

Pension Application for Jeremiah Utley or Uttley

W.25820 (Widow: Elizabeth) Married at Alburgh Spring in Grand Isle Co., Vt. Sept 12, 1837. Previous name, Elizabeth Hall. Jeremiah died January 17, 1843.

B.L.Wt.31.731.150-55

State of Vermont

Franklin County SS

On the 24 day of May AD 1833 personally appeared in open court before the honorable Court of Probate in the County of Franklin now sitting, Jeremiah Utly a resident of the town of Swanton, in the county of Franklin and State of Vermont aged seventy one 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 of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, the said Utley on the 20th day of September 1777 volunteered as a private soldier and entered the service of the United States at Kinderhook in the State of New York, where he then resided to join the expedition against General Burgoyne. The term of his engagement was three months.

Said Utley joined the company commanded by Capt John Smith at Kinderhook, immediately after he volunteered and then proceeded toward Stillwatter [Stillwater] where he understood the British Army then lay his company and another company of Militia marched towards the british [British] lines and when they arrived at Lansingburgh, then called New City they learned that the british were encamped [encamped] at Stillwatter and there joined his regiment by Colonel Abram VanAlstine as the said Utley thinks From Lansingburgh, the said Utley marched directly to Stillwater, and there joined the American Army under General Gates, in the morning of of [sic] October 7th 1777 and immediately after the said Utley arrived in the American Camp the British Army drew up in order of Battle without their camp.

The American Army under Genl Gates, Arnold and Lincoln, commenced at attack on the whole British lines which soon forced the Enemy to retreat to their camp, the Americans then attacked the camp and succeeded in taking possession of some of their works.

The said Utley was not in the lines that was with the main body of the British Army, but attached to the flanking parties on the right of the British Army. On the night after the battle as the said Utley thinks, the enemy commenced their retreat towards Saratoga, and the American Army pursued, and the said Utley arrived with the American Army at Saratoga the same day that Burgoyne arrived there and the Americans commenced surrounding the enemy.

The said Utley says that Genl Arnold was severely wounded in the engagement of the 7th of October above mentioned. The said Utley says that after he arrived at Saratoga, there was no general engagements between the armies but there was an almost incessant skirmishing between the out posts and scouting parties, and the said Utley was engaged in a number of them, and the night before Burgoyne, surrounded

the said Utley was an piquet guard on the west side of [the] Hudson River, on the Highlands in the sight of the enemy who lay on the low grounds next to the River.

The said Utley says that he saw the british army after they had surrendered march past in full view of the American Army, but that the American Army were not permitted to see Burgoyne's Army lay down their arms. The said Utley says he was taken sick two days after Burgoyne surrendered and was unable to do any duty in the Army during the remainder of the three months. His sickness was in consequence of the fatigue that he endured after he arrived at Stillwater. The said Utley was conveyed to Stillwater where he was confined a short time by his ill health when he got permission to return home which he accordingly did, and in the forepart of January 1778 he received his discharge.

The said Utley can not state positively who was his colonel, for he was with the Regiment but a few days owing to his bad health and the time that he was with his regiment he was employed almost constantly in skirmishing with the enemy and knew but little about the officers he however feels confident that his colonel was Abram VanAlstine, his captain's name was John Smith, Genl Gates was commander in chief Arnold and Lincoln were generals in the American Army, at this time. The said Utley says that he has been out of health for great number of years and his memory is greatly impaired, and he can recollect the movements of the army better than he can the names of the officers.

The said Utley says that in the forepart of June 1779, he resided in the Nine Partners in the State of New York and he then again volunteered and entered the service of the United States for one month under Captain Kept and his company mustered at Redhook and from thence marched to West Point when he was employed during the month in erecting fortifications at West Point under Genl Arnold, and in the forepart of July of the same year his term of service expired and he received his discharge from Captain Kept at west Point, and he returned home.

West Point was only garrisoned by a few more during his service there and there was no battles fought in that vicinity during that time. Genl Arnold, commanded at this time at West Point and his captains name was kept or Kip, he cannot till which and does not recollect his Christian name. His lieutenant's name was Austin Graham.

The said Utley says that on or about the first day of April 1781 he volunteered and entered and entered [sic] the service of the United States as a soldier for the term of nine months, at this time he resided at New Lebanon in the State of New York. His company mustered at New Canaan in the State of New York, and from thence he marched to Saratoga and found some other troops at that place where the militia kept garrison for nine months the garrison was commanded by Genl Starks who took command during the summer Genl Starks, commanded the garrison and the said Utley served in the Regiment commanded by Colonel John McKinster of Irish descent, his captain's name was Silas Gray, and his Lieutenant's name was Pliney Moore who died a few years since in the town of Champlain in the State of New York. The name of adjutant he does not recollect, but he was of Dutch descent and was pitted with Small Pox. He frequently saw Genl Schuyler at that post but does not know whether he had

any command or not, said Utley says he was in no Battle during this term of service and that he was at Saratoga during the nine months.

In the latter part of December 1781, or in the forepart of January 1782 the said Utley completed his term of service and received his discharge from Captain Silas Grey and returned home. That he has long since lost his discharges above named. The said Utley, says that he has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

He was born on the 20th day of September 1761 in the Town of Preston in the State of Connecticut. He has no record of his age. He has lived since the Revolutionary War in New Lebanon about eight years and in Hartford, Fort Ann, Kingsbury and Whitehall in the State of New York and I now reside in Swanton aforesaid.

He knows the following named persons in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution to wit: Nathaniel Cleaves, Esqr., Cary Clark, Samuel Trombly, Ezekiel O. Goodrich, Hemon Hopkins, Stephen Otes, John Otes and Bennone M. Clark, all residing in Swanton aforesaid.

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 any agency of any state.

He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. (Signed with his mark)
Jeremiah Utley

Sworn to before me. Stephen S. brown Judge of Probate.

This is part of the file, no date, no name to whom it was sent.

From the papers in claim Wid. File No. 25,820, it appears that Jeremiah Utley was born September 20, 1761 at Preston, Connecticut, and resided at Kinderhook, New York, when he enlisted September 20, 1777, as a Private in captain John Smith's Company, Colonel Abraham VanAlstine's regiment, New York troops; he was in the flanking party at the second battle of Stillwater and in skirmishes on the picket line the night before the surrender of General Burgoyne; served three months.

Enlisted in June, 1778, in captain Kipp's company; one month.

Enlisted April 1, 1781, in Captain Silas Gray's company, Colonel John McKinstry's regiment, and served nine months.

He was allowed pension on and application executed July 18, 1832 while a resident of Swanton, Franklin County, Vermont.

Soldier married at Alburg Springs, Grand Isle County, Vermont, September 12, 1837, Elizabeth Hall; he died January 17, 1843, and she was allowed pension on an application executed July 19, 1853, while a resident of George District, Franklin County, Vermont, and seventy-five years of age.

In 1853 soldier's only surviving child Stephen V. Utley aged seventy years, and his son Jeremiah Utley aged forty years, resided in Willsboro, Essex County, New York.

No further family data.