

Pension Application for Wilhelmus Efner or Efnor

S.23610

State of New York

Schoharie County SS.

On this fifth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & Thirty three, personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable William Beekman, William Mann & Thomas P. Dunforth, the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Schoharie in the State of New York now sitting Wilhelmus Efner a resident of the town of Middleburgh in the said County of Schoharie & State of New York aged seventy eight 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 sated.

Captain John Fisher, Lieutenant Fitch & Ensign Guy Young. The company to which he belonged did not belong to any Regiment of his knowledge.

That he entered the service of the private the fore part of the month of June in the year 1775, the day of the month he does not recollect, and left the service in the month of February in the year 1776, just eight months from the time he entered it.

That he resided at Vanderheyden's Ferry now the City of Troy in the State of New York at the time he entered the service; that he enlisted as a volunteer, when he entered the service for eight months.

That he joined the company immediately on his enlistment at Albany and marched with them to Fort George and lay there about two months when Major General Schuyler took the command of the troops at that place; that he was then taken from the ranks by General Schuyler & ordered into his service—that he continued to serve General Schuyler until the expiration of his enlistment, when he was dismissed and returned home. That he was engaged in not battle & saw no Continental Regiment or Company to his knowledge during this period.

And the said Efner further saith, that he again entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Captain Darby—that he does not recollect the names of the other officers- That he entered the service as a private, in the month of July in the year 1777, the day of the month he does not recollect & left the service at least one week from the time he entered it.

That he resided at Vanderheyden's Ferry, now the City of Troy in the State of New York at the time he entered the service. That he entered the service as a volunteer. That he joined the company under Captain Darby who was a Continental Officer at the time he entered the service at Venderheyden's Ferry, and marched with them as a pilot into the Country east of that place in search of a party of Tories staid there a short time when he returned home with the Company and was dismissed. That he was in no battle during this period.

And the said Efner further saith, that he again entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

Colonel Stephen Schuyler, Major John Fonda, Captain Henry Gardenier, Lieutenant Abraham Teneyck—that he does not recollect the names of the other officers.

That he entered the service as a private in the month of September in the year 1777 the day of the month he does not recollect—and left the service in the fore part of the month of October in the year 1777 at least three weeks from the time he entered it.

That he resided at Vanderheyden's Ferry, now the City of Troy in the State of New York when he entered the service. That he was not drafted, a volunteer, or substitute to his knowledge. That he belonged to a company of New York Militia the whole Militia company to which he belonged were ordered into the service by their commanding officers. That he entered the service in obedience to such order. That he joined his company immediately on entering the service at Vanderheyden's Ferry and marched to Bemises Heights [sic] at Stillwater, arrived there a day or two after the first battle at Stillwater—staid there until a day or two before the last battle at Stillwater when he was dismissed & sent back to Vanderheyden's Ferry in charge of a soldier of his company who was sick of the Small Pox—that he was in no battle during this period.

And the said Efnor further saith that he again entered the service of the United States under the following named officer & served as herein stated. Captain Henry Gardenier, that he does recollect the names of the other officers—that he entered the service as a private in the fore part of the month of September in the year 1778, the day of the month he does not recollect and left the service, the fore part of the month of October in the year 1778, at least one month from the time he entered it. That he resided at Vanderheyden's Ferry, now the City of Troy in the State of New York when he entered the service. That he does not recollect whether he was drafted or volunteered. That he joined his company immediately on entering the service at Vanderheyden's Ferry and marched with them to the Upper Fort on the Schoharie Creek in the now County of Schoharie in the State of New York and lay there about three weeks, when he marched with his company back to Vanderheyden's Ferry & was dismissed. That Colonel Butler with a company of Riflemen lay at Schoharie when he was there. That he was in no battle during this period.

