

Pension Application for Aaron Swarthout

S.11497

State of New York
Steuben County SS.

On this sixteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the judges of the court of Common Pleas of the said County of Steuben now sitting Aaron Swarthout a resident of the Town of Tyron in the said county of Steuben aged about seventy years as he is informed by the members of his family and believes (a record of his age having been lost or destroyed) who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain a benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was born at a place called Sugar Loaf in Orange County and State of New York and continued to reside there with his father & family when at home until after the close of the Revolutionary War.

That in the fall of the year (he thinks) seventeen hundred and seventy six he with the consent of his father enlisted in the nine months service as a fifer in the company of Captain Abraham Westfall who resided when at home at Minisink on the Delaware River. That immediately after the company was raised he marched with them to Minisink and then joined the Regiment of Col. Hathorne and continued there during his full term of nine months guarding that place against the inroads of the Tories and Indians, and was then and there honorably discharged but cannot now say what became of it.

Shortly after he had returned home an alarm came that the Indians had again appeared on the Delaware, at a place called Pienpack, burning buildings and murdering several of the inhabitants, one of whom was a great uncle of his by the name of Swartwout (he thinks Bernardus) to repel this attack the militia were called out & under the command of one Captain Andrew Miller he the said Aaron Swartwout marched as a fifer to that place and continued at least one month when he was again dismissed.

He had not continued at home long, he thinks not more than two weeks, before he again entered the three months service in a company commanded by Captain Richard Baily and marched to Minisink where he done duty in the Regiment of Col. Hawthorne, for the whole term of three months and was again discharged. At this time he done duty in Decker's Fort.

In the following fall he thinks of seventeen hundred and seventy eight he again turned out with or until in and joined the Regiment of Col. Hathorne at Minisink and done duty principally in Martinas Decker's Fort (so called) as an officer for a term of three months. That the Captain's name under whom he served during this tour of service is not now remembered—he thinks that Jonathan Hallack was his Lieutenant. That during this time he was out the company to which he belonged marched down the river about three miles to Daniel VanAcker's fort and lay there about a week. And while there the fort was attacked—one morning early by a large party of Indians who appeared on the east on a high bluff overlooking the fort. The Americans being under cover lost one man only, and the Indians after an attack of half an hour retired.

That after this service he returned home—and again was out on duty in what year he cannot remember, nor can he recollect the name of his captain, his Lieutenant's name was Jonathan Hallock, his Major Poppins—That he entered this service as a substitute for his brother Moses Swartwout and marched from Sugar Loaf Valley to West Point Fort, and then continued one month carrying [?] and otherwise repairing Fort Putman, near West Point.

That after this the militia in that quarter were all called out with a view of retaking the City of New York and the said Aaron again entered this service, and marched to Fishkill under the command of Captain John Methorne, where he remained attached to the Brigade of Genl Hithorn (the Col. above

named) three months, about the close of the war. This expedition being abandoned he was duly discharged & returned home.

And the said Aaron further says that within before or after this period he was drafted as a private, with some eighteen or twenty other to guard the prisoners, Tories & others in the Jail at Goshen in Orange County. That among the prisoner were the tow sons of [?] Andrus Smith who were afterwards executed as Tories.

That in same year during the war he cannot recollect which he was out with the militia under the command of Captain Andrus Miller at Minisink—it was the year of the battle [of] Beaver Brook on the Delaware River with the Indians was fought. That he done duty at Minisink at this time as a fifer, about six weeks.

On two other occasions he was called out and done duty at the same place about 2 weeks at each time but cannot say in what year, but during the Revolution and in the service of the militia and under Captain Miller and one under Captain Melthouse.

And 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) Aaron Swarthout

Sworn & subscribed this 16th day of October 1832 in open court. M.S. Rumsey, Dep. Clerk, Steuben County.