

Pension Application for Francis Shafer

S.14445

Private, Captain Craig, Col. Humphrey, NY Line, 2 years.
State of New York
Albany County SS.

On this 18th day of July 1832 personally appeared before Joseph B. Moore a Judge of the County Courts of the County of Albany and State aforesaid Francis Shafer a resident of the town of Bern in the County of Albany and State of New York, aged 72 years and upwards, 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, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That he entered the said service under Capt. John DeWitt for five months sometime in the year 1775 he thinks in the spring of the year, at Rhinebeck in the County of Dutchess where he then resided, that he was marched down to New York and assisted in building a fort and then back to Rhinebeck and did the duties of a private in the said company during the said term of five months and was then dismissed. He the same year or forepart of the next year he again went into the service and joined Captain Kip's Company and served one month and was then dismissed, during this time he was again ordered to New York and was there not long before New York was taken by the British.

In the fall of 1776 he entered the service as a substitute for one Jacob Pier who was drafted at Rhinebeck for 3 months, and served their time out as he thinks and believes, that he went down to guard the lines, but does not recollect the officers names he served under but thinks the Colonel's name was Ten Brook, that he quartered in the house of one Delancy in a place called Morrissina as he thinks.

In the spring or fore part of the season of 1777 he again entered the said service and joined Capt. Craig's Company at Rhinebeck aforesaid, and immediately marched down to Fort Montgomery and joined Colo. Humphrey's regiment and continued at this place doing garrison duty until a short time before that Fort was taken. He was dismissed and returned home—immediately after he returned home, he again entered the said service and joined Col. Henry B. Livingston's regiment near Albany and marched to Saratoga and assisted in the taking of Genl Burgoyne then came down with the Army to Albany where he was dismissed in the winter and then returned home.

In the month of March 1778 he again entered the said service and Joined Capt. Wm. James' Company in Schenectady and went from there to Albany, and was put on board of Batteaus to carry provisions to half moon point then went down to Fishkill in said company doing duty as a private. He remained in this company more than eight months and was then dismissed.

In the spring of 1779 he was again called into the service and went to Schoharie, he thinks he belonged to Capt. Grotes Company where he staid more than three months - that he cannot recollect the other officer's names—That he thinks he was out in the service at other times after this, and thinks he went on an alarm to the north, but cannot particularly recollect. He is very sure that he was called out and did duty one month at Schenectady in the year 1780. He thinks he was under Captain Grote—Before the surrender of Burgoyne he remembers that he was out in the service under Lieut Luke and went to Fort Miller in the State of New York, that he was then in the service at this time at lease one month. That he never received a written discharge nor has he any documentary evidence to prove his service, no does he know of any witness he can procure to testify to his services except Paul J. Hochstrasser & Jacob Pier who have made affidavits hereto annexed. And her further states that he resides 19 miles from the City of Albany where the Courts of Record for the County of Albany are held. That he is very lame and infirm and is wholly unable to travel that distance to attend the court.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pensin or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. That he is now unable to write his name by reason of old age and disease. (Signed with his mark) Francis Shafer

Sworn & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. J. B. Moore Judge of Albany County Courts.