

Pension Application for Joseph Lyons

R.6559

Declaration of Joseph Lyons a revolutionary Soldier in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

The Marine Court of The City of New York

Present John B. Scott, Judah Hammonds Esqr Justices of the Marine Court of the City of New York SS

On this 2nd day of August AD 1838 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of The Marine Court of the City of New York now sitting Joseph Lyons a resident of the City & County of New York in the State of New York formerly of the County of Westchester aged seventy three years and upwards 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 as a private soldier under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit.

Sometime in the fall of the year 1779 as near as deponent now recollects he was enrolled in a company of militia in the Township of North Castle County of Westchester & State of New York under the command of Captain David Hobby and continued under his command & attached to his company except as hereinafter stated untill the close of the war in 1783 this company was attached to the Regiment of Colonel Thomas Thomas, Samuel Banks, then of the Township of North Castle was one of Captain Hobby's Lieutenants during the whole or on part of the time deponent was attached to his company. Deponent although attached to Hobby's Company was frequently detached for said company & served under other officers as a volunteer in various & particular expeditions against the enemy.

In October 1781 he accompanied Captain Jacob Vermilyear as a volunteer in an expedition against the enemy then lying at Morrisania Point in the same county under the command of Colonel Delaney, Captain Vermilyear's company were, Cavalry & were most of the time located on the lines between the American & British armies, Captain Vermilyear's command consisting at that time of thirty three men of whom this deponent was one had an engagement with the enemy at Morrisania point where Vermilyear attempted to surprise them, his object was to capture certain officers of the enemys who escaped by being absent that night attending a [?] at Harlem in the County of New York.

Says that at the time the expedition marched to surprise Delaney as before stated they started from Bedford in Westchester went through North Caslte & from there to White Plains then to East Chester & form thence crossed to Bronx River over the Bridge opposite to [?] Brigs house from there went down the West side of the River to Delancy's Mills form thence to Morrisiania Point where the expedition arrived at one aclock [o'clock] in the morning & surprised the enemy while asleep in their camp, the expedition succeeded in capturing seven men and seven horses with whilst they retreated pursued by a very superior force of the enemy's cavalry to their first encampment at Bedford, a distance of about thirty miles, the prisoners were sent to

West Point & deponent again rejoined Capt. Hobby, this expedition lasted but about forty eight hours—on other occasions deponent accompanied Captain Pritchard of the Continental who made various expeditions against the enemy; his company consisted of about sixty men who were out from West Point on the lines, these services were frequent sometimes as often as once in a week & sometimes every day.

Deponent knew General Washington, General Scott, Colonel Jamieson & recollects the time & particular of Andre's capture, at the time Andrew was captured deponent was quartered under Captain Hobbey in Middle Patent in North Castle Township, besides Colonel Thomas deponent knew Lieutenant William Mosher, Lieutenant Martine, Lieutenant Wright, Carpenter, Martine belonged to Colonel Benedict's Regiment. He [?] to Colonel Thomas' Regiment, Vermilyear was a [?] officer & deponent does not know that he was attached to any Regiment, says that at the time of the Battle at White Plains deponent lay with a the rest of Hobby's company at Middle Patent about eleven miles distant, the company were called together on the occasion to go to the Battle as deponent believed but why they did not go deponent does not know during the whole period of the time from 1779 who deponent first entered the service until the close of the war in 1783 deponent was kept constantly on duty on the lines between the too [two] armies, Morrisania Point being the farthest distance deponent was ever engaged or called during the period or his services; with the excepting of the time where the America army lay at White Plains, West Point was the lowest port they; the Americans occupied, the British lay at Fort Washington, Fort Lee & KingsBridge & is those vicinities, deponent does not recollect that he ever received a discharge from the service if he did it has been lost, he never received a commission, deponent is personally known to William le Price Esqr U.S. District [?] Philip Hamilts Esqr Jonathan Mills Esqr., James Smith Esqr, Mr. Ellis W. Teck [?] and says that in 1823 he intended to make an application for the favor he now solicits & obtain the accompanying documents signed by different individuals & dated in the year 1833 at that time he was employed by James A. Hamilton Esqr as a [?] in the office of the US District Attorney after the appointment of Mr. Price to that office he was continued in his situation as [Messenger?] while by a violet attack of the Rheumatism he was compelled to relinquish his duties by which his place became occupied by another & he has from that time he is a destitute & suffering [?] the lapse of time since his first [?] to apply has been productive e of the loss of testimony by the deaths of individuals who thus and have testified to his services. Deponent says he was brought up in the County of Westchester but has lived in the City of New York for 8 or 9 years last past.

Deponent has no documentary evidence of his services & that he knows of no other persons [?] whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Deponent thus says that the Reverend [E?] Fountain whose affidavit is hereto annexed the only clergyman to whom this deponent is known who has any knowledge of his services. (Signed) Joseph Lyons

Sworn in open court 2nd March 1838. John B. Scott Justice of Peace.