

Pension Application for James Boyd

S.12260

State of New York SS.

Orange County SS.

On this third day of September in the year 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Orange aforesaid now sitting at the Academy in the Village of Newburgh it being a Court of Record, James Boyd resident of the Town of New Windsor in the County aforesaid aged seventy two 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 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 in the year—1776 deponent joined the company of Militia commanded by Captain William Telford of the Regiment of Colonel James McLaughry of the Town of New Windsor in the County of Orange aforesaid and continued to serve either with said company or detachments of it from that time until the termination of the Revolutionary War.

In the month and year last aforesaid said company was ordered down to Fort Montgomery on a general alarm—under the command of the said William Telford James Faulkner and Alexander Beaty were Lieutenants we marched down through the Mountains, leaving West Point on the land remained at that Fort eight days and were then discharged Captain John Belknap's Company of Infantry was there and part of Dubois Regiment and Clinton's Regiment of Continental troops & McLaughry's Regiment of Militia deponent belonged Captain Moody's Company of Artillery was also stationed there we returned back the same way we went.

In the month of September thereafter we were again ordered down to Fort Montgomery aforesaid under the command of the officers aforesaid. In going and returning we pursued the same route as before mentioned and remained there one half month the same continental troops were there and a great many Militia but what regiments deponent cannot now recollect December thirteenth in the year last aforesaid deponent was ordered with said company and officers aforesaid Pynasmus [Paramus?] in the State of New Jersey and remained there one month to guard the pass through the highlands immediately thereafter deponent was ordered with a detachment to Peek's Hill in the County of Westchester and was stationed at Fort Independence under the command of an officer whose name deponent cannot recollect and served there one fortnight we went down by water [sic] from New Windsor there were three or four companies of Militia.—

Stationed there in the latter part of the month of March in the year 1777 said company was again ordered to march to said Fort under the command of the officers aforesaid we proceeded by land to New Windsor there embarked on board a Sloop and arrived at the place the same evening.

We remained there eight days expecting an attack from the British who then occupied New York and threatened to seize the Military Forts in the mountains for the purpose of cutting of the communication between the Eastern States and the west side of said River that during the time aforesaid deponent was stationed with said company at Fort Clinton directly opposite to Fort Montgomery on the same side of the river but on the south side of Popelos Hill under the command of Colonel McLaughry Brigadier General James Clinton commanded Fort Clinton & Major General George Clinton was commander in chief that at the expiration of said term said alarm having subsided said company returned home and remained at home in said Town of New Windsor until the month of April in the same year in which month according to deponent's recollection Danbury in the State of Connecticut was taken and [cut off] troops immediately after which this deponent marched with said company to Fort Clinton and alarm having been given and the enemy being again expected to attempt to landing in the Highlands said company proceeded by West Point to said Fort Clinton and this deponent and said

company served in said fort under the officers before named eight days when said company again returned home in the month of May following this deponent with ten other man belonging to said company were detached for one month to serve at the fort last named under the same officers before mentioned which he did at the expiration whereof deponent with said detachment returned home.

In the month of August thereafter said company was ordered again to proceed to said fort in consequence of another alarm which they did by land and this deponent remained at the same under the command of the same officers ten days and then returned home in the month of September next thereafter this deponent together with a part of said company were detached to garrison said fort and remained there one half month under the immediate command of Captain Vail said detachment proceeded to said fort by land, on the fifth day of October in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven there was another alarm at at [sic] said fort and this deponent together with all the men belonging to said company were again ordered to repair to said fort which they did by water to West Point and from there by land under the command of the same officers, that on the sixth day of October said fort was attacked as well as fort Clinton by a detachment of the British Army under the command of General Henry Clinton & Colonel Campbell the former led on the detachment against Fort Clinton and the latter that which attacked for Montgomery.

Colonel Campbell was severely wounded and died about midnight Colonel McLaughry who commanded Fort Clinton was also severely wounded next day after said battle the deponent was ordered with said company to New Windsor to prevent the enemy from landing on their way to Kingston to which they proceeded and burnt the said Town about the same time of the capture of Burgoyne after having served three weeks said company was again discharged and returned home about the first of November thereafter this deponent together with said company under the command of the officers aforesaid were again ordered into actual service for the purpose of executing a fortification at Nicholls' Point near New Windsor and continued in actual service one month and a half at the expiration of said term said company was again discharged and each man returned to his respective home it being the end of that campaign.

In the month of March in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight this deponent was again detached with a part of said company under the command of Captain Felter to keep guard and erect fortifications to which place they repaired by water from New Windsor that said deponent served at West Point one half month during which time General Wisner commanded the Militia and General Pattison the Continental Troops General Kosciusko was chief engineer according to the best of this deponent's recollection after said one half month's service as aforesaid this deponent together with said detachment were honorably discharged.

In the month of September in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight deponent was detached with a part of said company under the command of captain Vail against the Indians at Nepenoy on the West said of Shawangunk Mountains it then being an Indian frontier and continued in service under said Vail one half month that in December thereafter this deponent was again detached from said company under the command of Colonel Newkirk, Lieutenant Rose being second in command and served at that time one half month on the Indian frontier.

