

## **Pension Application for Abraham Willse**

S.28947

The People of the State of New York, by the Grace of God True and Independent: To all to whom those presents shall come, or may concern, Greeting: Know ye that, that we, having inspected that Records and proceedings remaining in the Clerk's Office of our Court of Common Pleas for our County of Otsego, do find therein the record of certain evidence and proceedings in the words and figures following to wit:--

Otsego Com. Pleas. Of the Term of June in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two.

State of New York

Otsego County SS:

Be it remembered that on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court being the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Otsego in the State of New York and a Court of Record proceeding according to the principles of the Common Law with power of fine and imprisonment Abraham Willse aged seventy seven years a Resident of the Town of Westford in said County of Otsego who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath depose & declare, in order to obtain a pension under the provisions of the Act of congress approved June 7, 1832, entitled "An Act supplementary to the Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution.

That he was a Resident of the town of Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutchess & State of New York in the year 1776; that sometime in the summer of that year he the said Abraham Willse enlisted as a Volunteer into a Company of Malitia [Militia] commanded by Capt Colbey Chamberlain of Poughkeepsie aforesaid for the period of five months; which Company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Col Humphrey of the County of Dutchess aforesaid and to Genl James Clinton's Brigade.

This Deponent went into actual service in the War of the Revolution under the enlistment as such Volunteer so aforesaid in Capt Chamberlain's Company of Militia and was stationed at fort Montgomery on the Hudson River in the State of New York, and he the said Abraham Willse remained in actual service at the Fort above mentioned in the Company and Regiment above mentioned until late in the Fall of the year 1776 & until the full expiration of the five months service for which he volunteered as aforesaid, at which time he the said Abraham Willse was discharged and returned to Dutchess County the place of his residence.

And the said Abraham Willse further states in manner aforesaid that in the Spring of the year 1777 he again enlisted in the War of the Revolution as a volunteer for the term of nine months into a Company of militia commanded by Captain Elijah Herricks of Nine Partners in the County of Dutchess and Lieutenants Smith & Weeks. This Company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. Hopkins.

This company went up the Hudson River and landed opposite to Lansingburgh where he the said Abraham Willse remained with said Company for a few weeks he then marched with said Company to Stillwater, and was frequently out in scouting parties while stationed at Stillwater, and remained and continued in the service at that

place and Saratoga until after the surrender of the British army under the command of Genl Burgoyne.

This Deponent was present and saw the British army lay down their arms after the articles of capitulation had been signed by the commanding generals but he the said Abraham Willse during the battle was in a brigade commanded by Genl Glover, which Brigade was not engaged in the main battle—being stationed at a point a short distance from the main army.

Shortly after the battle & the surrender of Burgoyne, the company to which he the said Abraham Willse belonged was ordered to march to Albany, which was done with as little delay as possible.

And he the said Abraham Willse remained in the service in said Company at Albany until the expiration of the nine months service for which he enlisted or volunteered as aforesaid and was then discharged by his officers and returned home to the County of Dutchess. And the said Abraham Willse further states as aforesaid, that he understood went into the service was a volunteer in the War of the Revolution for the period of one month, and was a Sergeant in a company of Militia commanded by Capt. Stephen Hendrickson of the county of Dutchess SS.

This Deponent marched with said company to West Point, and there remained in actual service as a Sergeant in Capt Hendrickson's Company until the expiration of the month & he was then discharged, and the said Abraham Willse also saith that he does not recollect the precise year in which he rendered the one months service last above mentioned, but is certain that it was subsequent to the surrender of Burgoyne in the year 1777.

And the said Abraham Willse further declares in manner aforesaid, that he hath not at any time heretofore received any annuity or pension under any law of the United States and that he hath not anytime heretofore received any annuity or pension for services rendered by him in the war of the Revolution. And that he the said Abraham Willse hath not any other proof or evidence except the deposition of his Brother Isaac Willse, which is annexed hereunto, and further saith not. (Signed with his mark) Abraham Willse

Sworn to in open court before the court of Common Pleas of Otsego County this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 1832. Horace Lathrop, Clerk