

Pension Application for William Shaff

S.42288

Private, Captain McCracken, Col. VanSchaick.

Original Claim

District of New York

County of Seneca SS.

On this fourteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty tow personally appeared in open court in the court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Seneca being a court of record and expressly made so by the laws and statutes of the State of New York proceeding according to the course of the Common Law with a Jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount and keeping a record of its proceedings and a common seal, William Shaff of the town of Junius in the county of Seneca and State aforesaid aged sixty eight years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st May 1820, that he the said William Shaff enlisted for the term of one year on the first day of May in the year seventeen hundred and seventy five in the town of Cambridge, County of Washington and State of New York in the company commanded by Captain Joseph Mc Cracken in the regiment commanded by Colonel G. VanSchaick in the line of the State of New York on the Continental Establishment, that he continued to serve in the said Corps until the 1st day of May 1776, that he enlisted for a second time for the term of one year on or about the 1st day of May 1776 in the company commanded by the same Captain Joseph McCracken in the regiment commanded by the same Colonel VanSchaick in the County of Washington and State of New York that he continued to serve in the said Corps until the 1st day of July in the year 1777 or there abouts, when he was discharged from service at the town of Salem in the County of Washington and State aforesaid, that he enlisted a third time for the term of one year, on or about the tenth day of July in the year 1777 in the town of Cambridge, County and State aforesaid as a [?] in the company commanded by Captain Bransom in the regiment commanded by Colonel Set C. Warner, all of which enlistments and services were in the line of the State of New York and in the Continental Establishment that he continued to serve during the said enlistment and in the said crops last mentioned, until on or about the month of September 1778 when he was discharged from the said service at Fort George in the County of Washington and State of New York.

That he was in the battles of Bennington, at the taking of St. Johns and at the taking of Burgoyne in October 1777. That he has no further evidence now in his possession or [?] of his said services except the affidavits of Joseph McCracken and John Morrill hereto annexed and herewith sent.

And in pursuance of the act of the 1st May 1823 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time, by gift, sale or in any other manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled, an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war, passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts of debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed; I am in possession of about 79 acres of new land with a small improvement and small log house situate on lot number thirty two in the town of Junius in the County of Seneca on which there is a mortgage executed by me [?] to secure the sum of eleven hundred and twelve dollars of thereabout, and I have no other interest in any other real property whatever; I am the owner of one half of a small yoke of oxen the whole of which are worth about fifty collars. I have one two years old heifer, two cows, and two calves, I have two pots iron, one small iron kettle, one five pail iron kettle, six old kitchen chairs, one old bale, one wooden pail and china five earthen plates, four bowls, six knives and forks, two spinning wheels. I am indebted to Linus Ely for several attendance in the sum of eight dollars and to Thomas C. Moyer in the sum of twelve dollars and to Jonathan Beadle for leather in the sum of seven dollars, that I have no debts due to me of any substance. I am also indebted to Mr. Beach in the sum of two dollars and to Henry mason in the sum of one dollar and seventy five cents, and to Mr. Cooper for [?] in the sum of two dollars, that I am a common labourer at the business of farming, that I am a cripple one of my shoulders having been broken and not able to labor but very little, that my family consists of myself, my wife in bad health, my daughter being twenty years of age, & two small children of my daughter [?] who has left her family for me to support and I do not think my property worth ten dollars after the payment of all my debts & cannot comfortably support myself and family without the assistance of my country or from some other service. (Signed with his mark) William Shaff

Sworn to and declared on the 19th day of May 1822 in open court. John Maynard, Clerk