

Pension Application for Joseph Pettingill or Pettingell, Pattinell, etc.

R.8152

Declaration: In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

State of New York

Onondaga County SS.

On this 14th day of October 1834 personally appeared in open court before Daniel Moseley Esqr, circuit Judge of the 7th Circuit of the State of New York.

Joseph Pettingill a resident of the Town of Cicero in the County of Onondaga aged 71 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 provisions made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That when he first entered the service of the United States he volunteered to serve in a volunteer company at Florida in the County of Montgomery and State of New York that as commanded by one Samuel Pettengill (1) and the father (2) of this applicant was a soldier in said company and was in the battle at Oriskany and were both killed.

That one William Snook (3) was then made captain of said company and one Daniel McGraw (4) was the Lieutenant and Leonard Stow was second Lieutenant, and belonged to Colonel Vader's (5) Regiment. That applicant Volunteered to serve in said company in the Spring of the year 1779 a private soldier during the war. That said company was called minute men, (6) that they were stationed at Fort Hunter in said Montgomery County from the time of his first entering said company until the close of the war except when they were on duty other where's—He first marched up the Mohawk river to Caughnawaga on an alarm and [?] returned to the fort. The next they were marched out towards John's Town where there was a battle with the British Soldiers & Tories, (7) and in the morning return to the fort with about 500 Prisoners and applicant further states and declares that he continued in the said service aforesaid until the last of the war which was more than three years, and that he was not engaged in any civil pursuit during any part of said time.

There were sometimes officers at said Fort belonging to the General Army but applicant does not recollect their name except General Washington (8) under whom they all served.

That he has no documentary evidence of his said services and knows of no living witness by whom he can prove any part thereof—and 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.

1. That he was born in the year 1763.
2. That he has no Record of his age.
3. That when he entered the service he was living in Florida Montgomery County State of New York & now resides in Cicero and in said state.
4. That when he entered the service he volunteered.
5. General Washington was sometimes with the troops when he served and other names he cannot recollect.
6. That he never received any written discharge.
7. That he is acquainted with Asa Eastwood and Elijah Loomis, residents in his neighborhood who can testify for him as to truth and veracity and their tradition of his said services—that there is no clergyman living in his neighborhood. (Signed) Joseph Pettingill. (9)

Subscribed and sworn in open court this 14th day of October 1834 before me. R. S. Hess, Clerk of Onondaga County.

End Notes—R.8152—Joseph Pettingill

1. Samuel Pettingell was appointed Captain of the Fifth Company in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County militia on August 26, 1775.
2. John Pettingell brother of Samuel and the father of Joseph. John and Samuel were both killed at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777.
3. William Snook was the second lieutenant in Captain Pettingell's Company. The first lieutenant was Thomas Caine. It appears that by 1777 that William Snook was the acting first lieutenant of Pettingell's Company. On March 8, 1781, acting Captain Snook was commissioned Captain of the late Captain Pettengell's Company.
4. The officers of Captain Snook's company were Thomas VanHorne as first lieutenant, Peter Young as second lieutenant and Conrad Stine (or Stein, Stone, etc.) as ensign. Daniel McGraw and his brother John both served as privates in Captain Snook's Company. Daniel McGraw was appointed ensign in Captain William Snooks' first company in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant John Newkirk's Regiment of Montgomery County Militia on October 2, 1786. FROM: Military Minutes of the Council of Appointment of the State of New York 1783-1821, ed. Hugh Hastings, James B. Lyon, State Printer, Albany, N.Y., 1901, Vol. I, p 101.

5. Volkert Veeder was the Lieutenant-Colonel of Colonel Visscher's Regiment.
6. Minute men companies were abolished by the Provincial Congress on June 5, 1776 in a revision of the militia law. "1st. That the distinction between Minute Men and Common Militia which seems to be a consequence of the aforesaid Resolve of the Continental Congress be hereforth abolished, that thereby the Militia of the Colony may be again reduced to one common mass. FROM: Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York, ed. Bertold Fernow, XV, State Archives, Col. I, Weed, Parsons, and company, Printers, Albany, NY 1887, p. 105.
7. Joseph is probably referring to the Battle of Johnstown which was fought on October 25, 1781. He is definitely incorrect in the number of prisoners that were taken; only about 30 prisoners were taken at the Battle of Johnstown.
8. General and Commander-in-Chief George Washington visited the Mohawk Valley in July of 1783.
9. Joseph married Anna Bennet on November 9, 1785. Book of Marriages for the Dutch Reformed Church of Caughnawaga, p. 164. In affidavits on December 15, 1852 children of Joseph, Abigail Wills and Lovina Siver applied for any pension money that maybe due to them. They stated their mother Anna died on March 10, 1837. They also stated Joseph died at Cicero on January 16, 1842. Another daughter, Lydia Stoutenger on July 14, 1854 also applied for any remaining pension money that may be due to heirs of Joseph.