

Pension Application for Luther Cady

S.28670

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.
State of New York SS.

On this 16 day of September 1843, personally appeared in open court before the Court of Chancery now sitting at Saratoga Springs in the county of Saratoga. Luther Cady a resident of the town of Greenfield in the said county aged 81 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born at Killingsley in the county of Windham and state of Connecticut on the first day of April in the year 1762 as he has been informed by his parents; that he has no record of his age except one made by himself twenty five or thirty years since in his family Bible. That he entered the service of the United States by enlisting as a waiter to Colonel Samuel Brown (1) at the said town of Killingsly where he then resided (and where the said Col. Brown also resided) on the 14th day of June 1775, that soon after he enlisted, he went with the said Col. Brown to Providence in Rhode Island from there to New Haven in Connecticut, there the regiment of Col. Brown with other troops embarked for New York sometime in July, on reaching New York they were stationed at Harlem on Long Island under the command of General Wooster. (2) They remained on Long Island until some time in November 1775 when he received a furlough for forty days and returned home, Col. Brown also returned to Killingsly about the same time at the expiration of his furlough (and at the time that Colonel Brown returned to the army) his Grandfather with whom he then resided sent a coloured man named Prince, in his stead who never returned. In the month of June 1776 at a place then called Jerico (now Hancock) in the county of Berkshire and state of Massachusetts he enlisted as a private under Captin Thomas Convers (3) in Colonel Van Schaicks (4) regiment of the New York line of the Army soon after, marched to West Point on the Hudson River where he was mustered, sometime in the month of August following he was by the direction of Captain Convers employed as a teamster, in which capacity he continued to serve under the direction of one Simeon Catlin until 1781. He does not know whether said Catlin was a commissioned officer or not, he was styled "Captain Catlin" and had under his direction a number of teams which were employed in transporting military stores, provision, forage, &c, for the Northern and Main Armies, during the remainder of the year 1776, he was employed between Danbury in Connecticut and West Point and other places on the Hudson River, in the year 1777 was engaged in transporting stores, supplies &c for the Army of General Gates, (5) in the years 1778 and 1779 was employed at various points on the Hudson River, Morristown in New Jersey and the adjacent Counties in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts, mostly in collecting provision for the troops stationed along the river and around New York. During a part of the year 1780, (from June to September) he was employed to drive the carriages of the Commander in Chief. In September of this year, he had six teams placed under his direction (still under the general direction of Captain Catlin) (6) and was employed in the service of carrying provision, ammunition, clothing, stores &c for the Army in the Spring of 1781 he was sent to Saratoga and was employed between there and Albany, and occasionally to Fort Edward, Fort Ann, and the head of Lake George on the 2nd day of August 1781, while in advance of his teams on horse back between the head of Lake George and Fort Edward, his horse was shot dead from under him, and he was taken a prisoner (7) by a party of British soldiers, who then had a number of other prisoners in their power. He was taken to St. Johns in Canada from there to Chambly, thence to Montreal, from there to Fort Du Lac, back again to Montreal in the latter part of October 1782 he with many other American prisoners were ordered to be sent to Quebeck. While on their way to Quebeck on the first day of November 1782, he with 17 others (among whom were Abraham Foster, Silas McWethy, John Cobely, John Tubbs, Samuel Daly, John Albright, Daniel Asbury and _____ McCandler) made their escape and made the best of their way for the American lines,

they were however overtaken and all recaptured except himself and McCandler who concealed themselves in a thicket and by traveling in the night and concealing themselves by day, they succeeded in reaching the State of New York, but his companion died of fatigue and hunger before they reached the settlements, he reached his home about the first of December 1782, and did not return to the army again as the war was then over. As he was but little with the Army and from old age and the consequent loss of memory, he recollects but few of the officers on duty at the several posts where he was occasionally employed.

A few years after the close of the war he received at Albany through Captain Catlin a certificate entitling him to pay for his services, or a part of them, but does not now recollect the import of it, or by whom it was given, he some years afterwards, sold the same to one John Merich besides this, he does not recollect of receiving any pay except a bounty of twelve dollars when he was mustered at West Point. He knows no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services, and he has no documentary evidence except a certificate from the Deputy Comptroller of the state of New York.

Since the Revolutionary war he resided in Hancock in Berkshire County Massachusetts, for a short time, and from there he removed to Granville, Washington County New York where he resided for sixteen years, from there he removed in 1801 to Northumberland (now Wilton) in Saratoga county, and in 1818 he removed to the adjoining town of Corinth in the same county where he resided until May 1843. He now resides in the town of Greenfield in the said county of Saratoga and state of New York. 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) Luther Cady

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Response to a letter of inquiry dated April 14, 1936.

Reference is made to your request for information in regard to Luther Cady who served in the Revolutionary War and lived in Granville, New York in 1788.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim, S.28670, based upon the military service of Luther Cady, the only soldier of that name that is found in the Revolutionary War records of this office.

Luther Cady was born April 1, 1762, at Killingly, Windham County, Connecticut. The names of his parents were not given.

While living in Killingly with his grandfather (name not given) he enlisted June 14, 1775, and served until about December, 1775, as waiter to Colonel Samuel Brown of Killingly, Connecticut. He enlisted in June, 1776, at a place then called Jericho but later called Hancock, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, as private under Captain Thomas Converse in Colonel Van Schaick's New York regiment, was soon afterward marched to West Point and was employed as a teamster under the direction of Captain Simeon Catlin until 1781; on August 2, 1781, between the head of lake George and Fort Edward while riding horseback in advance of his teams his horse was shot dead under him and he was taken prisoner by a party of British soldiers, was carried to Canada but made his escape the first of November 1782, and reached home about the first of December, 1782.

After the revolution he lived in Hancock, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, from there he moved to Granville, Washington County, New York. In 1801 he moved from Granville to Northumberland (later called Wilton) Saratoga County, New York. In 1818 he moved to the adjoining town of Corinth where he lived until May, 1843.

Luther Cady was allowed pension on his application executed September 16, 1843, at which time he was living in Greenfield, Saratoga County, New York.

The papers in this claim contain no data relative to wife or children of the soldier.

End Notes—Luther Cady—S.278670

1. Luther would have been 13 years of age at the time. A waiter would not be a military enlistment and Colonel Brown would have paid his wages. So far I have not been able to locate what regiment Colonel Brown belonged to in the Connecticut Troops.

2. David Wooster was appointed Major General of the Connecticut troops in April of 1775. He was appointed on June 22, 1775 a Brigadier General in the Continental Army. The Connecticut troops were sent to New York City in 1775 to reinforce the Continental Army there.
3. There was no Thomas Converse serving in any capacity in Colonel Goose VanSchaick's New York Continental Regiment in any year. A Thomas Converse did serve as an Ensign in Colonel Charles Burall's Connecticut Regiment. He was appointed on January 23, 1776 but when the American Army retreated from Quebec, Canada in April of 1776 he was sick (probably smallpox since a large part of the army was sick with it) and left behind.
4. Colonel Goose VanSchaick's New York Continental Regiment was not at West Point in 1776. They were stationed from Albany to Fort Edward, Fort George and Fort Ticonderoga. Colonel VanSchaick was in Albany a great part of the time.
5. Major General Horatio Gates of the Continental Army.
6. I have not found a record of Captain Simeon Catlin or these teamsters but the records appear to be incomplete.
7. Luther maybe wrong about the year of his capture. In October of 1780 Forts Ann and Geroge were destroyed by Major Christopher Carleton and his British forces. He would not have any reason to take supplies in that direction in 1781. Most of the American troops were stationed at Fort Edwards, Ball's Town and Stillwater.