

Pension Application for Patrick O'Donaghy or O'Donaghey

W.20997 (Widow: Agness) Married November 12, 1787 In Montgomery Precinct in the County of Ulster. Patrick died February 21, 1805.

State of New York

Orleans county SS

On this eighth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty six personally appeared before James Gibson—the undersigned being one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Orleans in or for the State of New York—Agnes O'Donaghy—a resident of the village of Medina in the Town of Ridgeway in the County aforesaid aged eighty six years, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7, 1838 entitled “an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows”—

That she is the widow of Patrick O'Donaghy, who was a private soldier in the army of the United States during the Revolutionary War. That her said husband as she always understood him, served seven years and six months as such private soldier during the said Revolutionary War.

Next she understood from her said husband—that his last Captain was Charles Parsons—and that his said service was in Co. VanSchaick[‘s] Regiment of the New York line. She believes that Benjamin Gilbert was one of the commissioned officers of the company in which her said husband so served.

She thinks that her husband at some time of his said service performed the Duties of a Sergeant in said company but whether such appointment was occasional and temporary or permanent she is unable to so state—That she is unable to state the day, year or month in which her said husband entered the said service or the say month or year when he left the said service that she has no documentary evidence of the service of her said husband.

That he always claimed to have served to the end of the war & to have received a regular discharge from the army when the rest of the soldiers were discharged at the end of the war—and that his discharge had been taken out of his pocket or lost by him before her [?] marriage with him.

She thinks her husband resided near New York when he entered the army but of this she is not very positive as she was not acquainted with her said husband until after the war was over—That she always understood her said husband that he entered the army voluntarily & not as a drafted man or as a substitute.

That her said husband bore the marks of two wounds one in his heel & the other near his knee. That in his heel he said was made by a bullet and that the bullet was cut out of his heel—& that that near his knee was made by a Bayonett. That he often complained of his wounds as painful especially before a storm would be to complain.

That her said Husband she always understood was in many battles--& that he received the said bayonette wound at the taking of some fort. That her said husband

she always understood drew a lot of said [?] for his said services from the state of New York but that he had sold his right before she was married to her said husband—

The deponent further saith that she this deponent was married to the said Patrick O'Donaghy on the twelfth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven—That they were married in Montgomery Precinct in the County of Ulster In the State of New York. That they were married by James Templeton a clergyman of the Presbyterian Denomination who was employed to march for a short time in the neighborhood where they were married.

That she has now in her possession—the original certificate given to her by the said James Templeton at the time of their said marriage, certifying the said marriage—which original certificate is [as] follows:

“These may certify to all which it may concern that Patrick O'Doneghy and Agness Smith were lawfully married in Montgomery precinct Ulster County the State of New York on the 12th day of November 1787 by me, Jur. Templeton V.D.M.”

The date specified in said certificate being in figure is the twelfth day of November in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven.

That her husband the aforesaid Patrick O'Donaghy died on the twenty first day of February in the year Eighteen hundred & five.

That she was not married to the said Patrick O'Donaghy previous to his leaving the said service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred and ninety four: viz, at the time above stated.

The deponent further saith that she has no other documentary evidence to prove her said marriage then the certificate above described & hereto annexed—and the regiment of requirement of an affidavit which is hereto also annexed which affidavit was procured in the year eighteen hundred by Peter W. Yates Esquire late of Albany &c., [?] by use in some ways relating to the will or claim to the land –which my husband was entitled to for military services.

That such affidavit was partly destroyed many years ago.

That this deponent does not know of any living witness by whom her said marriage could be proved.

She further says that she never was married to any other person than she never was married to any other person than the said Patrick O'Donaghy that she remains now his widow. Patrick O'Donaghy.

That one of her daughters Betsey having married to James McDavid—She has resided in this family for many years—That for thirteen years previous to the last spring she resided in the family of the said McDavid in the Province of Canada about fifteen miles from Toronto –

Next last spring her said son in law removed back to the State of New York & to the village of Medina in the County of Orleans where she now resides—and when she returned with them—

That she understood that there was some no one some difficulty in making application for her said pension while she remained a resident of Canada--& which is

the reason why her present application for a pension was not made out [at] and earlier period.

She further says that she desires that this declaration & the proof accompanying the same may be taken by the War Department in support of her claim to a [continuum?] pensions to widow for one year – who were entitled to pensions under the above entitled act of 1838 & further she says not.

(Signed with her mark) Agness Odonaghy

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 8th day of January 1846 above written the said Declaration being first read over to the said Agness O'Donaghy in my hearing & understood by her & she being believed. James Gibson, one of the Judges of Orleans Com'n Court.