

Pension Application for Timothy Soper

R.9936

State of New York

Chenango County SS.

Declaration under the Act of Congress of June 7th 1832 to obtain a pension.

On this 21st day of September 1832 personally appeared before me Hezekiah Read, Esqr one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in the County of Chenango Timothy Soper, a resident of the Town of Pitcher County of Chenango in the State of New York aged eighty two or eighty three years, who being 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 under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service of the United States as a substitute for one Jonathan Lewis who was drafted in the year 1778 in May and served six months under General George Clinton, Colonel Cornelius Humphrey, Capt. Hugh Ray, Lieut Daniel Wilson and Ens. Humphrey and was stationed at Fort Montgomery and was employed in the building of said Fort for the term aforesaid and then rec'd written discharge from the service which I lost soon after and have never seen it since.

And in the year 1779 in June I again entered the service as Substitute for one Fish & Parks who chose to hire a substitute rather than to stand a draft and served three months. We marched and was stationed at West Point then called and was employed in repairing the fort and building batteries and help[ed] stretch the chain across the river to keep the British shipping from coming up the river. I was commanded by Capt. James Talmage the other officers I do not recollect and after the three months had expired I was dismissed and returned home.

That in the year 1781 in June I volunteered and served three months under General VanRanslar, Capt. Calvin Champlin, Lieut Maxwell Duel and Ensign Betts, and marched to the Fishkill, and from thence to a place called Dale's ferry and there took a sloop and sailed to Albany and from Albany we marched to Fort Plain on the Mohawk river to keep back the tories and Indians and while at Fort Plain the British General Butler came upon us with an army of tories and Indians and commenced an attack with our troops which I was on and we were successful enough to drive them back in the night and the tories and Indians commenced burning the buildings at a place then called Stone Robby on the Mohawk river and this deponents time of service had expired but this deponent volunteered and pursued them three days without any thing to eat or drink and then was dismissed.

And I further declares that I received one written discharge and I lost it all all [sic] times given by my captain, and that I have no written evidence of my services and that I know of no person who I can procure them being in my power.

1st I was born in the year 1749 in Cool Springs in [?] in the State of New York.

2nd I have no record of my age but as my parents told me I am eighty two or eighty three years old.

3rd I was a resident of Dutchess County in the State of New York lived there since the war I removed from there to Coxsackie and from there to Saratoga and from there to the Town of Pharsalia in Chenango County, State NY and from Pharsalia into the now Town of Pitcher in the County and State aforesaid where I now live.

4th I entered the service as a substitute six months for one Jonathan Lewis. I again entered the service as a substitute for one Fish & Parks and served three months. I again enter[ed] the service as a volunteer and served three months.

5th The officers under whom I served was General George Clinton, and VanRanselaer, Colonel Cornelius Humphrey, Capts. Hugh Ray, Cornelius Champlin, and James Talmage, Lieut Daniel Wilson, Maxwell Duel, Ens. Humphrey, and Bets and was engaged in one battle with Gen. Butler.

6th I rec'd one written discharge and lost it from my Captains every time.

7th I am known by Luther H. Peek in my neighbourhood who can testify to my character for truth and veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier in the revolution.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present a[nd] declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Timothy Soper.

By head Judge, Chenango Common Pleas. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Hez. Read, Judge Chenango Com. Pleas

Letter in file dated November 23, 1928

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, R.9936, it appears that Timothy Soper was born in 1749 in Cold Springs, New York.

He alleged that while a resident of Dutchess County, New York, he enlisted and served with the New York Troops as follows:

From May, 1778, six months in Captain Hugh Ray's Company in Colonel Cornelius Humphrey's Regiment.

From June, 1779, three months in Captain James Tallmadge's Company in Colonel Morris Graham's Regiment.

From June, 1780, or 1781, three months in Captain Calvin or Cornelius Champlin's or Chamberlin's Company in Colonel Benjamin VanScater's Regiment; he was in a battle at Fort Plain.

He applied for pension, September 21, 1832 at which time he was living in Pitcher, Chenango County, New York.

Reference was made to children in November 1834, but no names are given.

In September, 1852, Wolcott Soper, aged sixty-six years and a resident of Chenango County, New York, stated that he was the legal representative of Timothy Soper, deceased, relationship not stated.

This is the history of the only Timothy Soper of New York that is found on the Revolutionary War records of this bureau.

August 1, 1850

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26 ult. and in reply to your inquiry as to what is the state of the application of Timothy Soper and what service is admitted, have to [reply] that his claim has not been allowed, and no part of his service has been admitted. In his declaration he alleged that he served 6 months in 1778 under Capt. Ray, of Col. Humphrey's regiment, 3 months in 1779 under Capt. Talmadge of Col. Graham's regiment, and 3 months in 1781 under Capt. Champlin, Col. VanSchaick's regiment. Before any claim can be allowed the alleged service of Soper must be sustained by the records in the Office of the Comptroller of New York.

To. W.T. Jackson, H. of R.