

Pension Application for Consider Wilcox

R.11518

Of the Term of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty four—

Allegany Common Pleas

State of New York

Alleghany County SS

On this 30th day of October, 1834, personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny county now sitting, Consider Wilcox a resident of the town of Almond in the County and State aforesaid aged Seventy Seven Years, who being first duly sworn according to La, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States on or about the 20th of June 1777, at a place then called Little Hoosac, [Hoosic, Hoosuck, Hoosick] in the east part of Albany County (now Rensselaer Count) in the State of New York as a draft, in th4e Regiment of New York Militia commanded at that time by Major Samuel Shaw, according to the best recollection of declarant, and in the company commanded by Captain ___ Gates, (from old age & the consequent loss of memory Declarant cannot recollect the Christian name of Captain Gates) Lieutenant David Husted and Ensign Jeremiah Griffin; thence marched immediately to the town of Hoosac, thence to Little White Creek where we received orders from General Schuyler to rendezvous and employ our time in learning military tactics and in scouting and watching the movements of the tories and the adherents to the British government.

We remained at Little White Creek in this service, until on or about the first of July when orders were received from General Schuyler who was then at Fort Edward, to march to Ticonderoga. We marched according to the order of General Schuyler, but before we reached the Fort at Ticonderoga, we received orders to countermarch—“That General St. Clair had abandoned the Fort”; accordingly we returned to White Creek, where we soon received information that the British under General Fraser had overtaken the rear guard of the American Army under Colonel Seth Warner at Hubbardton and that Colonel Warner’s troops were completely routed and several hundred killed and taken prisoners.

We again received orders from General Schuyler to remain at Little White Creek and to employ ourselves in learning military tactics and in scouting and watching the movements of the tories, which order was promptly obeyed. We continued service under this order at Little White Creek until on or about the first of August when orders were again received form general Schuyler who was then at Saratoga, to march to the Hudson River at a point near the entrance of the Hoosac River into the Hudson and almost directly opposite of Stillwater, which order was promptly obeyed, but while on our march we received orders to file off to the right towards Skeensborough and to watch the movements of the British into the country East of Fort Edward, and to the South East of Skeensborough.

We continued to scout up and down on the East side of Hudson River until on or about the 15th of September when we received orders to march immediately to the point before mentioned near the mouth of the Hoosac River on the East bank of the Hudson river. We remained at this post some three or four days when we were ordered to cross over to the west side of the Hudson River and we accordingly crossed and marched through the town of Stillwater on the road towards Saratoga where we halted a little distance from Stillwater and from this time until the 7th day of October 1777, we were continually flanking and almost every night skirmishing with the enemy.

On the 7th of October 1777, a general engagement took place in which e participated by being employed in the flanking parties. General Burgoyne was so hard pressed this day that he returned to Saratoga. We remained in service in flanking the enemy and in endeavoring to prevent the retreat of General Burgoyne and his army until the 17th of October 1777 when General Burgoyne surrendered himself and army prisoners of War to General Gates and his army. After the surrender of General Burgoyne and his army, we were ordered to march down the Hudson River to Albany and accordingly pursued our march until we arrived at Albany where we received further orders to cross the Hudson River over to Greenbush on the East side, where we rendezvoused and repaired Barracks and remained in camp service until the 20th day of March 1778, when Declarant was dismissed after having served as aforesaid Nine Months, being the full time of his draft.

That of the Nine Months service as aforesaid Declarant served under a corporals warrant signed by Colonel Mathew Randall. That said warrant is lost, and that when declarant was dismissed as aforesaid, he did not receive a written discharge nor was a written discharge given to any one, according to the best recollection of declarant.

That Declarant again entered the service of the United States on or about the 15th day of May 1779 at Little Hoosac aforesaid as a Volunteer in the Regiment of New York Militia commanded by Colonel Henry K. Van Rensselaer and in the company commanded by Captain _____ Swart and marched immediately to Greenbush where we remained in camp some few days, thence we marched to a place called Beaver Dam where we rendezvoused and served in scouting and watching for Indians and tories until some time in the month of August when express came that the Indians and Tories had destroyed the settlement at Canajoharie and were then advancing towards Schoharie. We immediately marched to meet the enemy and when we arrived at Schoharie the enemy had plundered and destroyed the place, several of the buildings being yet on fire. The enemy in this irruption, destroyed the houses at Normans Creek and committed horrid barbarity on several of the inhabitants.

We then received orders to remain at the Forts at Schoharie and continued in Service at the upper and lower Forts and at the picket houses between the two Forts in guarding and scouting until some time in October when the Indians and tories, made an other [another] attack upon Schoharie and Declarant was engaged in the whole skirmish—the result of the attack was that the enemy were repulsed and retried

to their lurking places. After the attack as aforesaid we remained in service as aforesaid at Schoharie until on or about the first of December, 1779, when Declarant had served out the time for which he volunteered being five months and a half month, which time Declarant served as a private and was dismissed without a written discharge.

That Declarant again entered the service of the United [states] at Little Hoosac aforesaid, on or about the first of May 1781, as a volunteer in the Regiment of New York Militia, commanded by Colonel Henry K. Van Rensselaer, and fin the company commanded by Captain Hezekiah Hull, Lieutenant Randall Spencer, and Ensign Peter Hull and marched immediately to Greenbush and remained there in camp service (expecting every day to be called to the South part of the State or to the City of New York) until on or about the first of August 1781, when Declarant had served out the time for which he volunteered, being Three Months, which time Declarant served as a private and was dismissed without a written discharge.

That in consequence of old age and loss of memory Declarant cannot now recollect the Christian names of Captains Gates and swart mentioned aforesaid—That the reason why Declarant has not before made application for a pension is because he wished to find living witnesses of his service herein stated—but cannot find any.

That he has no documentary evidence of his service aforesaid—has no written discharge and never received any.

Was born in the year 1757, at New Milford in the State of Connecticut, has a record of his age in his family Bible at his residence in Almond.

Was living when called into service at Little Hossac [sic] in the County of Albany and State of New York. Has lived since the Revolutionary War in Scipio Cayuga County and State of New York and now lives in Almond in the County of Allegany and State of New York was called into service by being once drafted and twice as a volunteer.

The names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops were Generals Gates, Arnold and Colonel Morgan and Lieutenant Colonel Brooks, where I served at Saratoga. The names of persons to whom I am known in the neighborhood and who can testify to my character for veracity are Jonathan Crandall a clergyman and Joseph Whipple and Nathan Hadsel.

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.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) consider Wilcox
Andrew C. Hull First Judge

Subscribed and sworn. Josiah Utter, Daniel L. Gilman, C. T. Chamberlain
Judges.