

Pension Application for John Sherwood

S.42282

Continental (Mass.)

Sergeant—line of Vermont May 77 till March 78

Green Mt. Boys

New York

To the Honorable James Smott First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, of the County of Dutchess which is a Court of Record of the State of New York

The Declaration under oath of John Sherwood formerly a sergeant engaged in the Service of the United States, during the Revolutionary War, and now a Citizen of the United States, and resident of the Town of Stanford, Dutchess County & State of New York Respectfully Showeth, that the said John Sherwood in the month of May in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven at Poughkeepsie—Dutchess County enlisted in a company in the American service commanded by Captain Thomas Dewitt (1) in the third regiment of the New York line commanded by Colonel Peter Gansevoort for during the war of the revolution, that he served in the said company as an orderly sergeant under his said enlistment until some time in the month of December following when he was taken sick and lay three months in the hospital where he was sent home by his officers on furlough being unfit for duty, that some time in the spring following being still sick and unable to join his regiment he wrote to this captain stating his situation and by the fall thereafter received a letter from his captain stating that he was discharged from service and need not return to his company—which letter he has lost.

And this Delcaration further representeth that the said John Sherwood is now a Citizen of the United States and residing in Stanford aforesaid, and by reason of his reduced circumstances in life, in need of assistance from his country for support; and that he has never received any pension from the government of the United States.

Therefore he conceives himself entitled to the benefit of the Act of the Congress of the United States, entitled, "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval Service of the United States, in the Revolutionary War," approved, March 17, 1818, and requests that Honor will examine into the truth of the matters aforesaid, certify and transmit the testimony in this case and the proceedings had thereon to the Honorable the Secretary of the Department of War, to the end that such relief may be had in the premises, as is by law in such case provided. And in support of the facts above set forth, he refers to the affidavit of himself and of Isaac Hunting hereafter set forth.

Dated the 22nd day of April 1818. (Signed) John Sherwood.

County of Dutchess. SS. John Sherwood being duly sworn says, that the matters by him set forth in the foregoing Declaration, are in all respects just and true.

Sworn the 22nd day of April 1818 before me. James Smott

At a Court of Common Pleas held at the Court House in the Village of Poughkeepsie in and for the County of Dutchess in the State of New York on Monday the twenty sixth day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred & twenty.

Present the Honorable James Smott First Judge.

Daniel C. Ver Planck, Abraham D. VanWyck, Thomas Sweet. Esquires & Judges.

State of New York

Dutchess County SS.

Be it remembered that on the twenty sixth day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred & twenty, personally appeared in the Court of Common Pleas, in open court, the said court being a court of record for the County of Dutchess, in the State of New York, John Sherwood, aged about sixty eight years, resident in the town of Stanford in the said County of Dutchess, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the revolutionary war as follows,

On the ninth day of May in the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy five, he entered the service as a common soldier, having volunteered for that purpose under the command of Col. Ethan Allen, (2) and the next morning, was at the capture of Ticonderoga Fort. From this time, this deponent remained with the army & went through the Canada Expedition until the main army retreated out of Canada.

The first year that this deponent was in the service, he belonged to the regiment, called the Green Mountain boys, commanded by Col. Seth Warner, (3) after the capture of Allen.

Sometime in the month of May one thousand seven hundred & seventy six, this deponent enlisted for the term of nine months, under Captain John Sloan (4) in a Boston regiment, commanded by Col. Patterson, & remained in that regiment until the period of his enlistment expired.

On the thirteenth day of May, one thousand seven hundred & seventy seven, this deponent enlisted as an Orderly Sergeant, during the war, under the command of Captain Thomas DeWitt in the Third Battalion or

Regiment of New York forces, commanded by Col. Peter Gansevoort & remained in the service until sometime in the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy eight, when from ill health this deponent obtained leave, by furlough from said Col. Gansevoort, to return home; & in the latter part of the summer one thousand seven hundred & seventy eight, this deponent's ill health continuing so that he was unable to return to duty, he, this deponent, wrote to his said Captain, the said Thomas DeWitt, informing of his situation, & in December then next this deponent received a letter from his said Captain, that he this deponent was discharged from the service, & need not again return, which letter this deponent has since lost.

And this deponent further says that his original declaration is dated, according to the recollection & belief of this deponent, the twenty second day of April one thousand eight hundred & eighteen & that his pension certificate is No. 2901.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 & that I have not since that time by gift, sale, or in any manner disposed of any 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 & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 & 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 hereunto annexed & by me subscribed, to wit:

Real Estate—I have none & never had any.

