

Pension Application for Richard Townsend

S.11568

State of New York

County of Onondaga SS

On this twenty eighth day of November 1832, personally appeared before the Honorable Samuel L. Edward, George Pettet, Otis Bigelow and John Smith Esquires. Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County at a Court of Common Pleas in & for the said County at the town of Salina in said County now sitting Richard Townsend a resident of Pompey in the County of Onondaga, as State of New York, aged seventy three 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 was born in Litchfield Connecticut in December 1758, that he has no record of his age, that his residence was at Clarmont, County of Columbia State of new York, when called into service, that since his service and immediately thereof who lived a Clermont a few years, then about eighteen years at New Durham, Greene County, then about thirteen years in Pompey and further last four years he has resided himself part of the time in the town of Grave in Allegany County, his wife all the time residing in Pompey. This applicant having spent every winter of the four years but one in Pompey and having been the past summer at Grove is now spending the winter with his wife in Pompey, that he never had a discharge, and has no documentary evidence of his service an knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service that, he enlisted voluntarily that he know Colonel Gansevoort, Lt. Colonel Willett Captain Grieg who had been scalped by the Indians, Captain DeWitt, Captain Bakle & Major Graham or Graves besides his own company officers & was a private with any regiment but his own, that Daniel Cande and James Midler of Pompey as well as sundry others are persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution that there is not clergyman residing near my present residence Rev. Zanas Jones lives within four miles and several years ago this applicant heard him preach, ;he might possibly know this applicant by sight, but the applicant never had any considerable acquaintance with him, he is not acquainted at all with any other clergymen in his neighborhood.

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

In the fall of 1777 he enlisted at Esopus State of ;New York to serve during the war, under Moses Yeomans a lieutenant and recruiting officers, that he was stationed with the recruiting party about six months after his enlistment, that early in May 1778 he was mustered at Albany and joined Captain Johnson's Company, Lieutenant Bogardus, Ensign Spoor, Colonel Gansevoort's Regiment that he staid at Schenectady sometime and joined Colonel Gansevoort's Regiment at Fort Stanwix in June 1778 and did garrison duty there part of the time and part of the time was waiter to Captain

Johnson, that he left Fort Stanwix late in the fall of 1778 and marched to Albany that he went into winter quarters at Saratoga, most of the Regiment remaining in Albany – that in May or June 1779 being sick, Colonel Gansevoort gave this applicant a furlough to go home to Clermont and stay till called for, that he never was again called for, into service that most of the time he was waiter to Captain Johnson one he went as a waiter to Colonel Gansevoort from Albany to Sacondaga; that General Morgan Lewis knew this applicant in the time of the Revolutionary War and possibly may recollect his being absent in service, land this applicant has applied to him for information on the subject; that some thirty or forty years ago he left his furlough with Adjutant Philip Rockfeller, who promised to try to get land for this applicant and since the said Rockfellerdenied having it and this applicant has not seen it since he left it with him, that this applicant served as a private or waiter all the time for his enlistment till his furlough and that his length of service was more than one year and six months, and was in the opinion of the applicant from about the middle of November 1777 to about the first of July 1779.

That from the length of time since and from old age and loss of memory this applicant cannot tell the day of the month of his enlistment or furlough with certainty, that this applicant since that the time he served in Fort Stanwix was the year following the siege, and the Battle at Oriskany for this applicant saw the clothes and bones of those killed in the Oriskany Battle who had not been buried and this applicant is also sure that his enlistment was within a four week after the taking of Burgoyne, that on getting his furlough he went immediately to work for Chancellor Livingston, and to the best of his recollection it was after the commencement of gathering hay. That this applicant believes that the only reason he was not again called into service after his furlough was the influence of the chancellor Livingston & General Lewis.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not written pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Richard Townsend

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. R. J. Hess, Clerk