
Pension Application for Alexander Murray, Murry, Moray

S. 11121

State of New York

County of Schenectady SS.

On this thirteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty two appeared on Open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County now sitting Alexander Murray a resident of the town of Duanesburgh in said County and State aged seventy one 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.

He was born in the year 1762, Parish of Manigoff, Scotland some day in December 1762. He has no record of his age except that contained in his family record.

When he was called into the service of the United States in the army of the revolution he was living in Tryon County in the state aforesaid and since the revolutionary war he has lived in the Town of Princetown in the County of Schenectady aforesaid. That he now lives in the town of Duanesburgh aforesaid.

He entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight, he served as a private in Captain John Price's (1) Company of Levies raised in Albany County from the first day of February the same time in May following making four months.

In the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine he served about six months in Colonel Frederick Fishers Regiment under Captain David McMasters (2) in his company of militia. He served in the year seventeen hundred and eighty about twelve months in Colonel Cornelius Van Dykes (3) Regiment of State Troops under Captain Grey. (4)

In the year seventeen hundred and eighty one he was a member of Captain Daniel Hales (5) Company in Colonel Marinus Willets Regiment for three or four months.

And in the year seventeen hundred and eighty two he was a Sergeant eight months, the first part of which time the company to which he belonged was commanded by Captain Guy Youngs (6) and by Jellis A. Fonda (7) after the resignation of Youngs in Colonel Marinus Willets Regiment.

He never received a pension—never has been on the pension roll of any act—he made application under the act of May 18th 1818—his evidence was sent to the war department—his claim was rejected—he first enlisted in the Town of Schenectady aforesaid—left the service on the 27th day of December in the year 1782 at which time Jellis A. Fonda discharged the whole company—marched sometime in February 1778 under Captain John Price from the Town of Schenectady to Albany—remained in Albany eight days—and then proceeded in a detachment to Coeymans—remained at Coeymans four months and was then regularly discharged, afterwards marched in the same year under Captain David McMasters to Bowmans creek from thence to Cherry Valley.

In the first part of February 1779 served four months under Colonel Christopher Yates (8) of the Town of Schenectady and the same year marched to Johnstown under Ensign David Beverly (9) to guard the Fort—was then drafted to go to Fort Herkimer under Captain Minard Quack (10)—was again detached to a block house at Sacondaga.

And was out on several expeditions to Bowmans Creeks, Cherry Valley and Johnstown under Captain David McMasters.

He was engaged in two battles with the indians at Schoharie and in one at Germantown four miles above Fort Herkimer with the indians and in one between Cherry Valley and Fort

Plain—was joined with Colonel Reids (11) Regiment and engaged in several skirmishes with the Indians—He knew Colonel Willet, Major Fink, (12) Major Benschoten, Captain French, Guy Young, Captain Tierce, Captain Henry, Lieutenant Thornton, Lieut. Christopher Peek, Lieut. Shaver, Lieut. Witter Johnstown. (Signed) Alexander Murray

Subscribed & Sworn before me the day & year aforesaid. John S. Vrooman Clerk.

Letter in the pension file.

July 16, 1929.

Mrs. Lulu Ricketts,
116 South Market Street,
Johnstown, New York.

Madam:

I advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim S.11121, it appears that Alexander Murray as born in December 1762 in the Parish of Manigoff, in Scotland.

While a resident of Tryon County, New York, he enlisted February 1, 1778 and served four months as private in Captain John Price's Company, Colonel Wynkoop's New York Regiment.

He enlisted again in 1778 and served two month, then continued four months from the first of 1779 as a private in Captain David McMaster's Company, Colonels Frederick Fisher's and Christopher Yates' New York Regiments.

He enlisted in 1780 and served one year as private in the Quartermaster Department under Captain Samuel Gray and Colonel Cornelius Van Dyke.

He enlisted September 1, 1781, served as private in Captain Hale's or Hole's Company, Colonel Marinus Willett's New York Regiment and was discharged January 1, 1782.

He enlisted in 1782, served seven months as sergeant in Captain Guy Young's Company and two months in Captain Jellis A. Fonda's Company, Colonel Marinus Willett's New York Regiment. He was in two battles at Schoharie, New York, a battle at Germantown and also in one between Cherry Valley and Fort Plain, all with the Indians.

After the Revolution he lived in Princetown, Schenectady County, New York, thence to Duanesburgh, Schenectady County, New York, where he was allowed pension on his application executed October 13, 1832.

In 1842 he was living in Leicester, Livingston County, New York.

There are no data as to family.

Very truly yours, Earl D. Church, Commissioner.

End Notes—S.1121—Alexander Murray

1. John Price was a captain in Colonel Jacob Lansing, Jr's First Regiment of Albany County Militia. The other company officers were First Lieutenant Abraham Yates, Jr., Second Lieutenant John Scott and Ensign Thomas D. Hun. They were all commissioned on April 4, 1778.
2. At some point Alexander must have moved from Albany to the Warrens Bush area in Tryon County. David McMaster was the captain of the sixth company in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia.
3. Cornelius VanDyck was the Colonel of a Continental regiment only in 1776. On November 21, 1776 he was appointed the lieutenant colonel in Colonel Goose VanSchaick's First New York Continental Regiment. VanDyck served in that capacity until the regiment was disbanded in June of 1783. In 1780 VanDyck was with the regiment at Fort Schuyler until October.

4. Captain Samuel Gray of the Bateau service. According to Captain Gray's muster roll he enlisted on February 1, 1780. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 122, folder 78, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
5. Captain Aaron Hale of Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. The company was formally organized on August 7, 1781, and was ordered to be stationed at Schoharie. According to Captain Hale's receipt roll Alexander was paid £8. . 7. . 1 and it was delivered to John Thornton, no exact date of payment was listed but it was sworn to in October 28, 1785, by Willett, Timothy Hutton and Christopher Hutton. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
6. In April 1782, Guy Young was appointed Captain in Colonel Willett's Regiment. Young on filling his quota was commissioned on July 24, 1782. In November Captain Young retired from the service and Joel Gillett was appointed Captain in his place.
7. Jellis A. Fonda was serving as lieutenant and adjutant in Willett's Regiment in 1781 and 1782. Captain Abner French retired from the service in November of 1782 and Fonda was promoted to Captain in his place.
8. Christopher C. Yates was the lieutenant colonel in the Second Regiment of Albany County Militia commanded by Colonel Abraham Wemple. In 1779 he was appointed Deputy Quartermaster General with the rank of lieutenant colonel.
9. David Beverly served as the ensign in Captain McMaster's Company.
10. Myndert W. Quackenbush was appointed second lieutenant in Captain John Visscher's Fourth Company in Colonel Visscher's Regiment. On May 22, 1780, Captain Visscher was killed in a raid and First Lieutenant John Wemple was promoted to captain and Myndert was promoted to first lieutenant. They were commissioned on March 8, 1781. On March 16, 1781 he was suspended as having been found guilty of disaffected practices.
11. Lieutenant Colonel Commandant George Reid of the Second New Hampshire Continental Regiment.
12. Majors Andrew Fink and Elias VanBenschoten, Captains Peter B. Tearce, Nathaniel Henry, Lieutenants John Thornton, Christopher Peake, John C. Shafer and Witter Johnson or Johnston all of Willett's Regiment.