
Pension Application for Henry Houseworth

S.15462

State of Kentucky

Henry County SS

On the 14th day of February 1834 personally appeared before me Thomas M. Ballard a Justice of the Peace in and for Henry County and one of the Judges of the county Court for said county of Henry. Henry Houseworth aged 70 years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of an act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832.

This declarant states that he was living New Albany in the State of New York when he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated, that in the month of May in the year of 1779. That he substituted in the place and stead of Michael Houseworth for who had been drafted a tour of seven months and under the command of Captain Chipman (1) was marched from said town of New Albany to Fort Edward on the Mohawk River (2) where he states that he was stationed for the purpose of protecting the settlements around Fort Edward he states during the time that he was stationed at the aforesaid fort that he was by his said Captain stationed as a guard, to guard some baggage from Fort Edward to Fort George that were loaded with provisions for the use of the army that was stationed at Fort George which wagons he states that he did faithfully guard and delivered them safely in the Fort he stated that after he had discharged—his duty in guarding said wagons he returned to Fort Edward and resumed his duties under Capt. Chipman he states that sometime in the month of August an express was received by Capt Chipman from Fort Stanwix to send a part of the men that was stationed at Fort Edward to guard and protect fort Stanwix he stated that by order of Capt. Chipman that Lieutenant Phelps (3) took a part of the men that was stationed at Ford Edward he being in that number was marched to the head of the Mohawk river and was stationed at Fort Stanwix (4) he states that whilst they were on their way from Fort Edward to Fort Stanwix that they fell in with a party of Indians and that after a small engagement they killed three of the Indians the balance of the Indians fled.

He states that whilst they were stationed at Fort Stanwix that Lieutenant Phelps (5) took 72 men to go on a scouting expedition when they were attacked by some British and a party of Indians and every man except two were killed or taken by them, two only returned to the fort. He states that he staid at Fort Stanwix until his seven month[s] were out when he was verbally discharged in the month of December 1779.(6)

He states that he has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no living witness by whom he can prove said 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 and that from old age and bodily infirmity that he is unable to appear in open court to make his declaration. (Signed) Henry Houseworth.

Sworn to and subscribed the 14th day of February 1834. Tho. M .Ballard, JPHC

Letter in folder dated March 9, 1938, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information in regard to Henry Houseworth who served in the Revolutionary War from the State of New York, and received a pension while living in Henry County, Kentucky.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in claim for pension, S.15462, based upon the military service of Henry Houseworth in the Revolutionary War.

Henry Houseworth was born in the year 1763, in the City of New York. The names of his parents were not designated.

While residing in New Albany, New York, Henry Houseworth enlisted sometime in May, 1779, and served as a substitute for Michael Houseworth, as private in Captain Chipman's company of New York troops, was stationed at Fort Edward on the Mohawk River, guarded some baggage from Fort Edward to Fort George, was in an engagement with the Indians, near Fort Stanwix, and was dismissed sometime in December 1779, at Fort Stanwix.

After the Revolution, he moved to New York City, where he remained until sometime in 1792, then moved to Fayette County, Kentucky, and in 1816, went to Henry County, Kentucky.

The soldier, Henry Houseworth, was allowed pension on his application executed February 14, 1834, at which time he was living in Fayette County, Kentucky.

The papers on file in this claim contain no reference to wife or children of the soldier, nor was it stated that the Michael Houseworth for whom he served as substitute was a relative.

End Notes—S.15462—Henry Houseworth

1. In May of 1780, John Chipman was appointed Captain in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant John Harper's Regiment of New York State Levies. On June 16, 1780, Chipman was appointed Major in Harper's Regiment. In August of 1780, Chipman was appointed Captain in Colonel Seth Warner's Additional Continental Regiment. Chipman did garrison Fort Edward in 1779 and 1780.
2. Fort Edward is on the Hudson River.
3. Lieutenant Othniel Philips was appointed on June 16, 1780 in Harper's Regiment. Seth Sherwood was also appointed lieutenant on the same date and to the same regiment. Both lieutenants were in Chipman's Company but so far a muster roll for Captain Chipman's Company in Harper's Regiment or Warner's Regiment for 1780 have not been found. Captain Chipman was taken prisoner on October 11, 1780 with his company at Fort George. Possibly his papers were destroyed with the fort or taken by his captors for intelligence purposes.
4. They actually went to Fort Rensselaer first and joined the regiment there. The fort was under the command of Colonel William Malcolm who commanded all the levy regiments in the area in August and September 1780. Colonel Malcolm was leading Harper's Regiment to Fort Schuyler to replace the First New York Continental Regiment who had been the garrison there since October of 1778. On September 26, Colonel Malcolm and his forces skirmished with a party of Indians and quickly routed them. Malcolm left Harper's Regiment at Fort Schuyler under the command of Major James M. Hughes. On September 22, 1780, Major Hughes with several officers transferred from Malcolm's Regiment to Harper's Regiment. Captain Joshua Drake also had transferred and took command of the former company of Captain Chipman's. Colonel Malcolm and his regiment returned to Fort Rensselaer and then to West Point.
5. Captain Walter Vrooman actually commanded this party of men. Captain Drake and Lieutenant Cornelius Ackerson who had also transferred from Malcolm's Regiment to Harper's accompanied Captain Vrooman. All the officers were taken prisoners in October 23, 1780.
6. Henry's name nor does Michael Houseworth's name appear on the pay receipt roll for Captain Drake's Company in Harper's Regiment. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 74, folder 112, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Michael Houseworth's name does appear on a receipt roll for Captain Christopher Tillman's Company in Colonel Stephen J. Schuyler's Sixth Regiment of Albany County Militia. Michael Houseworth also appears to have served in Captain Anthony VanSchaick's

Company of Albany County Exempts for Schuylers' District. Henry's does not appear on any receipt rolls for Schuyler's Regiment. Henry would turn 16 in 1779 and should have enlisted in the militia.