

Pension Application for John Onderkirk

S.5861

State of New York

County of Schenectady SS

On this thirteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County now sitting John Onderkirk a resident of the town of Rotterdam in said county & state, aged sixty eight 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 town of Guilderland in the County of Albany in the State of New York on the twelfth day of June 1764. He has no record of his age except that contained in the Register of Births kept by the Dutch Church of that town.

When he was called into the service of the United States in the army of the revolution, he was living in said town and since the revolutionary war he has lived in said town of Guilderland, also in Glenville in Schenectady County aforesaid & he now lives in the town of Rotterdam aforesaid.

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

On or about the last day of April on the first day of May 1781, he enlisted for the term of nine months in Captain Peter B. Tierce's Company of State troops in the Regiment of Colonel Marius Willett. At the expiration of said term of nine months he received a written discharge signed by said Captain Tierce, which discharge has long since been lost.

He then enlisted for the term of two years in said Company of Captain Tierce and served therein until the end of the war; to wit, for the term of twenty four months. The names of his other company & field officers whom he recollects were Witter Johnston Lieutenant, VanBenscoten Major.

Under these two engagements, he served at the following posts & was in the following expeditions. He performed military duty at Fort Plank, Fort Plain, Fort Paris, Saratoga, Fort Stanwix, and he marched with his company from one fort to another & performed garrison duty at each. He was in several scouting parties to Boman's Creek and sundy other places in different parts of the country in the vicinity of said forts, and was engaged in a constant warfare with small parties of Indians who lurked about these forts.

He was in several skirmishes with the enemy at Fort Plank, and was with Colonel Willett in his expedition to Oswego.

The following are the names of some of the regular officers whom he knew, or who were with the troops where he served, and such continental and militia regiments or companies with which he served, or as he can recollect, vi: Those herein before given. He made application for a pension under the act of 1818, but at the time of such application he cannot recollect. ; His claim was not admitted as he was informed for that reason that he did no belong to the continental line.

He never received any written discharge from the service.

He has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except those whose depositions are hereto annexed.

The following are the names of persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, to wit. John Corl & William Corl.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever, to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is onto on the pension roll of the agency of any State. (Signed with his mark) John Ouderkirk

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year first aforesaid. John S. Vrooman,
Clerk