

Pension Application for Jonathan Rouse

R.9035

State of New York

Saratoga County SS.

On this twentieth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine personally appeared in open court before the Court of Chancery for the Fourth Circuit of the State of New York before the Honorable John Willard Vice Chancellor of said Circuit now sitting Jonathan Rouse a resident of the Town of Saratoga Spring in the County of Saratoga and State of New York aged seventy eight years on the eighth day of August last, who was 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 entered the service of the United States in the spring of one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight in the town of Northeast in the County of Dutchess and state aforesaid, as a volunteer under the command of Captain John Rouse. That the company was called out for the purpose of quelling and insurrection of the tories, and were out three weeks in different parts of the County taking prisoners, and preventing the tories from assisting the British Army, a portion of which was then stationed in the adjoining County of WestChester.

That he served as such volunteer further period of three weeks, when he was discharged. That in July following deponent enlisted in a Company of Rangers commanded by James Talmage as Captain for the term of four months. That this company was raised from the purpose of preventing other tories from committing robberies and plundering the inhabitants of the county of Dutchess and the surrounding country. That during the period of his enlistment as above stated deponent was continually on duty marching in various directions, sometime to Poughkeepsie about thirty miles from his place of residence. Sometimes to a log jail called "oblong" or in a tract of land known by that name, transporting tories taken prisoner to this place of confinement.

That during the time, deponent was stationed nearly a month as a guard about the jail, a part of the company under the command of Captain Talmage being detached for that purpose which the residue was a guarding the inhabitants from plunder and robbery. That deponent served to the full end of four months and was discharged; but he has had written evidence thereof Captain Talmadge having died a number of years ago. Deponent does not recollect of a single person living to that company.

Deponent further states that in the month of May 1779 he removed with his father to the town of Schaghticoke. District was Pittstown in the County of Rensselaer. He was immediately enrolled as a private in a company of Militia commanded by Captain Matthew DeGarno in a regiment commanded by Colonel Peter Yates.

This company was ordered out in the month of June in that year and this deponent was marched from Pittstown to Stillwater in Saratoga County, from thence to Ft. Edward. While at Ft. Edward deponent was engaged in garrison duty or as

scouting party, that having a portion of the duty to be performed in those days. Deponent cannot recollect what officers commanded the garrison at Ft. Edward. He remembers that Major John W. Groesbeck of the regiment commanded by Col. Yates as above stated frequently had the command of that regiment. That deponent was on this expedition at least four weeks before he returned to Pittstown. That in the same season he was again ordered to Ft. Edward, and was in the service at this time for nearly equal to the same period, and at least two months in that season.

In September or October of the same year deponent was transferred from Capt. Degarmo's Company to a company in the same regiment commanded by Cornelius Maltse as the Captain. Joseph Halsted a Lieutenant, and John Harden Ensign when he remained to the close of the war.

That this company was ordered or entered the service—was marched to Stillwater deponent being a private and in the company at the time. From thence to Saratoga ten or twelve weeks above and from thence to Ft. Edward. The headquarters at that time. That deponent cannot recollect the precise periods of this service. That he recollects of marching to Fort George and Lake George, passed down the lake and landed near Ticonderoga, went from thence north to intercept Sir John Johnson on his retreat, from Johnstown after his destroying the latter place. This expedition was commanded in person by Governor George Clinton. Deponent was under the command of Capt. Wiltse until they arrived at Ft. George. After crossing the lake deponent was placed under the command of Col. John VanRensselaer, had the command of a volunteer Company on that expedition at least three weeks.

That in the month of July or August 1780 deponent belonged to a detachment of one quarter of a regiment called into the service four three months. That in order to make the bateau as equal as possible the company to which deponent belonged was classed into four classes and they were to relieve each other in succession.

That deponent volunteered for the first class and went into the service under Capt. Thomas Brown was marched from Pittstown to Stillwater, Saratoga, Ft. Edward and thence to a place called Palmertown, about twelve miles northwest therefrom. That when the time arrived for the second class they did not appear. Said deponent was detained in service until the whole detachment was discharged, doing garrison duty and scouting in the northern part of the County of Saratoga.

