

## Pension Application for David Walter

S.10,041

Served in the Massachusetts line for 9 months and 7 days. Inscribed on the Roll of Albany NY at the rate of 30 Dollars 77 Cents per annum, to commence on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 1831.

State of New York  
Oswego County SS.

On this twenty fourth day of September one thousand eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas for the County of Oswego aforesaid now sitting being a Court of Record David Walter a resident of Volney in the County of Oswego aforesaid aged sixty nine 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 was born in Nobletown (as it was then called) being east of Kinderhook in the County of Albany (now Columbia) and State of New York on the twenty first day of February 1763, he does not know of any record of his age and where but remembers he was fourteen years old when he first enlisted in the service of the United States in the year 1777 being the year Burgoine was taken.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

That in the year 1777 he thinks in June or July while living with his father Pierce Walter in Great Barrington in the County of Berkshire & Commonwealth of Massachusetts, his father was drafted for a term of six months in the Massachusetts Troops and he (the said David) went and served in his father's stead under Captain Parker. There were but two companies of them and they lay at Springfield in the State of Massachusetts on [the] Connecticut river to guard the stores belonging to the government at that place thinks he was enrolled in his own name but cannot be positive. Nothing particular[sic] or took place and when his term was out he was dismissed but received no written discharge and returned home to his Father's.

That in June (as he believes) of 1778 he was living in Stockbridge adjoining Great Barrington when there came orders for each town to furnish a certain number of men and he enlisted as one for the town of Stockbridge for a very small bounty and went as far as Sheffield when his Father hearing what was done followed him & came up with him in Sheffield and claimed him as being under age, whereupon General Fellows (1) who lived in Sheffield and who had command of the Brigade made an arrangement with his Father and he (the said David) removed as one of the men for Sheffield for six months. They went to a place called Robinson's Farms on the east side of the Hudson river near West Point to rendezvous and were formed into companies Regiments &c. We was in Captain Cushion's (2) company in Col. Vorne's Regiment and General Glover's Brigade. (3)

They were drilled at that place to learn the exercise about two weeks when they marched into the State of New Jersey and were at a place called the English Neighborhood and as far as Morristown and about in that vicinity a part of the time he was put to drive a team for the use of the army. There was no battle where he was and when his term was out he was discharged but he does not know anything what has become of it as he does not recollect seeing it since he brought home with him to his Father's.

That some time in the summer of 1779 he enlisted for a term of two months under a Militia captain by the name of Engerson (4) and marched to New Haven in the state of Connecticut to guard the stores & keep watch against the enemy he continued here in this kind of duty until his term was out when he was dismissed and returned home without anything remarkable taking place. There were but two companies of them on this duty.

While living with his Father in June in the year 1780 he again enlisted and went to Robinson's Farm aforementioned near West Point for a term of six months and was again put in Captain Cushion company but Vorne's Regiment & General Glover's Brigade as when here in 1778 aforesaid. While lying here in the beginning of the term he was drafted out on one to form a brigade of Light Infantry for the army under General Poor (5) in Col. Shephard's (6) Regiment cannot tell this captain's name. That he marched with this regiment in the State of New Jersey when he was again taken out and put in charge of a team and with his team was employed from one place to another from West Point to Haverstraw. The English Neighborhood and as far as Morristown and was there when Arnold (7) attempted to deliver West Point and when Andre was taken and executed though he was not present when he was hung. That when his term was out some time in December he received a written discharge and went home and has long since lost his discharge.

That in 1781 in June or July (as he believes) he entered for three months (as near as he recollects) and went to Albany and was to have served Capt. Heacock (8) company to go to Saratoga but did not arrive in Albany till after Captain Heacock had gone. He was ordered to remain a few days, and was then put into Capt. Marsh (9) company and went to Fort Plain on the Mohawk river that he was immediately taken out and put in charge of a team and in that situation continued from one place to another until his term expired when he gave up his team expecting to be discharged but at that time Col. Willett (10) who had command told his soldiers whose term was out that he did not like to discharge them then as he believes the enemy were only waiting for that event and he

wished them to stay another month to which they agreed and he (the said David) took his place in this company and in about two weeks, the enemy came down passed the river below Fort Plain and went to Johnstown where when the party to which he belonged overtook them and they had a battle in Johnstown.

In the beginning of this action the enemy succeeded against that post commanded by Col. Willett and took the field piece when Major Rowley (11) came up upon their rear drove the enemy and retook the field piece and a few days after they killed Col. Butler. (12) That he (the said David) was with Rowley and when his month was out he was dismissed but received no written discharge and returned home to Great Barrington where he lived till the year 1785, he then removed into Chatham in Columbia county in the State of New York and lived there two years thence to Granville in the county of Washington NY where he lived till the year 1830 when he removed to Volney aforesaid where he now resides. That he knows of no person living by whom he can prove his services. He is known to Asahel Harrington, Oliver Bates, & Miles Dunbar in his present neighborhood who can testify to his character for truth and veracity and their belief of his services.

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 or territory. (Signed) David Walter.

Subscribed & sworn the day & year aforesaid before me. D. McPherson

End Notes—S.10041—David Walton

1. Brigadier General John Fellows.
2. Possibly Captain Nathaniel Cushing of Colonel Joseph Vose's First Massachusetts Continental Regiment. David may have erred in the officer's names.
3. Brigadier General John Glover.
4. So far this officer cannot be located but 1779 would be the first year that David could legally serve as a soldier. He turned 16 on February 1, 1779.
5. Brigadier General Enoch Poor. He died on September 8, 1780.
6. Possibly Colonel William Shepard of the Fourth Massachusetts Continental Regiment.
7. Major General Benedict Arnold.
8. Captain Jeremiah Hickock of Colonel Elisha Porter's Regiment of Massachusetts State Levies. David enlisted on August 6, 1781 and he was discharged on November 8, 1781.
9. Captain Isaac Marsh of Colonel Porter's Regiment.
10. Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett was appointed on April 27, 1781 of a Regiment of New York State Levies. He was the overall commander of the troops in the Mohawk Valley in 1781.
11. Major Aaron Rowley of Colonel Porter's Regiment. He commanded companies of this regiment and were assigned to Willett in the Mohawk Valley.
12. Captain Walter Butler is often referred to as major or colonel but his father John had been first the Major then the Lieutenant-Colonel of Butler's Rangers. Walter was killed in a skirmish at West Canada Creek on October 30, 1781.