

### **Pension Application for Joseph Smith**

S.10020. Born 1763, Fishkill, Dutchess Co., NY.

State of New York

County of Saratoga SS.

On the Twenty third day of June A.D. 1834, personally appeared before me Nicholas B. Doe one of the Judges of the County Courts of the County of Saratoga Joseph Smith a resident of the Town of Waterford, County of Saratoga & State of New York aged seventy one years last January, 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<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the militia under Captain Ezekiel Taylor in Colonel Gorden's Regiment, that he then resided in the Town of Halfmoon, County of Saratoga and entered the service at that place, was then in the fifteenth year of his age, was with the Regular Troops, most part of the time acted as guide they were employed in traversing the Country and protecting it & in apprehending the Tories.

That he entered the service in the fore part of April 1777 and was discharged the fore part of September following.

This term of service was about five months. That applicants parents then moved to Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutchess & applicant went with them, after their arrival at Poughkeepsie in the Fall of 1777 the militia were called out to watch the British shipping then in the Hudson River, applicant again volunteered to go out in the Militia, he was in Captain Hugh Vankleek Company & Colonel Freyers Regiment, were marched from place to place in the neighbourhood of Poughkeepsie, engaged in watching the British shipping, applicants term of service at this time was one month.

In the month of December or January 1778, the Militia, the Militia in & about Poughkeepsie were called out to protect the public stores back of Fishkill about twenty miles from the Hudson River.

Applicant volunteered and was out on this service about six month; under Captain Carman in Colonel VanDenbergh's Regiment, was discharged from this service some time in June AD 1878.

Applicant then returned to his parents in Poughkeepsie and immediately or in a very few days thereafter volunteered again in Captain Hugh VanKleek's Company in Colonel Freyer's Regiment of militia & was employed in watching the movements of the British about two months, was then discharged and remained home until July 1779 when all the militia of that part of the Country were called & applicant with them & was employed in the same service & under the same officers as in the preceeding years—His term of service at this time was six weeks then returned home on being discharged.

In the month of June in the 1780 applicant was agained [sic] out in the militia of Poughkeepsie & that part of the country and was employed in watching the movements of the British as in the two preceeding years, and under the same officers, his term of service at this time was one month, applicant was then discharged & returned home & remained there until the 1<sup>st</sup> March 1781, then resided about seven miles East of the Village of Poughkeepsie, the several Regiments of Malitia in that part of the Country, or neighbourhood were then called out and classed, each class were to serve nine months, when classed they were called Rangers, applicant was in one of the classes and served n Captain Dunscomb's Company—Captain Dunscomb was a captain in the regular service—They were employed in protecting the country from depredations by robbers, who infested the mountains in that part of the country & in watching the movements of the British.—Applicants term of service at this time was nine months, he was then duly discharged.

That during the year 1780 and 1782 applicant was employed a great portion of the time in patrolling but the precise times when called out & when discharged & the exact length of time he was in the service during the two years last mentioned, he is not from sickness & the infirmities of age unable to state but verily believes it was not less than six months.

Applicant further states that he was regularly discharged at the end of each term of service, but never received any written discharge and believes it was not customary in the troops in which he served to give written discharges—that he has no documentary evidence of his services and that he knows of no person now living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services.—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 with his mark) Joseph Smith.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. N.B. Doe, Judge of Saratoga Co Courts.

To the Interrogatories put by the Judge the applicant returns the following answers.

1<sup>st</sup> That he was born in the year AD 1763 at Fishkill in the County of Dutchess in the State of New York.

2<sup>nd</sup> That he has no record of his age, except one that was entered in his grandfather's Bible but his Grandfather has been dead many years and who now has the Bible or where it is applicant has no knowledge.

3<sup>rd</sup> The several places where application resided when he was called into the service is correctly stated in the foregoing Declaration that since the Revolution he has resided in the Town of Waterford (formerly Halfmoon) County of Saratoga for the last forty seven years, where he now resides, and previous to that he resided in Fishkill, Dutchess County.

4<sup>th</sup> That the manner in which he was called into the service at the several different times is correctly stated in the foregoing declaration.

5<sup>th</sup> The names of the officers who were with the Troops were [where] applicant served, and the circumstances attending his service are as before stated.

6<sup>th</sup> That he has before stated that he never received a written discharge from the service.

7<sup>th</sup> That he is known to the honourable John Cramer, General Guert VanSchoonhoven & General Samuel Stewart all of whom reside in the same village where applicant resides & have resided there for more than thirty years and are all personally acquainted with applicant and can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. (Signed with his mark) Joseph Smith.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid N. B.Doe, Judge of Saratoga Co Courts.