

Pension Application for John Wilkins

S.3606

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.
State of New Jersey, Gloucester County SS

On this fifth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty three, personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Gloucester, now sitting John Wilkins a resident of the said County of Gloucester and place of New Jersey, aged eighty one years and upwards who being first duly affirmed according to law, doth upon his solemn affirmation 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 andx served as herein stated.

That is to say in the Month of April 1776. He entered as a private in a company commanded by Captain William Cox in Col. Lacey's Regiment, the company paraded at Moorestown in the County of Bennington New Jersey—and marched from there through Mount Holly and by the Black Horse Tavern and through the country County of Middlesex to New Brunswick, where we halted and staid for a few days n in to the month of July of that year, after having served at least two months and twenty five days.

He next entered in the aerly part of the month of April 1777 as a private in a company commanded by Capt. Andrew Anderson, the company marched from Moorestown aforesaid to Haddonfield where we joined Col. Ellis Regiment and where we quartered and remained several weeks, we then marched to Woodbury, and from Woodbury to Red Bank, and from Red Bank to Billingsport, and from there we marched back through Woodbury to Haddonfield aforesaid, where we remained until the latter part of June of that year when we were discharged after having served two months and fifteen days.

He next entered on the first day of October 1777 as private in a Company Commanded by Capt Andrew Anderson in Col. Ellis Regiment—the company marched from Moorestown aforesaid to the mouth of Pennshawkin Creek in the the [sic] County of Gloucester, New Jersey, where we quartered in the houses of the people in that neighbourhood, some of us where [were] at Joseph Morgans house, some at the hour of Isaac Fish and some at the house of Henry Wood—we remained in this service until sometime between the 15th and 20th of December of that year when were discharged—during this tour the battle of Germantown was fought, it took place in three or four days after we arrived at our quarters, during this tour also a Capt Parsons (who commanded a company that was stationed at the same place with us) and a number of his men were taken prisoners by a party of the enemy from the opposite side of the River Delaware, they were taken on Board the Prison Ship then lying at Pettys Island a little above Philadelphia, he served two months 15 days this tour.

He next entered as a private in the latter part of January or first of February 1778 in a company commanded by Captain Andrew Anderson in Col Ellis Regiment,

the company marched from Moorestown aforesaid to Coopers Creek bridge, then called [Spicers?] Bridge about two miles from Philadelphia on the the [sic] Jersey side, where we quartered in the house of Robert Friend Price, Esquire and where we remained until the British army left Philadelphia in June 1778 in two or three days after they left Philadelphia, our company was ordered to March and join the American forces that were then collecting from all parts of the Country, we marched through Haddonfield Moorestown and on to Mount Holly where we arrived he thinks on the 23d of June here this declarant was taken sick, which was occasioned by the heat of the weather and fatigue or marching, and he was unable to proceed further, one of his officers gave him papers certifying that fact, and he was taken home the next day in a wagon—he served during this tour at least four months and twenty three days—this was the last service he performed during the war—The whole length of time that he served during the war and whilst engaged in a Regularly organized body was twelve months and eighteen days at least, during all which time he served as a private, and during all which time he was in in [sic] actual service and not engaged in any Civil pursuit—he has no documentary evidence, and that he has made all the exertions in his power, and has not been able to procure the Testimony of any person, who can testify to his services excepting John Cahill whose affidavit is hereto annexed.

He was born at Trenton in the State of New Jersey, on the 28th day of January seventeen hundred and fifty two.

He has a record of his age, it is in his Family Bible which is now at his place of abode.

He was living when called into service at Moorestown in the County of Burlington New Jersey he has lived part of the time since the Revolutionary War in the county of Burlington, and the remainder of the time in the county of Gloucester New Jersey, and he now lived in the Township of Deptford in the County of Gloucester—

He volunteered whenever he was called to the service.

He does not know that there were any Regular Officers or Regular Officers or Regular Troops with the Troops where he served, he saw many officers and Troops when he was at Amboy and before a great many officers and Troops when he was at Mount Holly and he supposes that there were some Regular Officers and Regular Troops among them but cannot be certain of that at this time.

Col Lacey's Regt of militia was with the troops where he served at Amoy and Col Ellis at Haddonfield Woodbury, Coopers Creek Bridge Red Bank and other places in the County of Gloucester, he cannot recollect that he ever saw a Continental Regiment.

He never Received a written discharge from the service. He received a paper at the time that he left the army at Mount Holly, but that was not a discharge from the service, and that paper he lost shortly after it was given him.

He is acquainted with James Matlack Esquire, John Clement Esquire Dr. Bowman Hendrys, Dr. Jeremiah F. Foster, Jacob Glover Esquire, Jacob Glover Esquire, Ephraim Miller Esquire, and many other persons in his neighbourhood.

He He [sic] 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) John Wilkins.

Affirmed to and subscribed in open court the day and year first above written.
Ephraim Miller