

Pension Application for Oliver Tailor

S.11507

State of New York

Columbia County SS

On this second day of August 1833 personally appeared before me one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Columbia aforesaid, Oliver Tailor a resident of Ghent and an inmate of Columbia County poor house aged 83 years, who being first duly sworn 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 stated.

That in the month of August 1776 this applicant was drafted to go to the Highlands was on duty there seven months the time for which he was drafted and was discharged, was a private.

This applicant will not be positive but thinks Colonell Graham was one of the officers commanding here at this time, but cannot recollect any other officers names.

In the spring of the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven. This applicant enlisted as a private in the army of the United States under the command of Colonel Livingston and Captain Smith during the revolutionary war, was marched from the Highlands the place of his Enlistment down to Peekskill.

Soon after cannot give the precise time he was sent with others in detachment towards Connecticut was absent one week and marched to ;their station at Peekskill on the North river. Had a skirmish there with the British—retreated before them—next morning called again and compelled the enemy to retreat.

In the early part of the fall was marched up the River through Albany to Stillwater to oppose general Burgoyne's army and was engaged in both of the battles—after the capture of Burgoyne this applicant with the detachment to which he belonged was marched down to their former position at Peekskill the following winter—went home on furlough and remained a month and returned to army at Peekskill—was then ordered voer to New Jersey where he helped erect some blockhouses, afterwards was marched opposite and below New-York but was soon ordered to their old position in New Jersey whom he frequently saw Washington in command—about this time the main body of the army was ordered farther south—does not recollect when the went but this applicant was among those who remained in New Jersey—In the year 1780 saw Major Andre after his capture—saw him in jail in the fall of that year. Does not recollect the names of any other officers except General Gates and General Arnold.

At the battle at Saratoga recollects seeing General Arnold in the midst of the battle riding backwards and forwards—saw him immediately after he was wounded in the heel—but he continued on his horse doing duty. Thinks General Lee sometimes commanded the detachment in which this applicant was stationed while in New Jersey.

This applicant served from the time of his enlistment in the Spring of 177 cannot recollect the month till the close of the war which was not less than five

years—was discharged about the month of June and returned home to Taghkanic in the County of Columbia aforesaid. This applicant served part of his time as fife Major during the war—the time when this applicant was discharged was discharged was in the month of June 1782.

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 any agency in any state.

The reason why this applicant has not obtained the certificate of a clergyman is that he is not acquainted with any person (Clergyman) who can make the required certificate as the law directs.

This applicant has had a discharge from service but has lost it long ago—

He has no documentary evidence of his services as a soldier of the revolution and knows of no person except those whose affidavits are hereto annexed who can testify to his services.

On account of old age and extreme debility this applicant cannot give the precise time of his enlistment nor the day of his discharge nor the names of his officers more specific than he has above, and in the answer to the interrogatories— This applicant is positive that he served during the war of the revolution and served as he stated above from the Spring of 1777 to the Spring of 1782 in the month of June.

Answers to the Interrogatories.

1st was born in the County of Columbia in the year 1750.

2 has no record of his age.

3 when called into service this applicant lived in the County of Columbia and has lived there ever since.

4th was drafted to go to the Highland in the year 1776. Enlisted in the Regular Army in the Spring of 1777.

5th Names of some of the Regular officers under whom this applicant served were general gates, General Arnold, Colonel Livingston and Captain Smith.

6th Did receive a discharge from service but has lost it long since.

7th The names of persons to whom I am known in my present neighborhood and who can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution are Marten VanDeusen and John Turner.

I hereby constitute Martin VanDeusen my agent in this matter to receive papers &c.