

Pension Application for John Palmater

S.19015

State of New York

Jefferson County SS.

On this 26 day of September 1833, personally appeared before me George Brown Esqr one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Jefferson & State of New York, John Palmater a resident of Marysburgh in the County of Frederickburgh in the Province of Upper Canada, aged seventy six years & in Oct next will be seventy seven years of age, who being first duly sworn, [?] on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That In the year 1779, I think in May, I enlisted in the 2d New York Regt commanded by Col. Cortlandt, Maj. Fish, Capt Fowler, Lieut Daniel Denison, for during the war. When I enlisted I resided at the Mohawk River at Caughnawaga, & I enlisted under a Sergeant named John Williams, in Johnstown at a place called Mayfield in the State of New York.

That I served to the end of the war. I was regularly discharged in 1783, at Newburgh on the 7th day of June 1783 on Monday morning about 11 oclock in the forenoon. I cannot read or write. I received my discharge from Capt. Fowler. It was a printed paper but who signed it I cannot now recollect. My discharge was given to a Doct. Samuel Stringer of Albany & I suppose it is lost or destroyed. I gave my discharge to Stringer to enable him to draw my back pay & he promised me to look for my land consisting, as I supposed & as was read off on Parade, of 600 acres. I have not seen my discharge since 1784. I found my Regt in Albany in 1779 in May.

I never was in but one action & this was at the taking of Lord CornWallis at Yorktown in Virginia. I saw CornWallis & his army when they surrendered to Genl Washington & saw our troops from two lines & the British troops marched between our lines & staked their arms. CornWallis surrendered in the fall of 1782. My Regt was then marched back to Newburgh & I think on arrival at Newburgh in November 1782. We remained until the following spring when I was discharged.

I continued to reside near Albany at a place then called Coemens [Coeymans] Patent about 10 years after I rec'd my discharge when I removed to Canada where I have resided ever since & do now reside. I have no documentary evidence in my possession, under my control or within my knowledge, of my services as a soldier. I know of no person now living when testimony I can procure, who can testify to my service. I have no record of my age, but according to my memory I shall be 77 years on the 7th day of October next.

I hereby relinquish any claim whatever to a pension except the present & my name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

I have neighbors residing in Canada, but my residence being above seventy miles from Watertown where the Court house is in Jefferson County. It is impossible to procure their attendance at such a distance. I am poor & a cripple in my right arm. There is no clergyman residing near me whose attendance I could procure to certify to

my character & the reason why my present application is made to a Judge out of Court is, that I did not know, until I had traveled over seventy miles, that it was necessary to make the application in open court; that there is no court in [Sepius?] & as I am informed & believe, will not be until the month of December next; & I do not believe it will be in my favor ever to make application according to the Regulations of the War Department as I am poor & cannot pay the expenses of attendance of witnesses in my behalf.

When I enlisted in the service the 2d Regt into which I enlisted, was commanded by a Col. Weisenfeldt & I wish to correct my statement first made, that it was commanded by Co. Cortlandt. After I had been in the service about a years, as I now recollect, Col. Weisenfeldt resigned & Col. Cortlandt too command of the Regt. A Col. VanSchaick commanded the 1st Regt, Col. Cortlandt had command when I got my discharge. I have been informed that I was entitled by my services as a soldier to 600 acres of land in the State of New York, but I have never rec'd my land & never saw it & am not certain I ever drew any. I further declare that when in the service as a soldier during the Revolutionary War, I was to receive for my wages eight dollars a month or ninety six dollars a year. My pay I never got but by the bargain, this was the sum I ought to have received. (Signed with his mark) John Palmater.

Subscribed & sworn to before me this 26th day of Sept'r 1833. G. Brown, Judge. Jeff. County Court.