

Pension Application for Teunis Ostrander

S.11163

Declaration of Teunis Ostrander

State of New York

County of Montgomery SS.

Declaration of Teunis Ostrander

On the nineteenth day of September, in the year eighteen hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open court, before the judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Montgomery, aforesaid in the State of New York now sitting Teunis Ostrander, a resident of the town of Root, in the County & State aforesaid aged seventy six years, the 11th day of January, last past, who being first duly sworn according to law doth, on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress made 7th June 1832, and in answer to the Interrogatories put by the court says that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit—

In the year 1775 he entered the Volunteer Company commanded by Captain John DeWitt (1) for the defense of the colonies against Great Britain, he thus volunteered he belonged to Captain Simon Westfall's (2) Company in Colonel Peter TenBroek's regiment of militia in Rhinebeck, County of Dutchess, State of New York, This company of Captain Dewitt was called minute men, & were liable to be called out to train or into actual service at any moment & actually did militia service or drilling at least one day in a week & sometimes oftener during the summer of that year—That in the year 1776, he removed to the City of Albany, placed called then the Colonie, being in vicinity of the City of Albany & was enrolled in Captain Henry Ostrom's (3) Company in Colonel Philip Schuyler's regiment of militia & continued his company, during the whole of the revolutionary r was occasionally or several times separated from that company for a time of volunteering on occasional expeditions or service under the officers, as hereinafter mentioned & when the particular occasion and service ceased, returned again to Capt. Ostrom's company. That in 1776 the whole company turned out & went to Lake George & thinks the company (including himself), was discharged after about one months service, that in the year 1777 he, together with the whole of Capt. Ostrom's Company again turned out by order, to reinforce the army on its retreat from Ticonderoga & returned about 22d July being absent on this service about one month or more—That sometime early in September in the same year he, together with half the company (& half of the militia) turned out, by order, and joined the army at Stilwater, & were soon joined by remainder of the Company & remained there in service & until discharged, he believes, the day before this surrender of Genl Burgoyne (4), and was in service on this expedition aforesaid, of one month to the best of his recollection—That in these two expeditions he served under Capt. Ostrom.

That in 1778 one fourth of the company was moved out—That he volunteered into that detachment, & early in the Summer, marched to Schoharie, under Captain John Groot (5), on an alarm of Tories and Indians, and was about one month on this service—And that on about the 2d of September of the same year he volunteered again and marched under Captain Jacob Lansing (6), to Schoharie on an alarm of Indians & Tories, & was absent on this expedition about one month on both times, the company acting as guard. That late in the fall of the same year the whole company was ordered out & he, with the company marched under Capt. Ostrom, to Schoharie on an alarm of Tories & Indians & remained in service about half a month as near as he can recollect—

That in 1779 or 1780, which year he cannot positively recollect, he marched with the whole company under Capt. Ostrom, & regiment under Col. Schuyler to the Mohawk Country on the alarm of Tories & Indians, when Schoharie & the Mohawk Country (7) were burnt off, & was absent to the best of his recollection about one month—

That he was out in service on alarms at a number of other times & places which he cannot now precisely recollect nor the duration of such occasioned service -- but believes that they would amount to at least three months—He was several times at & beyond Niskayuna, sometimes to Schenectady, & to the Hellebergh [Helderberg] & often times called out & was discharged near Albany, when the alarm was countermanded &c.

That he was in actual service as aforesaid certainly upwards of ten months and he believes twelve months, that he is very poor & has a family to support and does not know of any one who has personal knowledge of his services as aforesaid that he could procure.

That he never had a discharge nor does he draw any pension from the United states nor has he ever before applied for any and hereby relinquishes all claims to any other pension or annuity but the present nor is his name on any pension roll in the United States to his knowledge. (Signed) Teunis Ostrander.

Sworn to in open court the day & year aforesaid, Geo. D. Ferguson, Clerk.

Amended Declaration of Teunis Ostrander.

State of New York

Montgomery County SS.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, a justice of the peace in and for the county of Montgomery, in the State aforesaid, on the twenty second day of January in the year eighteen hundred and thirty three—Teunis Ostrander who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith—that he is the identical person named in the annexed declaration & proceedings for a pension—That by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in all he served in the grade of a [private soldier, crossed out] orderly sergeant until in the summer and fall of the year seventeen hundred & seventy five as in said declaration mentioned—Twenty seven days in the year 1776, in the expedition to Lake George & in said declaration mentioned—one month—In the year 1777 on the retreat from Ticonderoga as in said declaration mentioned—one month & ten days. In the same year, to & at Stillwater, at the surrender of Burgoyne as in said declaration mentioned—one month & ten days. In the year 1778 in the summer season, under Captain Groat to Schoharie, as in the said declaration mentioned—one month—In the same year, in September & October, to Schoharie again under Capt. Jacob Lansing as in said declaration mentioned—one month—In November or December the same year, to wit Schoharie again, under Captain Ostrom as in said declaration mentioned—fifteen days. In the year 1780 at Fort Hunter, under Captain Ostrom as in said declaration mentioned—Twenty days. In the year 1780 or 81 (which year not surely recollected) under Captain Ostrom & Colonel Schuyler, to the Mohawk Country, when that country & Schoharie was burnt off as mentioned in said declaration—one month. In 1777 & 1778 & on the several alarms, exclusive of these before mentioned, to wit, to Niskeuna [Niskayuna] Hellebergh, & Schenectady, & in the vicinity of Albany—Three months—In all amounting to eleven months and twenty two days, & I served as an orderly sergeant and for such service I claim a pension. (Signed) Teunis Ostrander

Subscribed & sworn to the 22d day of January 1833 before Wm. Van Horne, Justice of the Peace.

End Notes—S.11163—Teunis Ostrander

1. John L. DeWitt was appointed captain on October 17, 1775 of the Second Rhinebeck Company in Colonel John VanNess First Regiment of Minute Men for Dutchess County.
2. Simon Westfall was appointed captain on October 19, 1775 of the First Company of the Rhinebeck Precinct in Colonel Petrus TenBroeck's First Regiment of Dutchess County Militia, Rhinebeck, and North East. After June 5, 1776 the Minute Men Regiments were to be abolished as there was a conflict of which regiment or officers these men were under when called out into actual service. Militia men were now required to be ready at the minute's notice eliminating the problem.
3. In 1776, Teunis probably enlisted in Captain Peter Schuyler's Third Company in Colonel Francis Nicholl's Third Regiment of Albany County Militia. Henry Ostrom was the second lieutenant at this time. Henry was probably appointed captain late 1776 or early 1777 and he was commissioned as such on June 22, 1778. Philip P. Schuyler was commissioned colonel of the regiment on June 22, 1778 as Nicholl, lately resigned.
4. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British forces on October 17, 1777.
5. John Groat or Groat was commissioned captain on June 22, 1778 in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment.
6. Jacob J. Lansing was Captain of the Fourth Company in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment.
7. Captain Ostrom's Company was at the Battle of Klocksfield in the afternoon of October 19, 1780 under Brigadier General Robert VanRensselaer. Teunis states he was in the pursuit but does not mention the battle.