

## **Pension Application for Oliver Thomas**

W.20865 (Widow: Keziah)

State of New York

County of Orange SS.

On this thirtieth day of May in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting (being a Court of Record) Thomas Oliver a resident of the town of Walkill [Wallkill] County of Orange and State of New York aged seventy nine 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service of the United States in the beginning of the year 1776 under an enlistment for four months in the Company of Captain William Francis [Burn?] of the Town of Walkill aforesaid Lieutenants Samuel McCord and Robert Rogers and Ensign William Wilbur.

That he marched from Walkill through the County of Orange to New Windsor on the Hudson River, from thence down the river on the ice to Fort Constitution opposite West Point, this fort was commanded by Colonel Nichols there was an other company there commanded by Captain Daniel Denton, no other general officers there as he now can recollect remained there until the first of April was then discharged and returned home having served out his enlistment.

That in June 1776 he enlisted under Captain William Falkner for five months and ten days at Walkill aforesaid, marched to New Windsor aforesaid there embarked on board of Ellisons Sloop and went down the Hudson river to New York. Genl Washington was then in command of the City, Gen. Putnam was there, Gen. Green, Gen McDougal, Gen. Malcom, Gen Sterling, Gen. Sullivan, Col Humphrey, Col. Malcom, Captain Marvin, Captain Hornbeck, and many others in their respective command, there was between the British and American forces much skirmishing on the Island and Many were killed.

On the fourteenth day of September as near as this deponent can now recollect the Americans were driven from the City to Kingsbridge by the British forces, while at Harlaem on their retreat they had a skirmish with the enemy's troops, there were some killed, from Kingsbridge we retreated to White Plains, the British in close pursuit, for fourteen days in service.

The second day after they arrival of British at the Plains, there was an engagement. Gen McDougal was attacked by the British in number about ten thousand, his focus being comparatively but very few, in this engagement there were many killed and wounded, this deponent was not in this engagement. He was in a brigade different from that commanded by McDugal and did not participate in the engagement although near at hand.

Humphrey was Deponents Colonel. And his Gen. Scott, the British took possession of the battle ground after the battle and remained in possession of the

same for sometime and then returned again to the City and took possession of Fort Washington and Lee. The American troops marched from White Plains to Peekskill remained there a short time then crossed the river to Haverstraw in the County of Rockland, remained there until the last day of November, Gen Washington was at Haverstraw and many other General Officers attached to the regular army. Gen Washington left the northern troops at different station as guards and moved on the south with the southern troops. This deponent was left at Haverstraw, was there discharged having served out his enlistment, he received no written discharge, he enlisted this and the former tour as a sergeant.

In December of 1776 he went out as a Sergeant in the Militia under Captain William Faulkner before mentioned, he marched to Ramapo in New Jersey then to Peramus, then Hackensack and other places on the lines, remained in such service one month as a militia man the militia where [were] then discharged.

And this Deponent enlisted in the regular service until the ensuing first of April under Captain Wm Faulkner in Colonel McLaughrey's Alignment he remained in the service on the lines at Ramapo Peramus Hackensack, Elizabethtown Newark and many other places, being stationed as guard their duty required them to be continually on the move, he remained in such service until the end of April; from four months was verbally discharged and returned home.

In April 1777, soon after his return he was ordered out as a militia man to guard Philips V Wisman's powder mills at Philips burgh then in the County of Ulster now in the County of Orange, he acted as a Sergeant, Lieutenant Dunning had the command, but deponent was sometimes in command in the absence of Lieutenant Dunning, remained there three months at the expiration of that time the powder having been removed they were discharged and returned home.

In April 1778 he enlisted as a sergeant under Captain Abraham Westfall at Peenpack on the Indian [Indian] frontiers for the period of eight months, he was sometimes at German's fort sometimes at Dweits, and sometimes at Mamakating and other palaces on the frontiers. Col Albert Paulding was in command of the regiment, which belonged to Gen James Clinton Brigade, there were from companies on the same frontiers, one commanded by Captain Hunter one by Captain Word and another by Captain Gillespie he remained there until the last of November when having served out his enlistment he was discharged and return home.

In April 1779 he again enlisted as a Sergeant under Captain William Faulkner at Walkil aforesaid for a period of nine months he marched to Lackawana then in the County of Ulster, he was in the regiment of Colonel Paulding and in the Brig of Gen James Clinton Colonel Paulding was in command at [LaRanark?] Captain Hunter & Woods Companies were there beside the company to which Deponent Paulding was ordered by Gen Clinton - to meet him at [Aegnags?] on the Susquehannah, they marched to meet Gen Clinton then proceeding on the Sullivan Expedition, but upon arriving at Acquaga Genl Clinton had passed several days before, whereupon they again returned to the Frontiers, from thence they marched to Fishkill on the North River in the County of Dutchess after remaining there a short time. They went down

the river to Albany point, remained there two months, was then discharged and returned home having served out his enlistment. Col. Paulding was in command of Stoney Point at this time.

In May 1781 he enlisted for seven months under Captain John Burnet as at a Sergeant at Walkil aforesaid, marched to [Mombrens?] on the Indian Frontiers, Paulding was in command. Captain Gillespie and Captain Hornbeck was in command of Companies on the same frontiers. He remained at Mombrens during the whole of his enlistment. While at Momkans? The Idians [Indians] commanded by Celebrated Brandt made descent and attack upon the whites, they burned Wawasink and attacked Momkrans, but not effecting much they retired carrying off cattle horses &c. Deponent served out his enlistment was discharged and returned home.

And this deponent further says that Captain William Faulkner under whom he performed much of his service died a few years since that a short time previous to his death his death this Deponent obtained his affadavit [affidavit] of this Deponent service and the affidavit was taken by Henry Lindeman Esqr. But this Deponent upon making a provisions application attached it with his other Papers and forwarded it to the Pension Department where it now is and reference being had to will formed. The pension application to which Deponent refers was so defectively prepared and compiled [?] will the requisitions of the Deponent that this deponent waives it altogether. And this Deponent further saith that *[the next page doesn't seem to follow this one]* and substitutes in the place of the same this application but desiring? That the affidavit and evidence attached to such former application may be duly considered and have [?] past influence in ascertaining this deponents claim at the hands of the Department.

He hereby relinquishes every claim 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.

1. That he was born at Blooming Grove in the County of Orange and State of New York in the year 1753, in the month of December.
2. That he has a record of his age at his house in Walkil [sic]aforesaid.
3. That he lived at Walkill [sic] when called into service where he has ever since resided.
4. He entered the service as herein before stated.
5. He has stated the names of his officers within.
6. That he never received a written discharge, nor commission.
7. That he is known to John [Stitt?], Vergil Duryea, & Charles Smith who reside in his neighborhood and can reside in his neighbourhood and can testify thereas to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. (Signed) Thomas Oliver

Sworn & Subscribed this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May 1833 before me. Asa Dunning Clerk of Com. Pleas.