

Pension Application for Solomon Culver

S.18343

State of Ohio

Richland County SS.

On this twenty seventh day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Honorable David Higgins Present Judge of the said Court and Isaac Osborn William Riddle and William Patterson associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Richland in the State of Ohio now sitting Solomon Culver a resident of said County of Richland aged seventy two 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. I was drafted I think in the year A.D. 777 in the Spring of the year and entered upon a Tour of duty I think for the Term of three months but I am not altogether certain that was the length of the Tour. I then resided in Spencer Township in the County of Albany at that time but it is now the County of Columbia.

I marched under Captain Benjamin whose first name if I recollect right was Ebenezer from Spencer Township aforesaid to Albany thence up to Half Moon, thence up to Still Waters and on to Saratoga and thence to Fort Edward where the main army lay under General Schuyler, then I moved out the town for which I was drafted and until other militia came on to service.

At the expiration of my tour under Captain Benjamin and when the Militia was about to start home General Schuyler caused them to form a hollow square and rode into the square and made a speech to them urging to remain until others came to relieve them. They did so—before a great while Militia came to take our places and we were dismissed. I then hired as a substitute for a person whose name I cannot now recollect in the company of Captain Albert Solomons.

When I had served two months or upwards, I took the measles and being ordered on duty and unable to do so I was taken before the Doctor & he picked my name on his roll and sent me back to my tent. Very soon after the army being on the retreat from General Burgoyne I was ordered to proceed on the road towards home. I went on as well as I could having the measles through Saratoga and down to where I Lived in Spencer Town as above stated.

I was drafted at two or three others times—at one of them I marched from Spencer Township in New York under Captain Benjamin up to Albany and one up the river to Half Moon thence to Still Waters thence on to Saratoga where we remained some weeks and there crossing the Mohawk River went on to Schenectady where we remained one night and then went on to Johnstown. After remaining there several weeks we were discharged.

The other times I was drafted I marched from Spencer Township afore mentioned over the same route till we were some miles above miles above Still Waters

we then returned down the river to [?] Palmers where we were dismissed after being in service eight or ten days. I cannot recollect the names of any officers of the army in which I served except Captain Benjamin whom first name, I think was Ebenezer and his Lieutenant Muney under taken I served the whole time I was in service except when I was a substitute. I was then under Captain Albert Solomons whose Lieutenant I think was Phelps. I know there was a Lieutenant of that name out with us I served the whole time under Colonel Waterman I think his first name was John. There was a Captain Bostick with us at Fort Edwards, but what description of force he commanded I cannot say. General Fellers was at Fort Ann and General Schuyler was at Fort Edwards and commanded our army.

There were Regulars belonging to our Army but I cannot recollect the name of any of their officers. I did not and do not now know the difference between regular and Continental troops I cannot tell the day or month in which I entered the service or left it. Nor the order in which I performed the different periods of service when I was drafted. Not can I recollect precisely how long I served at any one or how long I served altogether but I verily believe I have served altogether at least eight months, I was not engaged in any battle I marched through the country above stated and also during my tour at Fort Edwards, I marched from there to Ford [Fort] George to guard Waggon engaged in transporting stores from Fort George to Fort Edwards.

I have no documentary evidence nor do I know of any person by whom I can prove my service.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state. (Signed) Solomon Culver

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day & year above written. Esgey Heagles Clk

And the Court propounded the following interrogatories to the said applicant and received the following answers viz—

1. Where and in what year were you born? Answer—I was born on Chestnut Hill in Litchfield Township in Litchfield County in the State of Connecticut on the 18th day of August A.D. 1760.
2. Have you any record of your age and if you have where is it? Answer. My parents informed me that the laws of Connecticut required the ages of all children to be recorded and that County of Litchfield, Connecticut. I never saw a record of it.
3. Where were you living when called into service. When have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live? Answer: When called into service I lived in Spencer Township in Albany County, now Columbia County in the State of New York, about the year 1780 I removed from New York into Plymouth Township Luzerne County in the State of Pennsylvania [Pennsylvania] where I resided till the year 1809 when I removed to Knox County in the State of Ohio and in the year 1812 I removed to Richland County, Ohio where I now reside.

4. How were you called into service—were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom? Answer I was drafted three times and possibly oftener. One year we had a great many alarms. I was drafted every time that I entered the served except when I served as a substitute under Captain Albert Solomons, I cannot remember for whom I served as a substitute.
5. State the name of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service? Answer. I can't remember the name of any officers—of Regulars in the army in which I served unless Generals Schuyler and Feller, were Regular officers—We had regular soldiers in our Army at fort Edwards but I don't know that I knew the names of any of their officers and if did and I have forgotten them—I don't know the difference between Regulars and Continental troops. I can't remember the names of our major. Our colonels name was Waterman—I think his first name was John—All the service I performed as a substitute under Captain Albert Solomons the name of whom Lieutenant I think was Phelps. There was at any rate an officer of that name out with us. The principal circumstances of the service performed at fort Edwards were those—I was drafted at Spencer Township in Albany County in the State of New York and marched thence under Captain Ebenezer Benjamin and Lieutenant Muncy up to Albany—thence up to Half Moon—crossed the North River—marched up to Still Waters—thence to Saratoga—Thence to Fort Edwards where the Main Army lay under General Schuyler. At the expiration of the Tour for which I was drafted and whom the man were about to start home. General Schuyler had then formed into a hollow square—rode into the square and made a speech to the men—urging them to remain until others came to take their places. They did so—when the Militia came to take our places I hired as a substitute for a man in Captain Solomons Company and served till I took the measles and was discharged—During the tour under Captain Benjamin and Captain Solomons I marched to Fort George to guard some waggons transporting stores from Fort George to Fort Edwards. At Fort George I saw two [?] on the stocks one ready to launch the other nearly so. I was in the Front Guard and about a mile and a half from the village when the vessels and town were burnt. The small pox was in the hospital at Fort George at the time & there were several wagon loads of the sick removed to an Island, nearly opposite Fort Edwards. Before he left fort Edwards General Fellers joined us from Fort Ann and we retreated from Burgoyne towards Saratoga. I left the army seven miles from Saratoga on account of sickness with the measles I recollect of being drafted at two other times at one of which I marched through Albany up the river—and on to Saratoga remained there some weeks—then crossed the Mohawk River went on to Schenectady thence to Johnstown remained there some weeks—and on to Saratoga remained there

some weeks—then crossed the Mohawk river went on to Schenectady thence to Johnstown remained there several weeks and were discharge. The other time I was drafted I marched under Captain Benjamin up through Albany Half Moon and some distance above StillWaters & returned down the river to our [?]. I think, Captain Solomon's Company was along. Alarm of Indians which were frequent that year occasioned these drafts & nothing of importance took place during the service. I am not absolutely certain that I was drafted at any other times nor if I can, can't now recollect the particulars.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? Answer. I never received a written discharge as he can recollect.
7. State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your veracity and their belief of your services as a revolutionary soldier. Answer: William Ayres resides in my present neighborhood and can testify to my veracity & to his belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution and James N. Ayres lives in Bloomingrove Township of Richland County is well acquainted with me & being an old acquaintance of mine & brother of William Ayres who lives a few roads from me is often in my neighborhood he can also testify to my character for veracity and to his belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution, John Steward and Jephtha Dunn also reside in my neighborhood & can testify to my character for veracity but as there has not been much said about my services as a soldier in my present neighborhood as I know of I don't know that they have any opinion respecting such service.

(Signed) Solomon Culver

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day & year above written.
Ellgry Hedges, CLK