

Pension Application for Joseph Requa

S.14277

DECLARATION

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832.

State of New York

County of Albany SS.

On the fourteenth day of August 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Justices Court of the city of Albany now sitting, being a Court of Record nearest to the place of residence, of Joseph Requa a resident of the Town of New Baltimore in the county of green and State of New York who on the 17th of August ins. Will be aged seventy four 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated:

That he was born near White Plains in Westchester County & State of New York, on the 17 August 1758—that he commenced his military career, early in 1776, sometime before the British took possession of New York; his Captain was Wm Dutcher, father of Salem Dutcher, late of the City of Albany; his colonel was Thomas Thomas of Westchester County; the Declarer was with General Washington, at the battle of White Plains; that campaign, according to his best recollection, lasted for six months; after the American Army left White Plains, the inhabitants had to defend themselves, at that time Col. Hammond being the commander of the militia; after peace took place, the militia drew one years pay for services under him, in which years service he this Declarer was included, although he continued until the year 1780 on the lines, kin the course of which time, he commanded a company of Rangers, for the protection of the Inhabitants, as will be seen by the General Orders issued by command of his Excellency Governor Clinton hereto annexed.

In the year 1780, he was taken prisoner, and wounded in three places—whilst a prisoner Col Delancey officered him a Captains Commission in the British Army, and if he would accept it, he should have it in 24 hours—the Declarer replied to him that he was a prisoner, to which Delancey made answer, that he might speak his mind freely; whereupon this Declarer told Col. Delancey, that having drawn the sword in defence of his Country he was determined not to lay it by until Great Britain acknowledged America, free and independent; to this the Colonel then replied, “Then you will be at war as long as you live”.

To which this Declarer answered, ”No! About two years would decide the business.” He then remarked, that “he this Declarer was an active Enemy against the British”, and asked him “How he would like a parole?” To which the Declarer answered, “Well”. Whereupon the Col. Gave me my parole, and soon after Governor Clinton procured him his liberty, and called him into actual service, by ordering him top muster the Northern Troops at Albany, from whence he returned and made report to Governor Clinton, who thereupon ordered him to take the command of a Company

at Tappan, where I went and was under General Washington's Command for sometime; from thence he was sent to the Northward and arrived at Albany, from thence marched up the Mohawk River, and was stationed at Fort Plain, at the time when Butler and Brandt with the Indians and British defeated Col Brown, and killed him with a number of his men when the same day a reinforcement under the command of General TenBroeck arriving the enemy were attacked; and a number of them killed and they routed.

The declarer belonged to Col. Malcom's Regt, but was in the action under the command of Col Dubois, which took place sometime in October 1780.

If he remembers right, he thinks, that his company took and lodged thirty nine prisoners whom they lodge in Poughkeepsie Gaol. He discharged his company at Kingsferry, and the next day there was a severe snowstorm, in which he travell'd home to his fathers.

In this Campaign, he thinks he was about five months in service, and about two months a prisoner. He this Declarer had the command of the American Lighthouse whom the British head Quarters were surprised, and their commander Major Barremoor taken prisoner with 19 of his men.

He this Declarer had one brother killed, three brothers were wounded and taken prisoners, and five brothers of them were in action together at onetime.

His father's house (a new one) burnt to ashes, and he (the father) being a Justice of the peace and a Committee man, it was said that a liberal reward was offered for his capture, but he escaped.

In conclusion, I do confidently declare that in the Course of the revolutionary War, including both winter and summer campaign, I served not less than five years.

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.