

Pension Application for James Weeks

S.10043

The declaration; of James Weeks for a pension under the Act of June 7, 1832.

State of New York

County of Saratoga SS.

On this 12th day of March 1840 personally appeared before me Geor. G. Scott one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for said County James Weeks of the town of Malta in said County, who being by me duly sworn made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by Congress in & by an Act passed 7 June 1832.

That this declarant is a Resident of the town of Malta in said County & was Eighty seven years of age on the 11th day of February last past but that this Deponent has no record of his age.

That this Declarant has never applied for a pension before owing to his circumstances, he having heretofore been able to live without a pension & altho often advised by his friends to obtain his rights never desiring to do so, so long as he could live comfortably without.

That this Declarant was born in the town of North Castle County of WestChester & State of New York, where he continued to reside form the time of his birth (11th February 1753) until he was thirty four years of age when he removed to the town of Malta his present place of residence.

That this Declarant took an early and active part in the War of the Revolution and was a firm friend & zealous supporter of American interests throughout the whole of said war.

As early as the summer of 1775 this Declarant enlisted into the service of the United States, to wit into the Regiment of troops levied to serve in the Northern Campaigne [Campaign] under General Montgomery, and commanded by Colonel Courtlandt Declarant was a private in the company commanded by Captain Daniel Mills whereof Elijah Hunter was Lieut belonging to said Regiment.

After enlistment as aforesaid in said town of Bedford he as billeted to remain in said town for about a month, after which time he was ordered to Albany & in company with three or four others from the same Regiment was appointed to keep guard over the Military stores in Albany until the return of said Regiment from Canada. Said Regiment returned immediately after the death of Genl Montgomery having completed the term of their enlistment to wit, a term of six months.

In the Spring & Summer of the next year 1776 this Deponent volunteered to keep guard on the West Chester County Lines, a post of great responsibility and danger owing to the frequent incursions of the enemy. He was enrolled in the Company of Militia Commanded by Jack Purdy, Capt. William Wright Lieutenant in the Regiment of Col. Thomas Thomas.

He was stationed as guard at North Castle & East Chester, and served almost uninterruptedly during the whole of said Spring & Summer for a period of at least four months.

In the fall of the same year this Deponent [?] with the same company & Regiment to White Plains & as engaged in the battle which occurred at that place. The term of this service was at least three weeks. This Declarant has been informed that the said William Wright Lieut has received a pension from the United States under said Act of 7 June 1832. If so this Declarant respectfully requests that said Wrights papers may be referred to in support of declarants claim.

In the fall of the year 1777, the same time that Burgoyne surrendered this declarant still a private in the same company of Jacob Purdy as again appointed to guard at North Castle & Kings bridge & was thus engaged for a period of three or four months, according to the declarant's best recollection and belief.

In the spring of the next year this declarant went out with Scouting parties to Harlaem a place called Mile Square and to White Plains upon three separate occasions & of at least 2 weeks each. He was doing these expeditions in a volunteer with a company of Horse, commanded by Colonel Honeywell, who as also called Esq Honeywell.

And this declarant further says that his memory is so impaired by old age that he cannot recollect with any degree of precision the length of time he was engaged in the above periods of service and expeditions any more than is herein before set forth, but that he recollects distinctly that he was engaged in the service of the United States in the war of the Revolution for at least three years and all that time in actual service.

In the spring of 1781 while this declarant was on guard a North Castle in said Company of Capt Purdy, he was taken prisoner by the british and conveyed to New York City where he was confined for a period of more than four months in a place called the Sugar House.

The following are the names of some of the regular officers whom he knew, or who were with the troops where he served, and such continental and militia regiments or companies with which he served, or as he can recollect, viz:

Col. Thomas Thomas, Col. Courtland, Col Sheldon, Capt Jacob Purdy, Capt Daniel Mills, Lieut Wm Wright, Lieut Elijah Hunter &c.

He never received any written discharge from the service, as he recollects.

He has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service excepting Amos Golding, of Wilton in the County of Saratoga aforesaid.

The following are the names of person to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief, or his services as a soldier of the revolution to wit. Rev'd Libbeus Armstrong, George Watson.

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 with his mark) James Weeks

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year first aforesaid before me. Tho S. Scott, a Judge of Saratoga Com. Pleas. Witness, Libbius Armstrong.

Letter in folder dated May 4, 1929, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.10043, it appears that James Weeks was born, February 11, 1753, at North Castle, Westchester County, New York, and while residing there he enlisted and served as a private in the New York Troops as follows:

From the summer of 1775, six months in captain Daniel Mills' Company, Colonel Courtlandt's Regiment.

During 1776, four months and three weeks in captain Jacob Purdy's Company, Colonel Thomas Thomas Regiment, and was at the battle of White Plains.

From the fall of 1777, three or four months in Captain Jacob Purdy's Company.

From the spring of 1778, six weeks under Colonel Honeywell.

In the spring of 1781, while on guard at North Castle, in Captain Jacob Purdy's Company, he was captured and confined in New York City for more than four months.

He was allowed pension on his application executed March 12, 1840, while living in Malta, Saratoga County, New York.

There are no data concerning his family.