

Pension Application for Frederick Proper

W.17494 (Widow: Margaret) Married 1779 Frederick died in 1812. Margaret died March 4, 1839.

State of New York

County of Ontario SS.

On this twelfth day of July 1848 personally appeared in open court before the Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, John Proper of the town of Benton aged sixty years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the amount due to the heirs of Margaret Proper, deceased, widow of Frederick Proper under the act of 4th July 1836.

This declarant states that he is the son of Frederick Proper who was a soldier in the War of the Revolution – that his father, the said Frederick Proper was a native of the State of New York and war born & resided at a place called Livingston's Manor near the town of Kinderhook in the County of Columbia in said State.

This declarant states information & belief from his father and from his mother the said Margaret Proper, that his said father was an enlisted soldier in the Continental Troops of the New York Line—that he enlisted in the early part of the war and continued in service from the time of his enlistment & the close of said war.

That he enlisted before the surrender of General Burgoyne, for this declarant has heard his said father say he was under General Gates and was present at the surrender of General Burgoyne.

That he went south with the army under General Washington and was engaged in the Battle of Brandywine [Brandywine] and Germantown. That he has heard him speak of serving under Captain Wendall and also under Captain Tenbroeck, but that he name of the Colonel of the Regiment in which he served this declarant is unable to state. That he has heard him speak of men by the name of Jotham Prindle, of Richard Wheeler, and a man by the name of Rudolph as comrades with him in the service, and of many others whose names this declarant is unable to recall –also of one named Steer, or Stagg, as he was called.

This declarant further states that the maiden name of his mother was Margaret Waters and that she was married to this declarants said father before the commencement of said war as he has understood from his said parents.

That during the greater part of said war this declarant's mother resided on Livingston's Manor in said State—that his said parents had two or three children born before the close of said war.

That the name of the first child was [?] Yost Proper who is now dead. That the name of the second child was Catharine Proper—now Catharine Doneberg—who was born before the close of said war and the name of the third child was Suzzane Proper.

This declarant further states that he was often heard his said father say, during his life time that soon after the close of the Revolutionary War & while he resided on said Livingston's Manor, the house in which he lived took fire and was burnt up and that nearly all of the contents among which were all of his said father's papers relating to his service in the Revolutionary War together with several hundred pounds of

Continental paper money were consumed; and that there are no papers now in this declarant's possession which relate to his said father's services in the Revolutionary war.

This declarant further states that his said father sometime after the close of the revolutionary war removed from said Livingston's Manor to the town of Jefferson in the County of Schoharie in said state where he resided at the time of his death.

That he died in the year eighteen hundred and twelve (1812)—that his mother the said Margaret Proper died on the fourth (4th) day of March in the year eighteen hundred and thirty nine (1839) in the said town of Benton at the reputed age of about ninety years.

That after he said husband's death she did not again intermarry and that his said father & mother left three children surviving them now living whose name are John Proper, George Proper & Catharine Dornberg. (Signed with his mark) John Proper

Sworn & subscribed to the day & year first above written before me. Julius N. Granger, Associate Justice.