

### **Pension Application for Ezekiel Rhoades**

W.1934 (Widow: Anna) Ezekiel married Anna Greatsinger May 21, 1796. Ezekiel died August 18, 1849.

B.L.29014-160-55

At a court of Common Pleas holden at the Court house in the Village at Elmira in and for the County of Tioga in the State of New York commencing on the fourth day of September 1832.

Present Hon. Grant B. Baldwin first Judge Joseph L. Darling, John R. Drake, Darius Bentley & Elijah Shoemaker, Esquires, Judges.

State of New York

Tioga County SS.

On this 4<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges aforesaid being a Court of Record because made so by the Constitution and Laws of the State having by law a Clerk and Seal now sitting Ezekiel Rhoades a Resident of the Town of Elmira in the County of Tioga and State of New York, aged seventy years the 21<sup>st</sup> day of August last who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

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

In the spring of the year 1776 the militia in what is now the County of Putnam in the state of New York were called upon to organize and be in readiness for the service—those least able to bear arms were allowed to stay at home but the young and able bodied were invited to arm, equip and enter the service.

This deponent volunteered for no definite period except for as long as his country should require his services in the company commanded by Captain John Lam[b], Captain Solomon Hopkins raised another company in the same neighborhood both under the command of Col. Luddington.

The first season he was stationed near the City of New York was with the army so the battles of Kingsbridge and White Plains and was with the army when the lines were drawn at Harlem heights from one River to the other. The next season was mostly on garrison duty at Kingston and Fort Montgomery till the taking of this fort by the Enemy in October of that year. Was at Esopus or Kingston when it was burnt by the enemy.

Late in the fall or fist of winter was ordered with a detachment to scour the country of Tories and succeeded in making prisoners of many.

The next season '78 was at West Point and Fort Constitution under orders and in the service. One short campaign to Albany received counter orders from Gov. George Clinton and were march'd down the River again.

In the year '79 this deponent had become somewhat attached to the service and having expressed some degree of proficiency in the use of arms was occasionally employed as a drill sergeant in the company evolutions and manual exercise as then practiced and manual exercise as then practiced by the Continental Army and that he

still retains a full knowledge and recollection of the drill service as then used. Thus he continued in the service without any intermission save sometimes going home on leave to refit his clothing, till the fall of 1780 about the time of the execution of Major Andre at which he was present when the company was disbanded by the expiration of enlistment and joining other companies—

From this period to the close of the war his services were confined chiefly to voluntary excursions against the tories from time to time.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to them; and in answer to the several interrogatories put to him by the court he says that he was born in the year 1762—

That he has no record of his age but that his parents had it set down in their bible which he well remembers having seen and has no doubt of the Correctness of his memory on that point.

That at the time he entered the service he lived at the place of his nativity. That at the close of the Revolutionary war he enlisted for four years in the service of the United States as a private soldier under Captain Henry Burkirk and served out the term—was stationed a part of the time at Springfield in Massachusetts and during the said term of four years was marched to the frontier of the State of George against the Indians—that on the expiration of this term he lived 20 years at Kingston Ulster County then removed to his present residence in Elmira—that in all his services as before stated he was one of the volunteer militia.

That while in the service he was acquainted with Gen. James Clinton—with Gen. Gates who had his headquarters at the house of an uncle of this deponent then living at Saratoga in '77. He knew Gen. Arnold Col. Hiatt and Col. Samuel Drake and some of their Crops that during the Revolutionary War he never received any other than a verbal discharge he would refer to Thomas Maxwell Esquire late a member of Congress. Col. John Hendy and Gen. Matthew Carpenter as persons well acquainted with him in his neighborhood and who can testify to his reputation for truth and veracity and their belief in the truth of the foregoing declaration. (Signed with his mark) Ezekiel Rhoades

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Green M. Tuthill Clk