

Pension Application for William Mead

W.16345 (Widow: Hannah) Married the fall of 1778. William died Feb 27, 1833.

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

State of New York

Tompkins County SS.

On the first day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two personally appeared before me Nicoll Halsey Esq, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Tompkins in the State of New York; William Mead a resident of [Hector?] in the County of aged eighty three years who veing frist 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 Unites States, under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That about the first of May, but this deponent will not say it was the first day; seventeen hundred seventy-five he entered a volunteer Company as first Lieutenant, commanded by Captain Melancton smith. That this deponent does not know that they were under the command of any superior officers, other than a County Committee.

That this deponent at the time he entered said company he resided in Dutchess County in the State of New York, and this deponent and Captain received commissions and [fold] the Company—that they enlisted there during the war or pleasure of the Continental Congress.

\ That the business of the said company was to go from place to place and County to County and protect the inhabitants against the Tories. That they went up the Hudson River to Clavarack and remained there two or three weeks, returned again to Dutchess – Subsequently in the fall of 1775 they went to York Island, crossed over to Long Island under Gen. George Clinton escaped and remained in the City of New York during the remainder of the fall and winter and into the spring of 1776.

That General Lee commanded them during the winter, who was peculiar particularly for having a number of dogs.

That much of the time while they stay on York Island they were engaged in building fortifications.

That in the spring of 1776 his company was discharged or disbanded and this deponent does not recollect which, and this Deponent with others of his company returned home to Dutchess County.

That immediately on this deponents return home, he was commissioned a Lieutenant in a company commanded by Captain Brittain Paine in Col. Morris Graham's regiment, that he served in said company and regiment as lieutenant until January 1777, when he was commissioned a Captain in Col. Cornelius Humphrey's Regiment, that he continued in Col. Humphreys Regiment as Captain until the forepart of the winter of 1778 when he was discharged at Peekskill in the State of New York.

That this deponent was in the Battle at White Plains. This Deponent was also in a small engagement at or near Mamaroneck in the State of New York, and also in another [???] near King's bridge in the State of New York.

That this deponent's commissions and discharges have been lost or destroyed, that the last time the deponent recollects seeing them, was when this deponent lived in Stillwater in Saratoga County in the state of New York which was about two years after the close of the Revolutionary War, he put them into a barrel where he had many other old papers, and he left them at the house of his brother in law, Esquire Elias Palmer in said town of Stillwater.

That this deponent was born in the nine partners in Dutchess County in the State of New York, he does not know what years but according to this deponents best recollection he was eighty three years old on the eighth day of January last.

That this deponent has no record of his age and this deponent thinks there was one in his father's Bible, but he has it not.

That this deponent lived in the town in which he was born when he entered the service and continued to live there except while he was in the service, until two years after the taking of Burgoine, when he moved to Stillwater in the County of Saratoga County in the State of New York.

He lived in Stillwater nearly twenty years and then moved to the City of New York where he remained about two years, from thence he removed to [Furman's?] patent near Lake George in the State of New York where the remained about three years and from thence he removed to Preston, Chenango County in the State of New York, where he lived about five years and then moved to Covert in the County of Seneca and State of New York where he lived till about five years ago, when he broke up house keeping and has since lived about one year in between in the County of Tioga and State of New York in between in the County of Tioga and State of New York and between three & four years in the town Nunda Alegany [Allegany] County, New York State, and in the month of December last he came into this town, Hector & has resided here since that time.

That this deponent entered the service as a volunteer as aforesaid. That General Washington commanded at the Battle of White Plains whom this Deponent knew, he also knew Generals Lee, Putnam, General Lord Sterling, Gen. Clinton.

That this deponent had three commissions, first two as a Lieutenant and one as Captain and they were lost as aforesaid, but he does not recollect by whom they were signed and that this deponent also had discharges from the service at the several times, but they were lost or disposed of with his commissions.

That since this deponent has resided in this town Hector he has lived obscurely and from his short residence here, he can state but two men in this town who could testify as to his character and services, and they are Sullivan D. Hubbell Esq, and Dr. Alexander M. G. Comstock. That there are many men in the town of Covert who can testify as to his character and services, amongst whom he will name the Hon. Levi Wheeler, Erustus Woodworth Esq., Col. Chancey Pratt and Captain John Perry.

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. (Signed with his mark) William Mead

Subscribed & Sworn this 1st day of September 1832 before me, Nicholl Halsey a Judge of Tompkins County.