

Pension Application for David Jones

S.13586

State of New York

County of Orange SS.

On this third day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the said County of orange being a court of Record now sitting David Jones a resident of the town of Warwick in the county and State aforesaid – aged seventy 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 enlisted in the service of the United States in the year 1775 or 76 as near as he can now recollect, that he first enlisted in the three months service—that he cannot now recollect the Captain's name to whose company he belonged—that the Lieutenant was a Abraham Steel that he enlisted at Fishkill in the County of Dutchess and State of New York, which was his place of residence at that time—immediately after his enlistment he was ordered with other forces to Fort Constitution on the east side of the North River opposite West Point—that after remaining a short time at Fort Constitution –about one month and a half after his enlistment in the three months service—he enlisted in the regular standing army of the United States.

That he enlisted for the term of three years as a Fifer under Capt Elias Benschoten from Poughkeepsie Captain Cochran Major—Gansvoort Colonel—Willet Lieutenant Colonel.

That very soon after his second enlistment they were ordered to Albany—after remaining a few days in Albany were ordered to Schenectady from thence up the Mohawk River to Fort Schuyler—the place of our Destination Colonel Gansvoort took command of Fort Schuyler—Willet—Cochran—and Benschoten were also in command under Gansvoort at the Fort.

That he remained at Fort Schuyler at least one year and a half—

That while this deponent was there and in the year 1777 the fort was besieged by a party of the British Army under the command of one St. Leger—That the siege lasted two and twenty days and nights—during which time there was almost every day much firing between the two hostile armies—but there was no regular engagement—

That during the siege a number of men were killed—but no officers at one time during the siege Gen Herkimer from the German Flats undertook to reinforce the Fort but was cut off by the Indians—

That a Sally was once made from the fort upon the Indians and British troops.—That Captain Benschoten commanded the party which made the sally—that some prisoners were taken by the American troops—among the captured this deponent recollect one Lieutenant Singleton—that this deponent did not accompany Captain Benschoten for that no musick [music] was desired.

That he remained some considerable time at the Fort after the siege was withdrawn. That after having been there about one year and a half as before

mentioned he obtained a furlough to return to the town of Fishkill aforesaid—That while there upon such furlough and at a time when he was riding on horseback, his horse fell with him and he was very much injured—so much so that he was unable to return before the time for which his furlough had been granted had expired—that before he had sufficiently recovered to return to his duty he received a discharge (He supposed upon the representation of his situation by his brother an orderly sergeant in the same company to which this deponent belonged—

That the said discharge was in writing but that it is lost and this deponent can not now recollect by whom the same was signed—That upon his recovery he again as a Fifer in the eight months service—

That he enlisted at Fishkill in the County of Dutchess aforesaid in the year 1778 or 1779—Deponent cannot say precisely the time under one Captain Gilbert Livingston—that he left the town of Fishkill and went with his company to Kingston on the North River—from Kingston we were ordered to a fort on the Frontiers back from Kingston in the County of Ulster and near the then lines of Ulster and Albany Counties—

That this deponent cannot now recollect the name of the Fort that they were there as this deponent is it protect the inhabitants from the incursions of the Indians—That Captain Livingston was in command of the Fort—That there were no other troops there but the company to which this deponent belonged that they went there early in the spring where there all summer and remained until December when we returned to Kingston—where this deponent having served out his enlistment was dismissed and returned home to Fishkill before mentioned.—Thinks no written discharge was given to any of the company has no recollection of any.

And this deponent further saith that he again enlisted as a fifer in the year 1779—or in the spring of 1780 in the eight months service at Fishkill aforesaid that he cannot now recollect who was Captain of the Company in which he then enlisted. That it was commanded by John Ellsworth cannot say wether [whether] he was the captain or Lieutenant Commandant—that the company to which he belonged were ordered to Lackawana on the Frontiers—that they first (as deponent thinks) marched to Stone Ridge in the County of Ulster aforesaid that while there the levies were as deponent thinks commanded by Colonel Wisenfelt—that he had a guard - composed of a corporal sergeant and about 12 or 14 men and a fifer and drummer—that this deponent was attached to that guard as a fifer—

That this deponent afterwards (as he thinks) went to Lackawana on the same Frontiers has no recollection of any other troops than the company to which he belonged being at Lackawana [?] that Major Shanduct who commanded the pack horses was sometimes there—When at Stone Ridge and on the frontiers they were out upon Sullivan's Campaign against the Indians at the end of his enlistment he was again dismissed and returned home to Fishkill—he did not receive a written discharge.

And this deponent further saith that he again enlisted as a Fifer in the service of the United States in the eight months service in the year 1779 or 80.

This deponent was during the whole of his service very young and his recollection is not entirely distinct as to the precise dates of his service.

That he enlisted at Fishkill aforesaid—cannot say under whom—that he was ordered to West Point—he cannot say by whom commanded when there—Cannot now recollect the names of any commanding officers either of the Lieutenant or standing forces.

That he went from West Point across the North River to the County of West Chester—to join Colonel Sheldon who commanded a regiment of Mounted Troops and who was marching to East Chester in the said County of West Chester—then in the possession of the British Troops – for the purpose of making an attack upon that place—upon arriving there the British had evacuated the Fort and retired—Some prisoners were taken by Colonel Sheldon Troops.

We then marched for Bedford in the same county. The British were during this at Tarrytown and the surrounding Country—after leaving Bedford we returned to the neighbourhood of Peekskill and from there to West Point—

And this deponent further saith that he was also at Tappan and that he was present at the Execution of Major Andre—that a large portion of the United States Army was there—cannot now recollect the commanding officers—how many of the particular incidents—that he served out his enlistment was dismissed and returned home—That he has no doubt at all that he served in the whole about three years.

1st That he was born at Fishkill in the County of Dutchess aforesaid in the year 1762—on the 6th day of October.

2nd That there is a record of his age now in the possession of his sister whose name is Rachel Rower—who resides in the town of Washington in the said County of Dutchess.

3rd That he lived at Fishkill when called into service—that he resided at Fishkill after the termination of the war until the year 1792 (as he thinks) that he then resided a few years in the County of Rockland, and State of New York—That he then moved to Warwick in the County of Orange aforesaid and State of New York – where he has ever since resided and now resides.

4th That he enlisted a volunteer.

5th This deponent thinks that Gen. James Clinton commanded the Brigade to which this deponent belonged when he enlisted for the three years—and that he cannot now recollect the names of any other officers than those stated.

6th That he never received any other discharge than the one already mentioned—and that he has no documentary evidence.

7th That he is known to James Burt, William Noble and Joseph Roy all of the town of Warwick afore mentioned who can testify as to his veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

8th That he knows of no person to whom he can apply for their evidence of his actual services in the Revolution.

And the said Deponent 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. (Signed) Daniel Jones

Subscribed & sworn in open court the third day of December 1832. Asa Dunning Clerk