

Pension Application for Silas Wickes

S.11824

State of New York

Yates County SS

On this 28th day of September 1832, a personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of Yates County Common Pleas, Silas Wickes a resident of the town of Starkey, County and State aforesaid, 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 was born in the town of Huntington, Suffolk County, Long Island N. Y. according to a record in a Bible now in his possession, on the 10th day of September in the year 1758. His home during the revolutionary war was in Armenia Precinct (since called town of Clinton) in the County of Dutchess N.Y.

In the year 1777 immediately after the taking of Fort Montgomery by the British under Gen. Howe the militia of Dutchess county was called out among other things for the defence of the town of Poughkeepsie, and this deponent went as a militia man in the service of the U. States and served about one month, in a company commanded by Capt. Samuel Smith, in Col. Fryer's regiment when he was discharged, by reason as this deponent understood, of the departure of the British fleet down the North River.

Immediately (1777) after his discharge at Poughkeepsie, this deponent with many others, volunteered under Capt. Samuel Smith, in routing Tories in the County of Dutchess, who were numerous and Troublesome, and was engaged five or six weeks at that time, and on various occasions during five years ensuing, this deponent was engaged sometimes as a volunteer and at other times by orders from his Captain, to proceed on the same business—which occupied nearly one quarter of his time, for the said five years, and it was very laborious service.

In the month of May 1778 the militia of Dutchess County was detached, one fourth at a time, to proceed to West Point for two months, to fortify the same, and this deponent went as one of said militia, in a company commanded by the before mentioned Capt Samuel Smith Major Paulding commanded the detachment, Col. Graham of Pine Plains, Dutchess County, was commandant of West Point. There were a few continental troops at West Point at that time, and some levies of nine months men. This deponent served at West Point during the two months, and then volunteered to remain, and so remained five or six weeks longer and then returned home.

In September 1779, in the militia above mentioned under the aforesaid Carl Smith, this deponent served about six weeks near Fishkill Creek in the County of Dutchess, for the protection of the county, when the detachment was relieved by others.

In Oct 1780, this deponent volunteered in the militia of Dutchess County, to proceed to Skeensborough, now called Whitehall, to check a body of British, Tories and Indians, who had taken Forts Ann, Edward and George. When our forces arrived there the enemy was gone, and the regiment to which this deponent belonged,

commanded by Col. Graham was ordered from Albany to Fort Stanwix, to guard a drove of Cattle for the supply of said Fort for its winter provision.

We returned back to Albany and were discharged. I was six weeks engaged at this time. Tis deponent has lost a discharge given him he thinks by col. Graham knows of no person living by whom he can prove his actual service further than is contained in the statement of Nathaniel Ruscoe, hereunto annexed. This deponent has resided since the revolutionary war for 17 years in Schodack, in Rensselaer County, N.Y. for 6 years in Troy in said County; for 6 or 7 years in Dutchess County, N.Y. and for the last 17 years in Reading (now Starkey) Yates County, N.Y. where he at the date hereof resides.

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. (Signed) Silas Wickes

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. T. J. Nevins Depy Clerk