And the said Efnor further saith that he again entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, & served as herein stated—Colonel Stephen Schuyer, Major Leonard VanBuren, Captain Henry Gardinier—that he does not recollect the names of the other officers—That he entered the service as a private in the forepart of the month of November in the year 1778, the day of the month he does not recollect—and left the service in the fore-part of the month of December in the year 1778, at least one month from the time he entered it. That he resided at Vanderheyden's Ferry, now the City of Troy in the State of New York when he entered the service. That he belonged to a Regiment of New York Militia—that the whole Militia Regiment to which he belonged were ordered into the service by their officers—That he entered the service in obedience to such order—that he was neither drafted a volunteer of substitute to his knowledge. That he joined his Regiment, immediately on entering the service at Vanderheyden's Ferry and marched with them to Fort

Edward—staid there a short time then marched to Jones sawmill about six miles from Fort Ann staid there about three weeks engaged in making a logway across a swamp between the [mills or hills] of Fort Ann when he marched back to Vanderheyden's Ferry & was dismissed. That he was in no battle & saw no Continental Regiment, Company or officer during this period to his knowledge.

And the said Efnor further saith that in the latter part of the month of December in the year 1778, he removed from Vanderheyden's Ferry to that part of the State of New York now the town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga. That he resided at Half-Moon from that time until the close of the Revolutionary War. That he was enrolled in the militia of the State of New York at this place as early as the first day of April in the year 1779, that the regiment & Company in which he was enrolled at the time of his enrolled was commanded by the following named officers Colonel Jacobus VanSchoonhoven, Lieutenant Gordon, Major Ezekiel Taylor & Captain Joshua Taylor & Lieutenant Joseph Cook—that he does not recollect the names of the Ensign—That he belonged to the same Regiment & Company until the first day of April in the year 1783—That Colonel VanSchoonhoven and Major Taylor commanded the Regiment during the time he belonged to it. That Colonel Gordon commanded the Regiment until the year 1779 when he was taken prisoner by the British.

That he does not know that any person was appointed Lieutenant Colonel in his place during the War. That Captain Taylor & Lieutenant Cook, commanded the company during the time he belonged to it. That from the first day of April in the year 1779 until the first day of April in the year 1783 he was very frequently on duty in the service of the United States for short periods of from two or three days to two or three weeks each. That he does not recollect the number of different periods he was on duty—

That he was during most of those periods under the immediate command of some officer of the Regiment or Company to which he belonged, but which officer had the command at each time he does not recollect—that he does not recollect the time when he entered the service each or any of those periods, nor the time he left the same—nor how long he was engaged on duty each time.—That he some of those periods entered the service as a volunteer & at the others, that he was ordered out on duty by his commanding officers, & entered the service in obedience to such order—that he marched to Palmertown about twenty five miles North of Half Moon six or seven times & lay there at least a week each time.

That he once marched to Salem in Washington County & was absent from home, in the service two or three weeks—that he marched to Saratoga, eighteen miles from Half Moon at least twenty times—that he was generally from home about a week when he went to that place—the [that] he went several times to Niskauna on the Mohawk River & frequently to other places—that he cannot now tell, where he went each time, he was on duty—That Colonel Peter Gansevoort with a Regiment of Continental troops lay at Saratoga some part of this time, & Colonel [?] with another Regiment of Continental troops lay at Saratoga some part of this time.—That he was in not battle during this time.

That he is positive that he was engaged on duty in the service of the United States, as a private soldier from the first day of April in the year 1779 until the first day of April in the year 1783 at different periods amounting in the whole to at least two years.

And the said Efnor further saith, that he has no documentary evidence of his services above set fort—that he never received a written discharge from the service.

That he was born in the City of Hamburgh in Germany—That he has no record of his age. That he resided in that part of New York now the town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga, from the close of the Revolutionary War until the year 1795, when he removed to the County of Schoharie in the State of New York where he has since resided—that he knows of no person who can testify to his services except Margaret Efnor and Joseph Efnor.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Wilhelmus Efnor

Sworn to & Subscribed the day and yea aforesaid in open court. John Gebhard Jr. Clk