

## **Pension Application for Robert Travis**

S.23032

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

State of New York

County of Westchester SS.

On this fifth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of WestChester in the State of New York, now sitting Robert Travis a resident of the town of Somers in the County of WestChester 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated that is to say he entered the said service as a volunteer in the volunteer troops of the then Colony of New York, on or about the first of July in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy five for the term of six months in the company commanded buy Captain Joseph Benedict in the regiment commanded by Colonel Holmes of the fourth Battalion of New York troops.

That immediately after he enlisted aforesaid, he joined the said company at Peekskill in the said County and proceeded with it to Albany on board of a sloop; then marched from Albany, in the said company to Ticonderoga and there joined the said regiment; that he was there with the Regiment two or three days according to his recollection, and then proceeded in [?] down Lakes George and Champlain to fort St. John in Canada and joined the American army under the command of General Montgomery, then before that fort, that he continued in the army before that fort until it surrendered; that soon after he was marched to a place called Laprarie opposite Montreal, that he crossed with the army on the ice to said Montreal; that he was left at that place with some American troops, while General Montgomery proceeded with the main army to Quebec; that he the declarant continued at Montreal on duty, until the expiration of said term of six months.

That the said Captain Benedict then returned home, and Lieutenant Sackett of said company raised another company of three months men of those whose terms of service had expired. That the declarant volunteered in said last mentioned company on or about the first of January one thousand seven hundred and seventy six under the command of said Sackett who was promoted to the office of captain, for the term of three months, that he was marched to Quebec and arrived there soon after the attack on that place, and the death of General Montgomery that he continued there encamped on the plains of Abraham until the expiration of said three months; that the term of service of a considerable number of the troops expiring about the same time, they were paraded before General Wooster's quarter's and he addressed them and requested them to continue with the army one month longer which they agreed to, that the declarant, was among the number who volunteered; that he continued in the service there until the expiration of said month and at the expiration thereof was

requested by his officers to continue two weeks longer which he did, and then left there under the command of said Sackett and marched to Albany and from thence to Crompond in the State of New York and was discharged. That he received a written discharge signed by said Captain Sackett; but that the same has long been lost or destroyed; that the names of the officers he now recollects who were with the troops during said term of service are General Montgomery, Gen Wooster, Colonel Arnold, Lieutenant Gould Brown and those herein before mentioned.

And the declarant further states that some time in the month of July in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six he again entered the service of the United States as a substitute for one Joseph Lee of said Crompond, now dead, in a company of levies for the State of New York in the company commanded by Captain James Cronkite, and was attached to the regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Thomas.

That he entered the service under said Cronkite as aforesaid for the term of six months. That he resided at that time in the said company at Peekskill in the said County of WestChester, remained at that place a few days and then marched to the City of New York and encamped a short distance above the said city at a place called Blue Bells, and there joined said regiment, then under the command of the said Colonel Thomas, continued there about one month to the best of his recollection and then marched from that place, over Kings Bridge to Fort Independence in the said County of WestChester, was there a short time and then retreated with the American Army to the town of White Plains in the said County of Westchester and was in the left of the American Army at this time of the battle at said White Plains, soon after the battle at that place retreated with the army into the northern part of the said County of WestChester, that he was in the army in the retreat and was after the retreat stationed at Peekskill in the said County until the expiration of his said term of six months which was on or about the last of January in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven when he was verbally discharged.

That he served during the whole of said last mentioned term, in the said company and regiment. That he has forgotten the names of most of the officers who were with the troops during said term; he however recollects that Generals Washington, Putnam and MacDougal were with the troops at the time of the battle at White Plains and he thinks general Heath was also there, though his is not positive; that he does not recollect any particular, Continental or militia regiments belonging to the army at that time.

And the Declarant further states that from the year 1777 until the close of the revolutionary war he belonged to and was enrolled in the Militia of the State of New York in the Regiment under the command of Colonel Drake in the said County of WestChester, that the enemy were frequently making incursions into the said County, that at such times the militia of the said County were called out to repel the enemy; that the Declarant was frequently in the service in the said County on such occasions, from two to twelve days, but he cannot now state the day or month he entered and left

the service at such times; but he has no doubt that his services in the militia from 1777 to the end of the war would amount to at least three months.

And the declarant further states that he was born in the said County of Westchester in the year 1757; that he has no record of his age; that at the times he entered the service as aforesaid he resided in the said County of West Chester; and has resided there since the revolution and now resides in the town of Somers in said County of West Chester, that he entered the service as herein before set forth &c.

That he has no documentary evidence of his service; that the names of the person to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution are Thomas Strang and John Hyatt of Yorktown in said County of Westchester.

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) Robert Travis

Sworn to and subscribed this fifth day of December 1832 before me in open court N. Bayles, Clk of said Court.

Letter in Court dated November 22, 1937, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of your ancestor, Robert Travis, who served, probably, from Yorktown, Westchester County, New York, and whose birth is recorded on your Bible as April 16, 1757, his death April 16, 1839.

The claim for pension has been found of only one Robert Travis who served from New York in the Revolutionary War. The data given herein are shown in the papers on file in that claim S.23032.

Robert Travis was born in the year 1757, in Westchester County, New York; the day of his birth, the exact town, and the names of his parents are not shown.

While a resident of Westchester County, New York, he enlisted July 1, 1775 and served six months as a private in captain Joseph Benedict's company, Colonel Holmes' 4<sup>th</sup> New York regiment, during which period he was on the expedition to Ticonderoga, crossed to Canada, was at Chambly, was with the Army under General Montgomery, and afterwards at Montreal. He re-enlisted there January 1, 1776, and served three months as a private in Captain Samuel Sackett's New York company, then volunteered and remained six weeks longer in that company. He returned to Westchester County, New York, enlisted there July 1, 1776 and served six months as a private in Captain James Cronkite's company, Colonel Thomas Thomas' New York regiment, during which he was in the battle of White Plains. From 1777 until the close of the war, he was called out at various times under Colonel Drake in Westchester County, in all about three months.

After the Revolutionary War, the soldier resided in Westchester County, New York, with the exception of about twenty-five years, a part of which time he resided in the western part of New York State, and a part in the northern part of that state.

Robert Travis was allowed pension on his application executed December 5, 1832, at which time he resided in Somers, Westchester County, New York.

The name of the soldier's wife and date of his marriage are not given. In April 1837, Robert Travis was living in Sand Lake, Rensselare [Rensselaer] County, New York with one of his children, name not given, and had been there about seven months; previous to that time, he had lived with one of his sons in "Summerstown" Westchester County, New York, (possibly meant for Somerstown). The soldier decided then to return to live with that son, his name not given.

August 31, 1832, Joseph Travis, of Philipstown, Putnam County, New York, stated that he was in service at Ch;ambly and Quebec during the Revolutionary War and saw Robert Travis while he was in service there, but he did not state any relationship to him.

In 1832, Thomas Strang and John Hyatt, residents of Yorktown, Westchester County, New York, made affidavits in behalf of the soldier.