Debts. I have none.

Personal Property (necessary clothing & bedding excepted) to wit:

1 small swine, 8 Dunghill fowls, 1 old table, 1 Loom (old), 1 cupboard (old), 1 Stand, 9 Chairs (old) 6 knives & forks, 6 Earthen plates, 1 pewter platter, 4 small earthen bowls, 1 small chest, 1 meat cask, 2 meal casks, 1 iron pot, 2 Iron Kettles (small), 1 iron tea kettle, 1 old iron shovel & tongs, ½ Doz tea cups & saucers, 1 small looking glass, 1 pr. Bellows, 1 pair Andirons, 1 ax, 1 hoe, 1 large spinning wheel, 1 small spinning wheel, 1 earthen tea pot, 2 iron candlesticks, 1 wash tub, 1 corn basket, 1 water pail, 4 glass quart bottles, 2 small stone jugs, 1 stone pot, 1 small pickle tub, 1 old gridiron, 2 Doz pewter spoons.

This deponent further says that before the revolutionary war he was but a farmer & never had any trade or other employment, either before, or since the war, that since the sickness that compelled this deponent to leave the army, he has never been an able bodied man; & it has been with great difficulty that this deponent has been able to labour sufficient for his support & that of his family which he has brought up; & that from his age & increased infirmities, he is not hardly able to work at all. That the family of this deponent consists of the deponent & his wife aged about sixty years who is also considered infirm. (Signed John Sherwood)

Sworn and Subscribed this 26 day of June 1820 in open court. W Henry Bulkey, Depy Clerk
Reply to a letter of inquiry dated July 13, 1932.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information in regard to John Sherwood, a soldier of the War of the Revolution.

The data contained herein were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.42282, based upon the military service of John Sherwood, during the Revolutionary War.

He enlisted May 9, 1775 and served one year as a private in Colonels Ethan Allen's and Seth Warner's regiment of Green Mountain Boys, was at the capture of Ticonderoga and the expedition to Canada. He enlisted sometime in May, 1776 and served nine months as a private in Captain Sloan's company in Colonel Paterson's Massachusetts regiment. He enlisted in Poughkeepsie, New York, May 13, 1777 and was an orderly sergeant in Captain Thomas DeWitt's company in Colonel Peter Gansevoort's New York regiment, he was taken sick sent to the hospital in December, 1777, stayed three months and went home on furlough, and was discharged in December, 1778, having never been able to return to the army.

He was allowed pension on his application executed April 22, 1818, then a resident of Stanford, Dutchess County, New York.

In 1820 he was sixty-eight years of age, and stated that his wife, whose name he did not give, was about sixty years old, and at this time referred to a "family which he has brought up".

The soldier, John Sherwood, died November 29, 1841 in Poughkeepsie, New York, leaving no widow but the following children survived him—Stephen A. Sherwood a resident of Albany, New York and Jasper Sherwood a resident of Cooperstown, Otsego, County, New York.

There are no further data relative to his family.

End Notes—S.42282—John Sherwood

1. John was appointed orderly sergeant on May 14, 1777 in Captain Thomas DeWitt's Company (Second Company) in Colonel Peter Gansevoort's Third New York Continental Regiment. He was discharged on account of ill health in November of 1778. FROM: "Return of Sick in the Garrison of Fort Schuyler, March 1st, 1778". John is listed as follows: Names: Sergt Sherwood. Companies: Cap. DeWitt. Diseases:

Convulsive Asthma. Where sick: Hospital. The return was signed by Lieutenant-Colonel Marinus Willett, Commanding Officer and H(unloke) Woodruff, Surgeon. The return of the sick is from the Collections of the New York Historical Society, pp 430-431.

2. Colonel Ethan Allen captured Fort Ticonderoga, N.Y., on May 10, 1775.
3. Seth Warner was the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Green Mountain Boys, and was appointed July 27, 1775. Colonel Allen was taken prisoner on September 25, 1775 in his failed attack on Montreal. The regiment was re-organized and Warner was commissioned Colonel on July 5, 1776.
4. A Captain Samuel Sloan in Colonel John Paterson's Fifteenth Continental Regiment. It is interesting that John doesn't mention any of the battles he was in or the Siege of Fort Schuyler (or Fort Stanwix) in August of 1777.