It would be impossible for deponent to state the precise periods of time he was in actual service during the years 1780 and 1781, he was absent in the service of the United States for a considerable portion of the time, sometimes for longer and sometimes for shorter periods and to the best of his recollection and belief at least six months. That previous to those years and during the war he served on several occasions, no definite account of which has been given.

That the only documentary evidence in his possession on which he has been able to obtain are the "Pay Rolls" of Capt. Wiltse, required to be delivered by the captain to the Colonel of the Regiment. The pay rolls hereto annexed are marked A. and B. and referred to and explained by the deposition hereto annexed of Henry Milton

showing that deponent was in the service under Capt. Cornelius Wiltse in the years 1780 and 1781.

That he knows of no other person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except Casper M. Rouse, Nicholas Rouse and Rebecca Baylis whose depositions are hereto annexed. That in the year 1832 deponent made application to the proper department for a pension, on which occasion William Smith was sworn as to the service of deponent. That he does not know whence said Smith resides, if living and he therefore refers to the depositions on file in the department for the testimony of said Smith and also to the depositions annexed to that application as to deponents character, hereby referring to them as a part of the evidence on this application.

And this deponent further said that during the war of the Revolution which in the service as above stated he was not engaged in any civil pursuit but was engaged with an embodied corps called into the service by competent authority and that he was either in garrison or on scouting duty.

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 or territory. (Signed) Jonathan Rouse

Sworn in open court September 20, 1839, John Willard, Vice Chancellor 4th Circuit New York

Letter in folder dated September 12, 1934, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your request for information in regard to Casper Rouse and his son, Jonathan Rouse, soldiers of the Revolutionary War.

Revolutionary War data furnished by this office are obtained from claims made to the United States for pension and bounty land based upon the military service of soldiers in that war. A careful search of the Revolutionary War records fails to show such claim on file on account of the service of a Casper Rouse.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in pension claim, R.9035, based upon the Revolutionary War service of Jonathan Rouse.

He was born August 8, 1761, in Charlotte Precinct, Dutchess County, New York. The names of his parents were not given.

While living in Pittstown, Rensselaer County, New York, he applied for pension September 25, 1832, and alleged that he enlisted in the spring of 1778 and served at various times until sometime in 1782 as private with the New York troops under Captains John Rouse (not stated he was related to Jonathan Rouse), James Tallmage, Cornelius Wiltse, Jacob Yates, Joseph Gifford, Thomas Brown, and Mathew DeGarmo, and Colonels Peter Yates, and John VanRensselaer. When he first enlisted he lived in North East Township, Dutchess County, New York, but in May, 1779, he moved with his father to Schaghticoke, Albany County, which was later Pittstown, New York.

His claim was not allowed as he failed to furnish, in accordance with the requirement of the pension law, proof of at least six months of the alleged service.

In 1839 Jonathan Rouse lived in Saratoga Springs, Saratoga County, New York.

Rebecca Baylis, sister Jonathan Rouse, was born in July 1759, and was living at Harvard, Steuben County, New York, in 1838, Casper M. Rouse, brother of Jonathan Rouse, was born August 24, 1770, and was living in Amity, Erie County, Pennsylvania, in 1838, Nicholas Rouse, brother of Jonathan Rouse, was born July 30, 1763, and was living in Cochocton, Steuben County, New York, in 1838.

In the papers of this pension claim no reference was made to the father of Jonathan Rouse having given the thousand pounds to carry on the Revolutionary War, and there are no further data relative to the family of Jonathan Rouse.

Another letter dated January 19, 1928 is similar except for this paragraph: *His brother, Casper M. Rouse was born August 24, 1770, and was living in Amity, Erie County, Pennsylvania in 1838. There is no claim for pension or bounty land on file on account of service of Casper M. Rouse in the Revolution, nor is there a record of any Casper Rouse having served in the Revolution.*