

Pension Application for John Rowan

S.14363

State of New York

County of Washington SS.

On this 30th day of August 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Washington now sitting John Rowan a resident of the town of Salem in the said County of Washington and State of New York aged eighty two 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was born in the North of Ireland in the year seventeen hundred and fifty one, but has no record of his age; when he first entered the service he lived in the town of Salem (then New Perth) in the County of Washington and State of New York and continued to reside in said town until about eight years ago, when he went to live in the town of Kingsbury in the same county, where he continued about two years and then returned to Salem and had since then continued to and now does reside in said town of Salem.

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

Sometime in the year 1775 (he thinks in the fall thereof) he was voluntarily enrolled in the company of Militia commanded by Captain Hutchinson of New Perth in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Williams, and with an understanding and agreement on the part of this applicant and the men of the company generally that they would hold themselves always ready at a minutes warning.

About the month of July 1776 he was called out in the company of Militia in which he was enrolled commanded by Captain Hutchinson in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Williams (and by the order of the Committee of Safety (as he thinks) and marched in said company to the North to Skeensborough and other places in pursuit and search of Tories; and continued to serve in said Company as much as one month and was then dismissed.

Early in the Spring of the year 1777 he was called out in the company of Militia foresaid which he thinks was then commanded by Captain Armstrong in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Williams, and served in said company in and about the town of New Perth, part of the time in building a Picket Fort in said town until on or about the 8th day of July when he was dismissed and the inhabitants in consequence of a communication Rec'd by Colonel Joseph McCracken from General Schuyler were ordered by the said Colonel McCracken (who had attended in person at the building of the Fort) to move off and he immediately took his family to St. Coick having been engaged in actual service in said company as much as three months according to the best of this applicants recollection and belief; and within a week after he was dismissed in Captain Armstrong's Company, he volunteered in the company of militia commanded by Captain Barnes in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Williams aforesaid:--

Recollects while in said company of going with captain Barnes in a party of about twenty to seize some cattle the enemy had placed in a field in New Perth—also recollects that a short time before the battles fought near Bennington he went in said company in a small party to take one Hicks of the enemy who was in the neighborhood of Camden in New Perth aforesaid of cattle and provisions.

Recollects that when Hicks was taken he was placed on the horse behind applicant and the horse was shot under them as they were returning to More's in said town where Captain Barnes then lay—

Recollects also of being in the battles fought near Bennington in Vermont on the 16 August between the Americans under General Starked [Stark?] and the said company from Bennington to New Perth where the two regiments the one commanded by Colonel Williams, according to the best of his recollection, of Walpole and the other by Colonel Williams of New Perth came together and from thence marched in said company to Saratoga where both Regiments were ordered to Fort the Hudson which they did and continued over the River till morning when orders were given to recross the river at the Ford.

That he served in said Company until General Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates at Saratoga on the 17 October seventeen hundred and seventy seven & was in the battles fought against him there. After the battles and the surrender of Burgoyne he went to Williamstown with prisoners and continued to serve in said company until on or about the first day of November 1777 when he was dismissed having been engaged with the service in said company as much as three months.

Towards the fall of the year 1778 he was called out under Captain Armstrong in the Regiment aforesaid which he thinks was then commanded by Colonel Alexander Webster and marched to fort Edward and other places in the country and served as much as one month in said company in Scouting and ranging and was then dismissed.

Some time in the spring of the year 1779 he was called out in the company last aforesaid under the officers last aforesaid and marched to Skeensborough and served in said company at and about that place as much as two months and was then dismissed during said time he was employed on duty at Skeensborough and in Scouting parties in pursuit of Tories and hostile Indians & in that quarter.

In the latter part of the year 1779 he was again called out in the company aforesaid under the officers aforesaid and marched to Skeensborough and served in said company in ranging and scouting parties in the North of the County as much as two months and was then dismissed.

In the same year cannot state the precise time but thinks it was in the fall thereof. He was ordered out in the company aforesaid under the officers aforesaid and marched to Granville, and continued to serve in said company at that place as much as one month and was then dismissed.

In the year seventeen hundred and eighty in the month of September or October he was called out in the company aforesaid under the officers aforesaid on an alarm occasioned by the movements of Major Carlton of the enemy; that he served in

said company on said alarm as much as one month and one week and was then dismissed; during said time he was on duty in said company in different places in said County of Washington but does not recollect them very particularly now, but does recollect in particular of marching to Fort Ann which had been set on fire and was still smoking when applicant arrived in sight of it.

Some time in the year seventeen hundred and eighty one, recollects that it was about the time Lord Cornwallis was said to have been taken, he was called out on an alarm to go to the North by the officers last aforesaid; and marched in said company to a place called Mr. Witts Hill; and from there marched on towards lake George and was in service on said alarm as much as one month and was then dismissed.

After the service last above mentioned and between that time and the termination of the War he continued to reside in New Perth aforesaid and continued to be a member of the company in which he was enrolled as herein before stated, which he thinks was under the command of Captain Armstrong and in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Webster during the period aforesaid—that he was often called out in said company during said period on alarms and in scouting parties, that whenever so called upon he always turned out and continued to serve until dismissed, but he cannot state the particular times and circumstances of said service, but according to the best of his recollection and belief, his services during said time amount to as much as three months.

That the services hereinbefore stated in the company under Captain Hutchinson & which was after [?] commanded by Captain Armstrong were performed in pursuance of the understanding, when he was enrolled, that he should always hold himself ready at a minutes warning, and where ever his officers in said company called upon him he always turned out, and in his services under Captain Barnes he was a volunteer; and he has no doubt but the whole of his services amounts to more than the time herein after stated and set forth, but his recollection of those times is by now by reason of his advanced age and the consequent loss of memory became very imperfect and it is impossible for him to recollect dates and circumstances more particularly than herein mentioned; that he recollects seeing Captain Stockwell at Skeensborough, but besides him has no particular recollection of officers, Regiments, or companies other than those herein before spoken of.

That he never received any discharge, has no documentary evidence of his services and knows of none; that can be obtained and knows of no witness whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service, except James Rowan and John gray Esquire whose affidavits are hereto annexed; that the whole amount of his services particularly stated herein is one year six months and one week as a private in the militia; and for such service he claimed a pension.

That he is known to the Rever'd John Whiton a clergyman residing in the town of Salem aforesaid and to Bernard Blair Esquire a resident of the same place, who can respectively testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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 Rowan

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. J. S. Leigh
Ck.