

Pension Application for Paul Nelson

S.14016

State of New York

County of Washington SS.

On this sixth day of December 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Washington now sitting Paul Nelson a resident of the Town of Hartford in the County of Washington and State of New York aged seventy seven 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 herein stated.

That in 1776 he resided in Ruport Bennington County and State of Vermont and that in October 1776 as he believes about the middle of said month. He enlisted into the service of the United States (4 months) for the Term of Nine Months and immediately commenced said service that he first joined his company at Salem New York under Captain Joshua Conkey and Lieut Edward Savage and that his company were attached to Colonel John Williams Regiment he believes. That immediately after he entered the service he was employed to assist in building a Picket-Fort in Salem and remained there as one of the guard for said fort until the next summer except that in the fall of 1776 he was one of a scouting party which went to Hebron North of Salem & took several Tories and marched & guarded them as prisoners to Albany where they were imprisoned & he returned again to Salem. That about the middle of June he was detached with others to go to the North to Ticonderoga at the time Burgoyne came down & took Ticonderoga.

That he first marched to Rupert in Vermont & from thence to Castleton where was a considerable body of Troops collected to go to Ticonderoga that he then marched to Hubbardton & from there to Fort Ticonderoga when he arrived he thinks about the first of July 1777 at which place Gen. St. Clair commanded & on or about the Sixth of July the Fort was abandoned by the American forces and they retreated over the Lake & crossed Mount Independence and went to Hubbardton where the British overtook the Americans & there they had a Battle & he was in said Battle and the Americans had to retreat & did so to Carleton & from there to Bennington where he was discharged after having served out his said Term of Nine Months and that he believes he was discharged about the 20th of July 1777.

That about the 20th of July 1777 and immediately after being discharged from the service above stated he enlisted at Bennington Vermont for the Term of Six Months & joined a company commanded by Captain John Warner of which Enoch Eastman was Lieutenant and Lemuel Bradley was Ensign & which Company belonged to Colonel Herrick's Regiment that he was stationed at Manchester [?] until the day before Bennington Battle & that he marched with his company the Night before the Battle to Bennington where the troops & kept on their arms and that he was in the

Battles on the 16th of August 1777 and next day after the Battle he helped bury the British.

That in about one week he went to Arlington and from there to Pawlett & soon after marched to Castleton & from there to Lake George & Mount defiance where he assisted in taking a Brass Cannon & several Prisoners & (in that quarter) in releasing from 80 to 100 Americans who were Prisoners & also in taking a block-House at Mounty Hope, in about a week he went up Lake George and attacked Diamond Island where his party were repulsed by the British with the loss of 5 or 6 men killed. That he then marched to Fort Ann & from there to Whitehall & then to Pawlett, where he staid about Three Weeks & until the day after the battle with Burgoyne at Saratoga when orders came directing his company to March & they did so first to Fort Ann then to Ford Edward and from there to Saratoga where he arrived before the surrender of Burgoyne and after the surrender he marched the same night for Pawlett to which he returned and remained stationed there (except being sent out on scouting parties to a short distance now & then) until the last of December when he marched to Rutland & from there to Chimney Point on Lake Champlain where he crossed the Lake to a place called Gillelands Creek & assisted in taking 22 Prisoners and from 20 to 30 head of Cattle & about 100 Horses from there he returned to Pawlett in Vermont & was discharged about the last of January 1778 (6 months) after having served out the six months for which he enlisted.

And the said Paul Nelson further says that he does not know of any persons living by whom he can prove any of the services above stated or any facts in relation thereto except Edward Savage who was his Lieutenant in the first service and Timothy Allen who was in the service with him in most of the services in the case last above stated, and that he has no documentary evidence of the facts & services above stated & never had any written discharge from the service aforesaid & that he could not in his opinion procure the attendance in court of Amos C. Tuttle—the clergyman & Timothy Allen who have singed & sworn to the annexed Certificate without unnecessary expense & inconvenience especially as said Clergyman had already [already] made appointments which he would have to forego, in order to attend court.

And that 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 whatever.

And the said Paul Nelson in answer to the Interrogatories directed by the War Department to be propounded to all applicants for pensions in certain cases surther says.

First. That he was born in Suffield in Connecticut on the 8th day of June 1755 as he is informed and believes.

Second. That he has a Record of his age in his Bible and believes there is one also in Suffield the place of his birth & in Ruport Vermont.

Third. That he was living in Ruport Vermont at the times he entered the service but was at Bennington at the time he enlisted of six months. That he continued to

reside at Report until 1805 or about that time and then moved to Hartford County of Washington & State of New York where he still resides.

Fourth. That he entered the service of his Country each & every time by voluntary Enlistment.

Fifth. That Gen. St. Clair, Gen. Starks, Colonels Warner and Herrick, Captains Parmile Allen & Ebenezer Allen, Major Wait & Adjutant Clarke & also the officers mentioned above in his declaration at various times during the services above stated, were in the service with him & known by him & no other facts or circumstances than those already stated occur to his recollection, which he deems important in this matter.

Sixth. That he never had any written discharge from said services or either of them.

Seventh. That he is known to Timothy Allen, Israel Harris, Gad Chapin, Caleb Brown, Isaac B. Clary, Moses Cook & Lemuel Griffin in his present neighborhood any of whom can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his service as a soldier of the Revolution. (Signed with his mark) Paul Nelson

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Before me in open court.
J.S. Leigh, Clk