

Pension Application for Samuel McKeen or McKean

S.27,161 and S.28,806

State of New York

Otsego County SS.

On this 22^d day of October 1844 came into open court Samuel McKean aged 80 years who on his solemn oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision of the act of Congress of the 7th day of June 1832.

& Applicant states that he now [is] a resident of the County and State aforesaid, that in Montgomery he was born & in that and this County he has always resided, that he is the Identical man who is now receiving an invalid pension of the United States for wounds received during the war of the Revolution, and while in actual Service.

That in the month of May 1779 (1) his father Robert McKean was commissioned a Captain in [the] State of New York to serve as such in the levies raised for the defence of the western frontiers, that your applicant the very young entered the service of the United States as a soldier of his father's company for nine months and served as a soldier of s'd Co. from May 1779 until the 1st day of January 1780 when he was discharged by his father. That in May 1780 (2) he was again called on & entered the service of his father's company of New York Levies and served as such until January 1781 when he was again discharged and again in April 1781 he entered the service of his father's company and served in said Co. until his father was promoted to Major and he served in Capt. Marshall's Company until the 10th of July 1781. At which time and in an engagement with the Indians on the Mohawk River his father received wounds of which he died in a few days, that your applicant was also at the same time wounded in the mouth for which he is now receiving as before stated a pension. That all the service done by said Robt McKean was against the Indians in the Mohawk Valley, that owing to the fall of applicant's father in service his muster rolls was lost and as he is informed not returned to the proper office in the state, and that only the record of applicant's service in Capt. Marshall Co. appears from the time he enlisted in May 1781 to the date of his wound in July 1781. (3) That the pay or muster rolls of Robt McKean of 1779 & 1780 were lost with him as he is informed & believes when he fell in battle, that said Robt McKean left a widow who got his arrearages of pay & as this applicant now recollects. Your applicant states that he never has made application for his pension under the act of the 7th of June 1832 not knowing he had a right to but one at a time, that he is not on any pension roll of the United States (Save & except that of an invalid as before stated), he hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension except that he is now receiving as an invalid. That he is very advanced in life & may from that cause have misstated some few matters as to dates but that he is perfectly clear in his recollection of having served from May 1779 to January of the year following & from May 1780 to the January following & from May 1781 to the date of his wound (4), in July 1781, that he is certain his father was his captain for the 1st & 2nd tour & that Capt. Marshall was his capt for the 3rd tour. That Lt. Col Harper, the year 1780 & 81, that Marinus Willett was commandant of the Regiment all the time but was a Continental officers. (Signed) Samuel McKean.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court. Geo. B. Wilson, Clerk

State of New York

Secretary's Office

I certify that on the 3rd day of May 1779 Robert McKean was duly appointed & Commissioned Captain of one of the companies in one of the district corps of 500 men each directed to be raised by law for the immediate defence of the State one of which corps was commanded by Lieut. Colonel Henry K. VanRensselaer and the other by Lieut. Colonel Albert Pawling—all which appears by the minutes of the Council of appointment of this state in this office.

It also appears by the said Minutes that on the 11th of May 1780 Robert McKane was appointed and commissioned a Captain in the Regiment of Levies raised for the defence of the frontiers whereof Robert Harper was Lieut Col. Commandant Arch'd Campbell Dep. Sec. of State.
Albany October 19, 1844

State of New York

Otsego County SS.

Be it known that before me Elisha Foote Esquire one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in the County aforesaid Samuel McKean personally appeared and made oath that he is the identical Samuel McKean named in an original certificate of which the following is a true Copy, and that said certificate is now lost. "This is to certify that in pursuance of the law of the State of New York, entitled an act making provision for the officers, soldiers and seamen, who have been disabled in the service of the United States passed the 22nd day of April, 1785. We have examined Samuel McKean of Cherry Valley in the County of Montgomery, carpenter, and find that during the late war to wit. Sometime in the spring of the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty one he enlisted as a private soldier in Captain Elihu Marshall's Company in the Regiment of New York levies in the service of the United States, commanded by Col. Marinus Willet, that on the tenth day of July in the same year, he was ordered out under the immediate command of Col. Willett to attack a party of Indians at Turlough, in the County of Montgomery aforesaid and in the attack aforesaid he received a wound from the enemy by a musket ball in his chin which fractured the Jaw bone and came out through his left cheek, by reason of which wound he is in some measure disabled from obtaining his livelihood by labor, that on the twenty second day of June last he was twenty three years of age. Wherefore in pursuance of the law aforesaid we do further certify that upon the principles of the act of Congress of the seventeenth day of June 1783, the said Samuel McKean is entitled to receive from the

treasurer of this State a yearly pension of thirty six dollars, from the first day of January in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty two if not before paid.

Given under our hands this twenty fifth day of July 1788. Richard Varick, Richard Stott

And the said Samuel McKeen further saith that he served as a private in Captain Elihu Marshall's Company in Col. Willett's Regiment of New York Levies in the service of the United States at the time he was disabled and that he now resides in the town of Otsego and County aforesaid and that he has resided there for the space of seven years last past and that previous hereto he resided in the town of Cherry Valley County of Otsego and State of New York. (Signed) Samuel McKeen.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 7th day of May 1824. Elisha Foote Judge.

End Notes—Samuel McKeen—S.27161 and S.28806

1. Two regiments of levies of 500 men each were authorized to be raised on March 13, 1779. Robert McKean was appointed Captain in Colonel Henry K. VanRensselaer's Regiment of New York State Levies. There are no known muster rolls for this company.
2. Captain McKean was appointed on May 11, 1780 to serve in Lieutenant-Colonel John Harper's Regiment of New York State Levies. The regiment was discharged on November 30, 1780. Again there are no known muster rolls for this company.
3. In April of 1781, Captain McKean was appointed to serve in Lieutenant-Colonel Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. By June of 1781, Colonel Willett ordered Captain McKean to put the men of his company into Captain Elihu Marshall's Company. Samuel's name does appear on Marshall's Company payroll for 1781.
4. Samuel was wounded on July 10, 1781, at the Battle of New Dorlach (present day Sharon Springs, Schoharie County, NY). His father, Captain McKean received a mortal wound at this battle and died on the return march back to Fort Rensselaer.