

Pension Application for Silvanus Townsend

S.14714

State of New York

Westchester County SS

On the ninth day of April in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared before me Ezra Lockwood one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County aforesaid—Silvanus Townsend of the town of North Salem in the County aforesaid Silvanus Townsend of the town of North Salem in the County aforesaid aged seventy six years who being by me duly sworn according to Law on his oath doth make the following Declaration; in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the seventh day of June one thousand eight hundred and thirty two that he entered the service under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

And the Declarant states that he was born on Courtland Mannor [Manor] at a place called North Salem in the County aforesaid & he has lived there ever since and during the war of the Revolution and that in the year 1776 he was enrolled In the Militia in Captain Nathaniel Delavan's Company and to the best of his belief in Lieut Colonel Gilbert [?] Regiment of Militia in the County of Westchester.

And the Declarant states he believes in the Month of June 1776 he was ordered out in Nathaniel Delevan's Company of Militia on the lines in said County as rangers in the woods after small parties of the enemy who were [?] in the County the term of their service he believes was about four days and that he believes in July the same year he knows the Regiment to which he belonged was ordered out into actual service to or near Peekskill he then served in Captain Nathaniel Delavan's Company under the command of Lieutenant Thommas [Thomas] Nichols this allarm [alarm] was when the Enemies Shiping [shipping] come up the North river the term of service was as he verily believes was three weeks.

And the Declarant further states that some time in August of the same year as he verily believes he was a substitute in Captain Benoni Platt's Company for Robert Washburn in Colonel Thommas Thomas's Regiment near Kingsbridge and did the duty of a private soldier in the said company and regimen the knows one month and a half.

And the declarant further states that sometime in October of the same year but after the Battle of Chattertens Kill so called he volunteered in the American Hospital at North Castle at North Castle Church and assisted in taking care of the wounded after the Battle aforesaid and assisted in removing the wounded that were in a condition to be removed to Peekskill the term of service was one month and a half at the least and he was verbally discharged at Peekskill.

And the Declarant further states that in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven he residing where he now resides and belonging to Captain Nathaniel Delavans Company in the Regiment aforesaid he was serving on or about the first of May drafted for three months service and joined Captain Benoni Platt's Company in Collonel [Colonel] Thomas Regiment and served on the lines three months and was Verbally Discharged and further states that in the month of December of the

same year he belonged in the Militia Regiment aforesaid in Captain Nathaniel Delavan's Company in Collonel Gilbert Drake's Regiment aforesaid he rejoining in the place where he now resides he was drafted for three months service and joined Captain Gilbert [Dewey?] Company and saith that William [Bayces? Blurred] was Sergeant and Abraham Knox, Gilbert Bloomer and Reuben Jump and Abraham Ambler were drafted and served as privates the company joined Collonel Thomas Regiment and served on the lines three months and was verbally discharged.

And the Declarant further states that in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight on or about the first of November and thousand seven hundred & seventy eight he volunteered in Captain David Pardees Company says Sergeant Israel [Filsby?] was Serjeant and John Osbourn Drummer does not recollect the names of the officers of the company except the Captain they did not serve in the Regiment of Militia in which he belonged and joined Collonel Thommas Thomas's regiment and served on the lines three months in the said Company and Regiment three months and was verbally discharged..

And the Declarant further states that he sever in the militia in the County of Westchester aforesaid in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine and until the end of the war of the Revolution in Collonel Thaddeus Cranes Regiment of Militia in Captain Ephraim Lockwood's Company the other officers of the Company were Isaac Keelar first Lieutenant Daniel Purdy Second Lieutenant and William Rogers Ensign and as the Regiment to which he belonged was in the North range of Towns in the County and as the greater part of the County lay open ;and exposed to the ravages of the Enemy's light horse and plundering parties it occasioned the Militia to be the greater part of the time under arms for the Defence of the frontiers and to repel the Invading Enemy and that he served in the said company as a private the three last years of the war he verily believes the one half of the time in the following summer and fall that he served in the County of Westchester aforesaid on alarms and on militia tours of duty at the Towns of White Plains, East Chester and Westchester and Rye and several other towns and that he served under the Regimental and Company officers to which he belonged and the Declarant states that from the great lapse of time it being about half a century he is not able to state the times as to days and months he was called into service or left the service precisely but from the privations and being called so frequently into service and the dangers to which he was exposed leaves him no room to doubt but that he was in actual service during the last three years of the war in Lieut Collonel Thaddeus Cranes' Regiment in Captain Ephraim's Lockwoods Company was in the whole at least one year.

And the Declarant further states that all the foregoing services when called into actual service within and without the Regiment was exclusive of patrole duty within the Company which was frequent and continually kept up.

And Declarant further states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except James Townsend and Denton Smith whose affidavits are hereto annexed and to which he now refers.

He hereby relinquishes very claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Silvanus Townsend.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Ezra Lockwood one of the Judges in & for Westchester County.

The following interrogatories were propounded by the said Judge to the said Silvanus Townsend that is to say.

1st When and in what year were you born? Answer, I was born in North Salem County of Westchester & State of New York 14th day of March 1757.

2nd Have you any Record of your age and if so where is it? Answer. I have a Record of my age at my house in my family Bible at North Salem.

3^d Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live? Answer. I was living in the Manor of Cortlandt in the said Town of North Salem Westchester County when called into service and have ever since and yet do continue to reside In North Salem aforesaid.

4th How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom? Answer. In the year 1776 he was ordered out in the Militia and served as a substitute for Robert Washburn as set forth in his Declaration hereto annexed he also states that he served as a volunteer in the hospital as set forth in said Declaration the same year. In the year 1777 he was drafted and served as set forth in his Declaration. In the year 1778 he again volunteered and served as set forth in his declaration, on each occasion when called into service after the year 1778 he was ordered out by the officers of the company to which he was attached which order he always obliged and served as set forth in his declaration.

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service? Answer. He has no recollection of any Regular Officers that were at any time with the troops where he served. He has no knowledge of any Continental Regiment being with the troops where he served. His service was wholly in the Regiments of the Militia under the command of Colonel Thomas Thomas, Thaddeus Crane & Gilbert Drake.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it? Answer. I never did receive a discharge in writing I was always discharged from service verbally.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood & who can testify as to your character for truth & veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution? Answer. I name Nathan brown & Henry Slopon each of whom had been well acquainted with me for a number of years.

I Nathaniel Bayles Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of West Chester do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings held before Ezra Lockwood Esqr one of the Judges of the said Court In the matter of the application of Silvanus Townsend.

And I do further certify that the said Ezra Lockwood was on the ninth day of April instant a Judge of the said Court that the Jurisdiction of the said Ezra Lockwood to the same papers annexed is his genuine signature. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal of Office this 23rd day of May 1833. N. Bayles, Clk