops for the term of nine Months under the command of Capt. Joshua Conkey does not remember the names of the Lieut and Ensign and In the Reg. commanded by Col McCracken does not recollect the names of the other officers of the Reg.—he was marched from Salem to Fort Edward where he was stationed a short time thence he was marched to Skeenesborough now Whitehall and stationed as a Guard and kept Garrison and sent out in Small Scouting parties to several different places until he thinks sometime in October when he was marched To Albany and there stationed as a Guard and did the duty of the Garrison remained there until the term of his nine months expired which was in the month of December and he was discharged he thinks in writing does not however remember whether it was or not nor if it was in the writing who signed it if he received a discharge in writing it is lost as he has none in his possession. That he served and performed the duty of a private soldier faithfully nine months.

He further saith that while he lay at While hall aforesaid Capt Stockwell commanded the Garrison and at Albany the garrison was commanded by his Col McCracken. That he saw in this campaign other troops but he does not recollect the names of officers commanding either in the Continental or Militia Service.

This declarant further saith that while he lived in the town of Salem aforesaid and in the month of June A.D. 1777 he volunteered in the demand of Government and entered the service under the command of Capt Armstrong does not recollect the names of the Lieut & Ensign—in Col. Williams, Regt and was marched to Ticonderoga and entered the Fort which was commanded by Gen St. Clair.

That he was in the Fort when Burgoyne's Army arrived saw them ascend Mount Defiance and was also in the Fort when it was abandoned which he thinks was the fore part of July he was then marched through Castleton—Hubberton in Vermont to Salem and discharged by parole that he served served [sic] and performed the duty of a private soldier at least two weeks. That his Father immediately moved his family from Salem to Pensylvania [Pennsylvania] with whom this declarant went and returned in the fall to Salem.

This declarant further saith that while he lived in Salem aforesaid and in the month of May A.D. 1778 there was a call made upon the Militia of the State of New York and he volunteered and entered the service for two months under the command of Capt. Markham does not recollect the names of the Lieut & Ensign and he was marched on the land down the Hudson River to the High lands twomiles south of New Winsor [Windsor] where he was stationed and was imployed in Sinking obsticles obstacles (called Cheverex de friceses) [chevaux de fries] in the river to prevent the British ships from coming up the river above and in keeping guard and remained there untill his term of two months expired which was in July – that he served and performed his duty as a private soldier two months.

He further says there were no other command but by his Capt and no other company with them in this campaign—that he was afterward informed that Capt Markam went over and joined the British—and this declarant on his oath further saith he has made diligent enquiry & can find no ne living that he can prove the above services by although it may appear to the War Department differently in consequence of so many surviving soldiers of the Revolution.

This declarant further saith that while he lived in Salem aforesaid and in the years of 1779 – 1780—1781 and 1782 he was a private soldier in the New York Militia and belonged to Capt. John Armstrong and Capt Thomas Armstrong's Company does not nor cannot remember the Lieut and Ensigns names. That the former part of the above time Col. John William commanded and the remainder of the time the Reg was commanded by Col. Alexander Webster and that during the above period he was at all times and very frequently called out in alarms but the particular dates or number of times on the length of each service he does not recollect he sometimes was sent out in scouting parties to ferret out the Indians and Tories as they were numerous and continually committing their evil designs and depredations that during the time from April to January in each year he was in the service could not do any thing else. The

enemy in and among the people he always had his arms by him ready to turn out and did turn out at a minutes warning or notice.

This declarant on his oath says he v eerily believes he was in the service and [?] to the service at least fifteen months during the whole term of the 4 years above named and did his duty faithfully as a private soldier.

That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person he can procure who can testify to his service except Robert Tennell and John Steele whose affidavits are hereto annexed.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or territory.

1. That he was born in the Kingdom of Ireland in the year of 1853 on the 4th day of April.
2. That [there] is a record of his age in his family bible and he knows of no other.
3. That went he entered the service he lived in the town of Salem then White Creek Washington County and State of New York and since the Revolutionary War he has lived in towns of Salem, Hebron, and Argyle where he now lives and has lived for nine years.
4. That he entered the service as volunteer and by Inlistment.
5. The names of the officers and regiments either Continental or Militia he cannot more distinctly remember in the particular circumstances of his business there is set forth in the body of his declaration.
6. That he does not particularly recollect whether he received a written discharge and if he did he does not know either who signed or what has become of it.
7. That he is known in the neighborhood where he resides by Jesse L. Leigh, Henry Shepperd, Rabnsom Stiles and in the town of Salem to Thomas Boyd, John Steele, David Russel, Robert Tennell, Rev. Alexander Roudfet & Cyrus Stevens and many others who can testify to his character for truth and veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

(Signed) Robert McCarter

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me in open court.
J. S. Leigh Clk.