

Pension Application for Josiah Norton

R.7721

State of New York

Washington County SS.

On this ninth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty four personally appeared before David Woods one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Washington a Court of Record Josiah Norton a resident of the Town of Granville in the County of Washington aforesaid & State of New York aged eighty years on the eighteenth day of November last past and being so infirm that he is unable to go from home. 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 according to his best declaration and belief about the middle of the month of October 1775 the militia at New Canan [Canaan] in the county of Columbia & State of New York where this declarant resided were ordered out to go to Johnstown in said State and that he this Declarant as a private soldier and Militia man was called upon and marched in a company commanded by Captain Hezekiah Baldwin & Lieut Rowley to Johnstown where they were stationed for about five weeks, & where there were three Companies under the following Captains to wit- Capt Baldwin, Capt. Bostwick, and Capt Gilbert which were all the Troops thee at the time that he staid there until the latter part of November of the year 1775. But this declarant from age and the consequent loss of memory does not remember the day or the month when his tour of service commenced or ended but thinks he can safely say that he served on this occasion a term not less than five weeks.

That in the month of May 1775 according to his best recollection & before the service above mentioned the Militia of New Canan aforesaid were called out to go up to Stillwater in the State of New York and this declarant as a Militia man marched in a company under Capt Hezekiah Baldwin & St. Rexford to Stilwater [Stillwater] where they remained for a period of four weeks, that this was the only Company stationed there at that time that the company was marched back to New Canan and dismissed in the month of June but from age and consequent loss of memory he cannot state the day of the month when he entered upon this service or when dismissed but can safely say that this tour of service was not less than four weeks.

That about the tenth of June 1776 it was reported the enemy were on the rout[e] towards Cherry Valley in the state of New York and the Militia of New Canan was called out and this declarant as a private in said militia marched in a company under Captain Boswick & Lieut Hallenback to Cherry Valley where they were stationed for the span of four weeks, there was no other Company stationed there at that time as the enemy did not make his appearance they were marched back to New Canan and dismissed that he served on this occasion a period of not less than four weeks.

That in the fore part of July 1778 according to his best recollection the militia were called out to go to Jessup's Patent so called was of Lake George in the State of New York, that this Declarant as a private marched in a Company of Militia under Captain Gilbert and Lieutenant Samuel Rexford to Jessup's Patent and continued there and on scouts about that Region for the term of not less than five weeks, when the company were marched back to New Canan and Dismissed and that he served the said term in said company.

That about the Last of October in the year 1779 according to his best recollection the Militia were called out to go to Fort Stanwix in the State of New York that this Declarant as a private in the Militia marched in a Company under Capt. Bostwick & Lieut Hallenback & in a Regiment under Col. Rensselaer there was another Regiment he recollects in the Campaign under Col. Waterman & also one under Col. Brown & also Col. Willet he believes who had the command of the whole as he believes it was said there were five thousand troops that he was march out to fort Stanwix and three Days march beyond in the woods in pursuit of the enemy that during this Campaign Col. Brown was killed by the enemy, at Stone Arabia while he was on his this declarants march up the Mohawk river that one the day Col. Brown was killed the Declarant's party had a fight with the British and Indians and draw them and dido; not again overtake them that in this Campaign the British Col Butler was killed as he believes that this declarant served as a private in this Campaign a period of not less than six weeks being dismissed at she believes sometime quite well in the month of December of that year he well remembers the weather was cold and thinks he might have served a considerable longer period than he has named but cannot be certain is sure it was not less than six weeks he served.

That about January 1780 as he believes the militia of New Canan were called out to go to Johnstown in the State of New York that he this Declarant went a private in the militia under Captain Bostwick & Lieut Hallenback In Col Whiting's Regiment which went on this occasion there was also another Regiment also were but he does not rember [remember]the Colo's name they went in Sleights to Johnstown on which occasion Sir John Johnston [Johnson] surrendered up into them Five hundred stand of arms and two persons as hostages for the good and peacible behavior of himself and party towards the Inhabitants that the arms & hostages were carried to Albany that on this occasion he was in service a period of not less than five weeks but form age & loss of memory cannot state the days of his entering the service & dismissed.

That during the several periods of service aforesaid this Declarant resided at New Canan aforesaid mentioned and went from thence at each time in the militia.

And he further saith that he has no Documentary evidence and that he [knows] of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services.

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 or Territory whatever.

And he further saith that he is unable to go to Court to swear to his Declaration or even from home to attend to any business.

1st That he was born on the 18th Novmeber 1753 at Farmington in the State of Connecticut as he verily believes.

2nd That he has no record of his age at present tho' he had one in his bible which is now in the possession of some of his children.

3rd That when he was called into the service he lived at New Canan in the County of Columbia & State of New York and lived there during the period of the Revolution and until about the year 1794 when he removed to Hebron, Washington County New York, lived there about 4 years until about 1798 when he removed to Granville his present residence where he has lived for thirty five years.

4th When he entered the service on the several times above mentioned he went with the militia on a call for their service was never drafted and never served as a substitute.

5th That he cannot state the names of his officers more particularly than he has done in the body of his declaration.

6th That he never received a written discharge from the service being only dismissed from Company or Disbanded.

7th That in his present neighborhood he is known by Alfred Tanner Byron Baker, Justin [blot]ay, Isaac Barker & others who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Revolutionary Soldier.

And this Declarant on his oath aforesaid saith that he is unable to attend any Court in his County or to leave home, and the reason he has not applied for a pension sooner is that he has been afflicted with a disorder which so affected his head and memory that he could not remember his officers and his disorder was such that he has not since the passing the act expected to serve but a short time but have obtained considerable relief from his disorder and his memory having been restored and feeling the want of the assistance which the act provides he now seen fit to make his application. (Signed) Josiah Norton

Sworn and Subscribed the day and year first above written before the undersigned Judge and I the said Judge do hereby certify that the said Josiah Norton is well known to me & I am fully satisfied that he is unable to leave his neighborhood from the present inspection of his situation and cannot attend the Court in his country to make this declaration. David Wood a Judge of Wash. Com. Pleas.