

Pension Application for Benjamin Willis or Willes

W,19634 (Widow: Bridget) Married April 1786, Benjamin died July 12, 1843.

B.L.Wt.18217-160-55

State of New York

Montgomery County SS

Present the Honorable Aaron Harring Esqr, first Judge.

Be it remembered, that on the Eighteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty personally appeared in the Court House at the town of Johnstown in the County aforesaid int he Court called the Court of Common Pleas, in open court, the said court being a court of record for the County aforesaid having the power of fine and imprisonment proceeding according to the course of the Common Law with a Jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount, keeping a record of their proceedings Benjamin Willis aged fifty six years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the revolutionary war as follows: That on or about the twentieth day of June one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine at the County of Rockland in the State of New York he enlisted as a private soldier for during the war in Captain Michael Rudolph's company and Colonel Henry Lee's Legion and Virginia Line that he continued in said company and Regiment until the termination of the war, when he was honorably discharged at the head of Elk River which he thinks was in Maryland that he was in the battle of [Haw?] River, Guildford Court House and several investments of forts and skirmishes in the southern states, that he has been placed on the pension list under the law of 18th March 1818.

And that his original declaration is dated the twentieth day of April one thousand eight hundred and Eighteen and that this pension certificate is No. 593.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not since that time, by gift, sale, or in any manner, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress, entitled, "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States, in the Revolutionary War." Passed on the 18th day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen: and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts, due to me; nor have I any income other than what is contained it the schedule hereto annexed, and by me subscribed, to wit:

Schedule

Real Property I have none.

Personal Property, 1 Iron Kettle, 1 small pot, 1 tea kettle, 1 small kettle, 1 spider, 1 fire shovel, 4 chairs, two chests, 1 Trammel, six spoons, 4 knives & forks, 4 plates, 1 Bowl, 3 cups, 3 saucers, 1 Log chain, 1 Ax.

That I am a farmer and labourer by occupation I have three in family whom I support Viz. My wife Bridget aged fifty three, sickly, daughter Rachael, seventeen not able to do any hard work, having a weakness of the stomach, and affliction of the lungs, son Robert eleven years of age any hardy. That I am much troubled with

Rheumatism and other complaints preventing me from working at least half the time that I own Bonaface debts to the amount of ninety Dollars. I have no means of support than above stated except the pension I received from the United States which was paid up to the fourth of March 1820 (Signed with his mark) Benjamin Willis

Subscribed, sworn to and declared the 18th day of October 1820 in open court.
Jno McCarthy, Clerk