

Pension Application for David Ralya

S.7353

Declaration of David Ralya in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

State of Pennsylvania

Crawford County SS.

On this thirtieth of June one thousand eight hundred and thirty four personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of Crawford County State of Pennsylvania David Ralya a resident of Vernon Township in the County of Crawford aforesaid aged seventy four 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the beginning of the year 1777 at Fort Constitution on the North River for three years in the company of Captain James Craig & served in the Regiment of Colonel Henry Gansevoort of the New York line under the following named officers viz Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willet, Major Robert Cochran & Lieutenant Stockwell and was discharged in 1783.

After the war at Paramus, New Jersey having served from his first enlistment throughout the war.

I was born in Dutchess County New York on the 30th of December 1760 where I resided when I entered the service. We marched from Fort Constitution on to Fort Stanwix to join the Regiment where we remained for two years under the command of Colonel Gansevoort in the Fort and expeditions in the neighbourhood.

In 1777 we were besieged by the British & Tories and Indians for 21 days under General St. Leger and was relieved by General Arnold after the surrender of Burgoyne.

In 1779 we joined General James Clinton with the other Regiments & marched to Lake Otsego where we remained until we dammed the Lake and raised a sufficiency of water to carry the boats down to Tioga Point we then joined General Sullivan & marched to the Genessee River against the Indians of the Six Nations.

At Chemung we had a considerable contest with them. We killed some and dispersed the others, destroyed their crops and burnt their villages. Previous to their engagement I was one of a party of 18 with Lieutenant Boyd at New Town Point Swamp we were attacked by the Indians sixteen were killed and only one Thomas Murphy & myself escaped. Was afterwards found the remains of Lieutenant Boyd & buried them.

A part of us returned to Fort Stanwix to bring the baggage—the remainder of the army marched to [Newburg?] when we rejoined them.

We then went to Tappan Bay. I was one of the guards of Major Andre at this execution in October 1780. We lay afterwards at New Brunswick Morristown & other places as we could get provisions. Served when under Sullivan in [?] on with Genl Hand from Pennsylvania General Clinton from New York Genl Poor from New England & General Maxwell of New Jersey.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present & he hereby declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. (Signed with his mark) David Ralya

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Edw. A. Reynolds Proth'y & c.