

Pension Application for John Mead

S.32409

The State of Indiana

County of Dearborn

Dearborn Probate Court SS.

On this 13th day of August AD 1833 personally appeared in open court before John Livingston Esquire President, Judge of the Dearborn Probate Court now sitting, John Mead a resident of Manchester township in the County of Dearborn & State of Indiana aged 69 years 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 therein stated viz:

At Albany City In the State of New York, in the New York line of State troops in the Spring of 1776 as he verily believes under Captain Bogard commanded by Colonel Henry Vanrensalaer & served the said term of nine months faithfully & principally at Fort Herkimer at which place was discharged & that he acted as a private & substitute for a drafted man whose name he has forgotten.

That he again entered the service of the United States by enlistment the first of April 1782 for the term of nine months under Captain Joseph Harrison & commanded by Colonel Marinus Willet at Albany City New York State & marched to the Schoharrie [Schoharie] Forts where he did duty constantly * faithfully until the first day of January 1783 at which time he enlisted with Captain Joseph Harrison under the said Colonel Marinus Willet at the upper Fort in Schoharrie in a Regt of 3 years men, one year of their said term had then expired & his enlistment was for the remainder of the term being 2 years.

That one Pirum Ripley now a resident of Livonia in the County of Livingston & State of New York was a Serjeant [Sergeant] in the same company the whole term of the service from the first of April 1782 & that he the deponent served until the 6th day of January 1784 & that he served at Albany City, Schenectady & Kaatskill & at Fort Herkimer & Fort Stanwix & Fort Plain & that on the said 6th of January 1784 he with the rest of said Regt was discharged and that he received an honorable written discharge signed by Pieter B. Tierce (or Pierce) Captain Commandant. That when he entered the service he was a resident of Kinderhook Albany County then & State of New York, that in the Regt of three years men he recollects the following officers besides those enumerated Lieut More, Lieut Skinner & Major Fink & also Colonel Vanskoik who had the command of a Regt of Regular troops that did duty at Fort Stanwix while he was there.

That Colonel Willets Regt & another Regt from Rhodeisland [Rhode Island] of Regular or Continental troops marched from Fort Plain towards Oswego Fort on Lake Ontario with a view to take Oswego Fort then in the possession of the British he thinks it was in the winter of 1783 the snow was near 4 feet deep, the men on the expedition failed in their object & suffered exceedingly by frost.

Many of the Rhode-island Regt were blacks & suffered most, many of whom were left behind & were picked up by the British & taken to Oswego Fort.

Questions by the Court.

Where & in what year were you born? Answer by deponent. That he was born at a place called Kakaat in the State of New York near the State of New Jersey on the 10th day of April 1764.

2d Have you any record of your age & if so where is it? Answer, That he has the family record of his fathers family & was given him by an older sister many years since.

3d Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live? Answer, When called into service the first & 2 terms of nine month services he was a resident of Kinderhook Albany County New York & for the 3d terms of service he was already in the army at the Upper Fort in Schoharie on the Hudson river, that after his discharge in '84 he lived at a place called New Canaan 22 miles in a S. East direction from Albany 6 years & was there married. That he then moved to the township of Westford County of Otsego N. York & lived there over 20 years. That he moved thence to his present place of residence the township of Manchester in the County of Dearborn & there Territory now State of Indiana where he has resided ever since.

How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom? Answer. That his first term of 9 months service was as a substitute for a drafted man whose name he has forgotten. The 2d term of nine months service was he the thinks [sic] by volunteering or enlistment & the 3d term he knows positively was by enlistment. 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental & Milita Regts as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service. Answer.

That the answers to the 5th question is embodied in the man declaration.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom was it given & what has become of it? Answer. That he received an honorable written discharge dated January 6th 1784. Signed by Peter Tierce or Peter B. Pierce & which he cannot distinctly recollect who was Captain & Commandant at that time at the Schenectady Barracks New York State & that he lost the same by wearing it out by carrying it in his pocket.

7th State the names of person to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, who can testify as to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution. Answer. That he is acquainted with Ezra Ferris a clergy man & Henry Hopkins of his neighborhood who are well acquainted with him.

That he has no documentary evidence in his possession relating to his first term of 9 months service & that for the 2d & 3d term of service he has the affidavit of Pirum Ripley of the State of New York who was a serjeant in the same company with him the said terms & that said affidavit taken on the 24th day May 1833 before Judge Leman Gibbs of Livingston Co. N. York is all the evidence he knows of as to his services.

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension; roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) John Mead

Sworn to & Subscribed this the 13th day of August in the year of our Lord 1833.
James [Dill?]

Letter in folder dated October 24, 1928, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.32409, it appears that John Mead was born, April 10, 1764, at Kakaat, New York, near the State of New Jersey.

While a resident of Kinderhook, Albany County, New York, he enlisted and served as a private with the New York Troops as follows:

From the spring of 1776, nine months in Captain Bogard's Company in Colonel Henry VanRensselaer's Regiment.

He enlisted, April 1, 1782, served in Captains Joseph Harrison's and Peter B. Tearce's Companies in Colonel Marinus Willett's Regiment and was discharged January 6, 1784.

After the Revolution he lived in New Canaan, New York, where he was married, date of marriage and name of his wife not stated, and he then moved to Westford, Otsego County, New York, and then to Manchester Township, Dearborn County, Indiana.

He was allowed pension on his application executed August 13, 1833, at which time he was living in Manchester Township, Indiana.

This is the history of the only soldier named John Mead, who served from New York and moved to Indiana, that is found on the Revolutionary War records of this bureau.