

Pension Application for James Champlin

R.1843 (Widow: Sally. James died March 8, 1840)

State of New York

Steuben County SS.

On this Sixteenth day of October AD 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas of the said County of Steuben now sitting James Chaplin a resident of the town of Bath in said County of Steuben and State of New York aged seventy four years and upwards 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That according to the best of his recollection in November or December 1775 he enlisted at the then town of [Perquake?] now Bateman in the County of Dutchess where he then resided for the term of five months in a company of the Militia of the State of New York commanded by a Capt. William Clark and Lieutenants Benjamin Knox and Martin Cornwell, that the said company was attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. Humphreys and a Major Joshua Carman. That immediately after the said enlistment he marched with said company to the City of New York where he remained during the whole of the time for which he enlisted.

That while he was so stationed at New York as aforesaid he was employed with the said regiment in repairing the fortifications in that city and also in fortifying Governor's Island and that after his said term expired he was regularly discharged at that place and received a certificate to that effect signed by the said Col. Humphrey's which he has last many years since and cannot now produce—that after his discharge he returned home to the Town of Bateman aforesaid where he remained until a short time after the City of New York was taken by the British troops and as he thinks about the first of October 1776 when he again enlisted at Bateman aforesaid in a company of the militia of the State of New York commanded by Capt. Joshua Champlin a brother of the applicant for the term of three months that the said company was attached to the Regiment commanded by the said Col. Humphreys and he thinks that Major Carman was still with the said Regiment under Col. Humphreys but does not recollect particularly as to that point. That the said company marched from Bateman and joined the regiment and also a considerable body of militia at White Plains where the said Militia were forming an encampment—that soon after the said company arrived at White Plains the regular army under Gen. Washington also arrived there and that the applicant was engaged in the battle at that place in the latter part of October 1776—that after the said battle he remained with the said Regiment until the said term of three months had expired where he was discharged in the County of Westchester—that he does not recollect whether he received a written discharge or not and that if he did receive one he has lost it—that after his discharge as last aforesaid until sometime he thinks in the Spring of the year 1777 when he again enlisted in a company commanded by the said Capt William Clark and Lieut. Benjamin Knox at Bateman aforesaid. That the said company was engaged in what was called the ranging service and during the time of the last mentioned enlistment was not attached to any regiment. That the said enlistment was for the term of five months and that immediately after he joined the said company he marched to Poughkeepsie where the said company together with another commanded by a Capt. Smith were stationed during the wheel of the said term of five months—That while they were so stationed at Poughkeepsie they were employed in scouting in Squads through the County for the purpose of keeping the Tories quiet and also in assisting about the building of some vessels which were then being constructed at that place that he remained at Poughkeepsie aforesaid employed in the service aforesaid until his term of enlistment had expired when he was discharged and returned home to Bateman that he does not recollect whether he received a written discharge and that if he did receive one he has lost it.

That he remained at Bateman aforesaid according to the best of his recollection until the forepart of the summer of the year 1778 when he enlisted at some place in New Jersey the name of which he does not now recollect in the Revolutionary army for the term of nine months in the company commanded by a Lieut. French who commanded the company and was called Capt. That said company as attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. Cortlandt of the New Jersey line of the continental Establishment. That he continued to serve in the said company and was at the battle of Monmouth in that year—that at Monmouth he was wounded by a grape shot in the thigh and after having served in said company about six months from the time of his enlistment therein his health became bad and he procured one James Johnson to take his place in the said company for the unexpired part of his term. That the said Johnson was accepted by the Col. of the regiment in the place of the applicant and he was discharged from the said service. That he paid the said Johnson for taking his place aforesaid the sum of fifty dollars out of his own funds.

That in the year 1838 he made an application under the act of 18 March 1818 for a pension for the service last above mentioned but that the same was denied for the reason as he understood that he did not personally serve the whole of the said nine months. That the above facts are all that he can recollect with regard to his said services and that after diligent search he has been able to procure no other evidence of the same than the annexed affidavits of Thomas Champlin.

That he was born at Fishkill in the County of Dutchess on the 14th day of September or October 1758 but that he does not recollect which month.

That he has no record of his age and knows the same only from the information of his relatives.

That he was a volunteer at each time when he went into the service and at each time of entering the service as above stated he resided at Bateman in the said County of Dutchess. That while he was in the army he recollects seeing Col. Gansevoort—and Col. Livingston of the New York line a Col. Vandeburgh and several other officers whose names he does not now remember. That after the close of the war he continued to reside at Bateman for about twenty years when he removed to Claverack where he resided four or five years from thence he removed to Locke in the county of Cayuga in the State of New York where he lived five or six years and then removed to Bath in the County of Steuben where [he] now lives and where he has lived since that time.

That at the place where he now lives he knows John Sandford, Jesse Tolbert Esqr, Samuel Hall, James Tobias, Henry Switzer, Freeman VanAmburgh, Jacob Logar, who can testify as to his character for a truth and veracity and their belief as to his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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 with his mark)
James Chaplin

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid. M.L. Rumsey, Dep. Clk, Steuben County.