

Pension Application for John Palmer

W.5501 (Widow: Olive)
B.L.Wt.24912-160-55
State of New York
Chenango County SS.

On this 24th day of December in the year 1833 personally appeared before Nathan Taylor Esqr one of the judges of Chenango County, Court of Common Pleas John Palmer a resident of Columbus in the County of Chenango & State of New York aged 76 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration In order to obtain the benefit declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

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

1st In the year 1776 he thinks in the month of June he was called out in the Company of Militia Commanded by Fenner Palmer in the Regiment Commanded by Col. John Knickerbacker at Hosick [Hoosick] in the County of Albany & State of New York & went in an alarm to Fort Edward & Glens Falls, and scouted in the vicinity of those places two or three weeks then returned to Hosick & was discharged at that place served this tour three weeks as orderly Sergeant.

2^d In the year 1776 in the month of August he went from Hosick In the militia in a class they were stationed four weeks at Palmertown on the west side of the North river the party was commanded by Lieut Colonel VanVort was gone at this time five weeks and was discharged at Hosick on his returned served in this tour as Orderly Sergeant.

3^d In the fall of 1776 he thinks Sept or October he sent in an alarm in the aforementioned Company to Fort Edward & vicinity & was gone two weeks & as discharged on his return at Hosick served during this tour as Orderly Sergeant.

4th In the year 1777 in May volunteered at Bennington in Vermont in a Regiment commanded by Col. Brush & went to Castleton, Poultney & other places in Vermont a the time the Brittish [British] army was expected & was gone this tour four weeks was discharged at Bennington on his return served this tour as a private soldier—does not recollect the names of his other officers.

5th In August in the year 1777 was called out in the Militia Company Commanded by Fenner Palmer in Col. Knickerbackers Regiment in August & B went to Cambridge untill they met the advance guard of Baum's Army [Lieutenant Colonel Friedrich Baum] & retreated before them to Bennington and was in the battle at Bennington on the 16th of August under General Stark then went to Tulls Mills not far from Stillwater on the East side of the North River & were on the North River untill after Burgoyne surrendered then went home to Hosick & was discharged at that place was out this tour two months & a half & served as Orderly Sergeant 6th in 1778 or 1779 was called out in the militia in the company aforesaid & went from Hosick to Lake George & was gone four weeks, served as Orderly Sergeant & was discharged at Hosick on his return.

7th In 1778 or 1779 was called out in the militia in the company aforesaid & went to fort Edward & fort Ann on an alarm & served this tour three weeks and was discharged at Hosick on his return served as Orderly Sergeant.

8th In the year 1778 or 1779 was called out in the militia in the aforesaid Company & went to Hebon & scouted from there north towards Skenesborough was out this time two weeks & was discharged at Hosick on his return served as Orderly Sergeant.

In addition to the foregoing terms was called out frequently in short tours near home on alarms for three or four days & a week at a time but cannot state particulars but being out in this manner frequently during the years 1776, 1777, 1778, & 1779 is confident that it must amount to at least four months and all the time as sergeant.

9th In the year 1780 he was called out in the militia in the company commanded by Capt James Hadlock from Hosick in Col. Yates's Regt he thinks in August went to Granville & was stationed at that place & scouted to the north of there to Skenesborough--& other places In that vicinity was out this tour four weeks and was discharged at Hosick on their return served at this time as Ensign.

10th in the same year 1780 he thinks in September he was called out in the militia in Capt. Hadlock's Company from Hosick to Monroes Meadows & Scotch Patent on an alarm and was out at this time two weeks served as an Ensign & was discharged on his return at Hocisk.

11th in the year 1781 he thinks in May he was called out in Capt Hadlock's Company in Col. Yates Regiment of Militia from Hosick & Went to Lake George and was stationed there and scouted from there went to Northwest was out this time five weeks served as Ensign & was discharged at Hosick on his return.

12th at the time Fort George was burnt was called out from Hosick in the aforesaid Company of Militia under the command of Lieut Col. VanRenselaer [Rensselaer] & went to Fort George and was out this time five weeks served as Ensign & was discharged at Hosick on his return cannot state the year positively but thinks it was in 1781.

13th In the year 1782 in the spring he went in the above mentioned company & regiment from Hosick & at a time it was said that Sir John Johnson was coming down after his state Governor Clinton took command of the troops & went to Ticonderoga. He was attached to the life guard of Governor Clinton at Fort George & went in the capacity the west of the town was gone this time six weeks & served as Ensign & was discharged at Hosick on his return.

