

Pension Application for James Terwilliger

S.14666

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

State of New York

Onondaga County SS

On this 29th day of May 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting at the Court House in the Town of Salina in said County James Terwilliger a resident of the Town of Skaneateles in the County of Onondaga and State of New York aged seventy five? years 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That when the revolutionary war broke out, he resided in Pien Puck, Precinct of Mamakating County of ulster now Orange County, State of New York, on the river Neversink on the western frontier settlements. That the inhabitants were [??] –that Captain Abraham Cuddeback commanded the [there is so much bleed through in this document, I can't read much of it.]

State of New York

Onondage County SS.

On this 19th day of April in the year 1836 before me James M. Allen a Justice of the Peace in and for said County came Francis DeWitt of the town of Skaneateles in the County of Onondaga aforesaid who being duly sworn according to Law, by & before me the said Justice deposes and says that he is in the eighty eighth year of his age, that he knew James Terwilliger of the town of Skaneateles in the County aforesaid, who is an applicant for a pension.

That this deponent & said Terwilliger lived during the time of the Revolutionary War at a place then called Pien Peck in the Precinct of Mamakating, County of Ulster & State of New York.

That the inhabitants of that place together with all other son that Frontier resided in Forts on the River Neversink erected by themselves, for their own protection and much harassed by the Tories and Indians & that they were forced to depend almost solely upon themselves.

That their only relief was through what was at that time called the nine months men, who came to their assistance by the way of North River in time called the nine months men, who came to their assistance by the way of North River, in time of alarms & sometimes remained through the season, commanded by Capt. or Major Newkirks, Lieutenant Steward & Serjeant Cassidy whom this deponent now recollects.

That these forts were manned & guarded by the said inhabitants and nine ;months men as aforesaid from the time they were built in 1777 & 1778 to the end of the war.

That said James Terwilliger being at that time a young man was among those the most to be depended upon in Captain Abraham Cuddeback's Company of Militia,

of that place & was reputed to be of the number whose duties on guard were so constant as to permit him to do no other regular business of any great consequence.

That this deponent has no doubt but that the said Terwilliger served on duty as a guard the principal part of the time after 1778 till the close of the war and he is confident that said Terwilliger was in Fort Guman from the year 1777 till the close of the said war & that the Father of the said James Terwilliger was killed in a battle by the Indians and Tories in 1779.

That this deponent recollects that said Terwilliger was absent at one time and it was said that he had gone to join the Rangers. (Signed with his mark) Francis DeWitt

Subscribed and sworn to the day & year first above written before me and I do further certify that I am acquainted with Francis DeWitt, the above deponent & know him to be of good reputation for truth & veracity & that his statement above is entitled to credit. J.M. Allen Justice of the Peace.