

Pension Application for Joseph Earls

R.3195

State of Pennsylvania

Clearfield County SS.

On this Thirtieth day of January Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and thirty seven personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Thomas Burwick Present Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and the Honorable Moses Boggs and Hugh Jordan his associates, now sitting in the Town of Clearfield in the said County Clearfield State of Pennsylvania, Joseph Earls of the said County aged seventy five 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 the seventh of June 1832—

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he the said Joseph Earls enlisted about the first of May one thousand seven hundred and seventy six at a place called Owego (Oswego) about ninety six miles from [New York?] & about [10?] miles from the North River by Ensign Homes. [Not sure about this last sentence! Oswego is in the western part, much farther from New York City than 96 miles.]

I was marched to New York City & joined the Regt of Col. Richmond. I never saw Col. Richmond but once the Regiment was commanded supposedly by [?] Col Wysenfelt we remained near New York until the British landed on Long Island. We were then marched up the sound after [???] we were marched to the White Plains and served in that battle. Genl Washington was the Commander in Chief

I cannot remember the Genl under whose immediate command I was, but I was in Col. Weisenfeldt Regiment and my Capt name was Riker. I was engaged in getting the wounded off the ground the day after the battle. Was [?] while at the Peekskill my term expired and I was discharged. It was in writing and is long since lost. I was pressed into the service in 1777 when the British lay in New York & drove a team from near Poughkeepsie to Peakskill [??] the grain off from between the lines of the armies William Gifford was the conductor of the teams.

And the said Joseph Earls in his solemn oath further declares Fort Edward the close of the war he cannot state the term. He entered as a sailor on board the [Passatyer?] Peggy Capt. Gard Wells from Nantucket we were at sea sometime when we were captured by a British Frigate the name I cannot recollect were taken to Halifax & captured until after Cornwallis was taken—deponent had no documentary evidence of his service nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can produce of his actual service.

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.

The court propounded the following questions to the said applicant Joseph Earls.

When and in what year was you born?

Answer—As near as I can recollect it was in 1759 or 1760 in Owego where I was enlisted in the state of New York.

Have you any record of your age?

Answer—I have none.

Where were you living when called into service. Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War & where do you now live?

I have stated where I lived when I enlisted the service, after I got off from the British, I went the [Potosmith?] & was engaged in cleaning a channel in the river above the Hancock then I went to West Chester in Pa & resided there several years, then I went to the East Indies—returned to West Chester again. Then went to Pine Creek in Lycoming County then I went to [Garlp?] remained two years & a half—I then went to [?] Valley now Perry County I then came up to Tuckahoe in Huntingdon County & have been there & in [/] & Clearfield County ever since.

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental & Militia regiments as you can recollect & the genl circumstances of your service?

I can add but little to what I have stated Col. Smallwood of the Virginia rifle men or Virginia Troops charged at our right at the battle of White Plains. There was a Genl Lee then. I am certain I was immediately commanded by Col Weisenfelt & Capt. Rikes.

Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

I did receive an honorable discharge at Peekskill.

I cannot tell who signed it Capt. Rikers gave it to me. I cannot tell what became of it. I took it home but I do not remember seeing it since. (Signed with his mark) Joseph Earls

Sworn & subscribed in open court the 30th day Jany 1837. Ellis Irwin. Clk