In the spring of the year 1779 this deponent was again detached from said company under the command of the said Lieutenant Beaty against the Indians at Nepenoy aforesaid and continued in said service one fortnight and was then discharged in June in the year last aforesaid this deponent together with the whole of said company was ordered to West Point there being a General Alarm and an expectation that the British intended to make and attack on that fort that said company with this deponent proceeded to that fort by water that General Patterson then commanded that fort according to the best of deponent's recollection and belief this deponent served at West Point as aforesaid eight days and was then discharged and then returned home.

In August in the year last aforesaid deponent was drafted from said company to against the Indians deponent went accordingly under the command of Lieutenant David Monnell, Moses Philips Major against the Indians at Peenpack in the Neversink River in the County of Ulster at that time and then an Indian frontier and served as aforesaid one month.

That in the month of September there after this deponent was detached under the command of the said Captain William Telford against the Indians at Nepenoy aforesaid one half month and served during said term in the month of October thereafter there was a general Alarm at Peenpack aforesaid from the Indians at which time this deponent was again ordered out together with the whole of said company under the command of the said Captain Telford said company remained at Peenpack one week until said alarm had subsided and was then discharged and returned home.

In the month of April thereafter said company was again ordered against the Indians at Mamakating in the County of Ulster aforesaid where deponent went with said company and remained one half month at that place and was then discharged and deponent also saith that in the month of June in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty said company with deponent was ordered to west Point upon an alarm that they went by watter [sic] from New Windsor and remained there eight days under the command of the aforesaid officers and General Arnold. General Arnold commanded West Point at that time he well recollects seeing Koushiko & Putman there.

In October thereafter deponent as one of said company was ordered to Peekskill aforesaid against the Indians under the command of the officers aforesaid upon a general alarm and remained there one week and was then discharge.

And deponent also saith that said company volunteered to serve during the war and held themselves in readiness to march at a minutes warning that the officers of said company are all dead and that but very few of the men who served with this deponent now survives most of whom are superannuated.

That the County of Orange for a considerable part of the War was surrounded by the enemy having the British on the south and the Indians on the West and North West. That in consequence of its peculiar position with respect to the enemy the company to which he belonged was always on the alert and almost continually in active service in protecting the frontiers against hostile incursions.

That said county was greatly infested by Tories who took refuge in the surrounding Mountains. That these different periods of service were generally short and at the expiration they were relieved by other troops who in their turn were relieved by others. That in the consequence of being sometimes detached to serve under officers which whom he was not acquainted he cannot in some instances recollect their names and in consequence of serving with men detached from different parts of the country with whom he was not acquainted he cannot at this distance of time and at his advanced age be more particular.

That he well recollects that at the Battle of Fort Montgomery Captain Moody commanded a company of Artillery. Captain John Belknach now deceased commanded a company of Intfantry [sic] and that Colonel Dubois afterwards General Dubois was at the Battle and also Colonel Livingston who he understood happened there accidentally and hearing that a battle was to be expected staid to see the result. Deponent also saith that said Captain John Belknap was afterwards a pensioner of the United States under the law of 1818—as deponent has been informed and believes to be true.

That the respective periods of service were so frequent and the intervals so short and uncertain that written discharges for those short periods of service were never given and as the company had volunteered to serve for & during the war they were discharged by the by the [sic] peace as a matter of course and deponent cannot recollect not does he believe that a written discharge was ever given to any man belonging to said company and deponent also saith that Joseph Beaty, William Sly, William Beaty and [blank] whose affidavits are annexed served in the same company with deponent and are

known to his services as stated in their respective affidavits to James MCMichael whose affidavit is also annexed is acquainted with the residue of said service of this deponent.

And in anser [answer] to the interrogatories of the Court deponent saith that he was born in the Town of New Windsor, County of Orange aforesaid in the year 1759 has a record of his age in his family bible at home.

That he was living when called into service in the Town of New Windsor aforesaid. That he has lived there since the Revolutionary War and that he now lives in that town.

That he was enrolled in said company and ordered to hold himself in readiness to march at a minute's warning throughout the war and that he did march accordingly when called on.

That the names of the regular officers who served with the troops when he served were General George Clinton, General James Clinton, Colonel Lewis Dubois, Colonel James Livingston, Captain Moody, Captain Machin and Captain John Belknap.

That he recollects serving with a part of Duboises & Clinton's Continental Regiments to Moody's and Machin's Company of Artillery and the Militia Regiments of Colonel McLaughry & Colonel Hawthorn and that he served in Fort Montgomery, Fort Clinton, Fort Independence, West Point, Nicholls Point and on the Indian frontier as stated in his affidavit.

That he never received a written discharge.

That he is acquainted with William Sly and William Beaty who can testify to his character and their belief of his services.

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 the agency of any state. (Signed) James Boyd

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Asa Dunning, Clerk