14th in that year 1782 the particular time can not state was called out in the above mentioned company & went to Fort Edward on an alarm & went to Fort Edward & scouted from them west & North was out this time three weeks—served as ensign & was discharged at Hosick on his return.

15th In the year 1782 was called out in the above company from Hosick & went to Cambridge & Skenesborough on an alarm at the time Young[?] a Commissioned [officer?] was wounded was out this time two weeks served as an ensign & was discharged at Hosick on his return

That in addition to the foregoing he was often out in alarms for short periods near home but can not recollect so as to state particulars. That he has given the above statement according to the best of his recollection he may have in some instances placed the terms under the wrong years but the different tours are all distinctly recollected & he is confident that in no instance has the time been stated long than that actually employed & in many less and he certifies that from his age and consequent loss of memory he can not recollect distinctly and positively the length of his service but according to the best of his recollections he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades viz for one year I served as a Sergeant including the 28 days as a private for six months I served as an Ensign and for such service I claim a pension.

He does not recollect of any Continental Regiments being stationed where he was at any time except when he went from Lake George to Ticonderoga. A company of Continentals went with them he thinks in command of a Major but can not recollect his name.

Answers to questions propounded by the department.

1st I was born at Dover Dutchess County New York in the year 1757.

2^d I have a record of my age in my family Bible which was copied from my fathers family Bible.

3^d I was living in Hosick Albany County New York during the Revolutionary [war] since the Revolutionary War I lived in Hosick till the year 1832. I now live in Columbus Chenango County New York.

4th as stated in the body of the declaration.

5^[th] I can recollect no more than stated in the body of the declaration.

6th I never received a written discharge. I received a Commission signed by Governor George Clinton but it is lost.

7th I state the names of the following persons to whom I am known in my present neighbourhood and who can testify as to my character for veracity & their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution. Viz Samuel Campbell Esq late member of Congress Joshua Lamb Esq post Martin Columbus Corners Angell Knight Esq port Martin, Columbus Isaac Jones Jr. Town Clerk & Deacon Benjamin Storrs all of Columbus.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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. (Signed) John Palmer

Sworn & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Nathan Taylor
Judge of Chenango Common Pleas.

Letter in folder dated September 27, 1937, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information in regard to John Palmer, Revolutionary War soldier, and a pensioner from Chenango County, New York.

The data furnished herein were obtained from papers on file in pension claim, W.5501, based upon the military service of John Palmer in the War of the Revolution.

John Palmer was born in the year 1757 in Dover, Dutchess County, New York. He was the son of Fenner Palmer, name of his mother was not given.

While residing Hoosick, New York, with his father, John Palmer enlisted sometime in June 1776, served at various times as private, orderly sergeant, and ensign in the New York troops, under Captains Fenner Palmer (his father), James Hadlock, Colonels John Knickerbocker, Peter Yates, Brush, Lieutenant Colonel VanVort and Lieutenant Colonel VanRensselaer, and continued in the service until 1782. During his service he was in the battle of Bennington, and went on alarms to Fort Edward, Fort George, Ticonderoga, and Crown Point, and in 1782, was attached to Governor Clinton's Life Guard; length of service, twenty days as private, one year as orderly sergeant, and six month as ensign.

He continued to reside in Hoosick until in 1832, then moved to Columbus, Chenango County, New York. He was allowed pension on his application executed December 24, 1833, then living in Columbus, New York.

The soldier, John Palmer, married April 28, 1833 in Columbus, New York, Olive Barnes. The date and place of her birth and names of parents were not given.

John Palmer died January 24, 1843 in Hoosick, New York. His widow, Olive Barnes, was allowed pension on her application executed July 5, 1853, then living in Columbus, New York, aged seventy-seven years.

The soldier's children were referred to in 1834 as "at a distance"; the only name stated was a daughter who signed in 1853 "Olive Barns", then living in Chenango County, New York.

The soldier's brother, Nathaniel Palmer, was seventy years of age in 1833, then living in Chenango County, New York, and one Nathan Palmer was seventy-seven years of age in 1833, living in said county; they were both soldiers in the Revolutionary War. It was not show that Nathan Palmer was related to John Palmer or Nathaniel Palmer.

Laura Hubby, niece of the widow, Olive Palmer, was living in Columbus, New York, in 1853. In 1853, Grant B. Palmer and Leroy Hubby, were both residing in Columbus; it was not stated that they were related to the family.