

Pension Application for Vallentine Woolf

R.11852

State of New York

Montgomery County SS

On the 20th day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty two, personally [personally] appeared in Open Court, before the Court of Common pleas, now sitting, Valatine Woolf of the town of Palatine, in the County of Montgomery aforesaid, & State aforesaid aged about fifty eighty years, Believing & Sattisfied [satisfied] to have been Born now Town and County of Herkimer as he the said Valatine Always Understood & verily believes; there having been thorough [thorough] Search made, in the Church book in Herkimer County, kept by the Record, Abm Rosekrantz and as he being informed and believes that no record is to be found, when he was born and Baptised, as he is informed.

That he the said Valatine being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act Passed in Congress on the 7th day of June last past 1832.

That this applecant [applicant] in his Infancy hath Understood that his father Michael Woolf hath been Enlisted into the service of the United States and Stationed at Fort Stanwiux and which his father was continued at the said Fort vigt Fort Stanwix , His Mother Undetaking [undertaking] to find him over by Indenture as it is presumed to serve to the age of twenty one years as usual to John Shultis of the Town of Palatine, then County of Tryon afterwards County of Montgomery, he believes after the age of Six.

But not long after he being bound to the aforesaid Shultis, he being informed, that his Father with others, to the No. of Thirty were ordered out of the fort Vizt Fort Stanwix on duty at a distance from the Fort, that all were killed by the Cruel and Common Enemy from Canada.

And that this applicant further declares, that sometime in July 1782 That his said Master to whom he was bound Vigt John Shultis, Henry Shultis, and William Shultis, also a black man by the name of Joe, at mowing grass at a distance of about three miles north from Fort Paris from the old settlement of Stonearabia, connectively with the said Valatine then about Eight years of age, who as spreading Grass when the Band of Indians fourteen in number, this claimant perfectly recollects from the side of the woods went to a fence, all at once came rushing over the said force, in taking each and every one of them Prisoners, and that all, each and every one whom were taken in said Town of Palatine; and said County of Montgomery—and that all except, Henry Shultis, who were taken prisoners with him, the said Valatine, one dead, and no more; and that after they were taken prisoners as aforesaid, he was taken with the rest through the wilderness to [Bak?] Island and there kept in the Fort, on the said Iland [Island] for about two weeks in close Confinement, Situate on Lake Ontario, when a Capt by the name of Vanderfelder a German who separated him and took him away from the said Shultis in making a Servant boy of him, the said Valatine taking him along to Montreal, there arived [arrived] late in the fall of the same years, and kept as

a Servant until forepart of the Winter when the said Capt left his [women?] as he supposes and believing hath been kept merely as his Conkabine [concubine?] and as this applicant understood hath gone to Quebeck [Quebec]—

That this claiment further saith that soon after the Capt hath left them, that he was taken in by an Engenglish [English] Merchant & with whom remained until sometime in the fall; 1783, than Exchanged and legally discharged and again returned to his former place of Residence situate in the aforesaid Town of Palatine—sometime In November Calculating from the time when he was made a Prisoner by the Indians, until Retirement, in having been gone for one year and four months.

That the applicant further declares that in consequence of being taken Prisoner and on Account of the War, land Mr. Shultis the person to whom he was bound also hath been taken at the same time, has and did Proof greatly to the disadvantage and prejudice of the applicant, that under the then ixisting [existing] Circumstances and occurrences during the said war, he hath obtained but little education, Scarcely enabled to read or write.

That he the said claimant declares that he hath resided part during the war and since his retuned and ever since in the the [sic] the war, to the present day & date hereof, excepting from the time he was taken prisoner and while kept a prisoner and until exchanged with others, and until returned again aforesaid Town of Palatine, County of Montgomery and State of New York aforesaid, and that he has since the Expiration of his Servitude been under the necessity and oblidge [obliged] to support himself by days, months, & years, hard labour, and still supporting himself & family by his labour.

And he this Claiment further declares that he is Peronaly [Personally] know and acquainted, with Genl Peter C. Fox, Col Charles Nukerk, Col Nicholas Waggoner, with John C. Searles, Jacob Hess, Lawrence Mercellas and Charles Waggoner, Esqrs. Present Justices of the peace in and for the Town of Palatine and County of Montgomery aforesaid besides, chievely [chiefly] all the old Veterans of the Revolutionary War and others of the most Substantial [substantial] part of the inhabitants residing in said Town.

And that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or Annuity, and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State according to the best of this applicants knowledge and belief. (Signed) Vallentine Woolf

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Geo: D. Ferguson, Clerk