

Pension Application for Jeremiah Brown or Jeramiah

S.22138

Declaration of Jeremiah Brown

State of Pennsylvania

Washington County SS.

On this 17th day of June A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now setting Jeremiah Brown a resident of Chartiers Township in the County of Washington and State of Pennsylvania, aged seventy four years on the 11th day of August next ensuing, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

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

That he was a volunteer private in the service of the United State during the Revolutionary War and served in that capacity three tours of duty.

During my first term of service which was in 1776 I belonged to a volunteer company commanded by Captain Bates & Lieut. Daniel Guard. The name of the Colonel who commanded the Regiment to which I was attached was Martin. The other officers of the Regt I cannot now recollect. On this occasion I entered the army near the first day of July 1776 and left it in the first week of December following having served just five months.

When I entered the service this time I lived in Morris County New Jersey, within two miles of Morristown the Regt to which I was attached marched from Morristown directly to the City of New York after remaining at New York for four or five weeks, we crossed to Long Island a few days before the battle. At this time we were commanded by General Heard. I was on Long Island when the battle was fought. I think it was on the 27th day of August. I was not personally engaged in the battle yet I was so near that I could hear the discharges of the fire arms, and see the smoke ascending from the field of the contest. In this battle the Americans lost about 1,000 men and Generals Sullivan and Sterling were taken prisoners. We retreated from Long Island and were marched with many other troops, to the "White Plains" in the State of New York.

From the "White Plains" the company to which I was attached was marched to Newark in New Jersey where we were discharged and from which place we returned home immediately.

When I entered the service the 2d time I lived in Orange County, New York. On the first of June 1777 I again entered the service as a volunteer and served to the last of November making just six months. I served the whole of this time in a volunteer company commanded by Capt. McKinstry, the Lieut's name was also McKinstry. The Regiment to which our company was attached was commanded by Colonel Malcom. Our Major's name was Benjamin Scoten. So soon as the Regiment was completely organized we were marched from Orange County directly to Albany. After laying at Albany for a few weeks, we were marched about eighty miles further up the North River to a place called the "German Flats" where we remained for a considerable time (I suppose about two months) to keep the British and Indians in check. From the German Flats we came down the river to Albany again, where we remained for several weeks. We were then marched down the river towards New York to a little town called "Sopas" [Esopus later Kingston] which was afterwards burnt by the British at this little village we lay about two or three weeks and were marched down near New Windsor, where we were discharged having been on duty six months. During this tour we had several little skirmishes with small parties of the British and Indians but nothing like a decisive battle.

During my third term of service which was for eight months, I was also a volunteer and belonged to a volunteer company commanded by Captain Vanasdoll, the name [?] Lieut was Rose. I have forgotten the name of the col. Who commanded the regiment to which our company was attached but I recollect that the major's name was DeWitt—at this time I still resided in Orange County, New York. On

this occasion my service commanded about the 15th day of April 1778 and ended near the middle of December. I served just eight months. Soon after I entered the service the regiment was marched to the Navasink, a branch of the Delaware River running through New York and at that time the frontier settlement of New York. When we arrived at the Navasink the troops were separated into small parties and companies and posted all along the frontiers to prevent the Indians from making predatory incursions through the settlements. The company to which I was attached was stationed at a place called the "Beinback" by the German settlers. [?] eight months we were forted or barracked at this place in a number of waste & deserted houses as [?]. While we lay there we were frequent and on short scouts against the Indians but never had an engagement of any importance with them. Our principal object was to keep up a full communication between the several posts and to prevent the savages from crossing the frontier. We lay at the "Beinback's" until December was far advanced, and the weather had become so cold as to confine the Indians to their villages and their immediate neighbourhood. The settlement being no longer in danger we had permission to return to our homes.

I have no documentary evidence by which I can prove my service or any part of it and I know of no person whose testimony I can procure, who can testify to my services. If any of my old companions in arms are now living I know not where they reside yet it may be possible if I were to revisit the scenes of my boyhood I might perchance light on some individual who had born arms by my side, but I never expect again to cast those dim eyes along those shores, which from the lapse of many long years are fast fading from my recollection.

I was born on the 10th day of August 1769 on the east end of Long Island. My father kept no record of the ages of his children, the day of my birth was handed down by tradition from my parents and thus I received it. From Long Island at an early age I was taken by my parents to Morris County New Jersey, at which place I lived when I was first called into the service when I was called into service the 2d and 3d times I lived in Orange County New York.—from the termination of the Revolutionary War to 1790 I still lived in Orange Co., N.Y. In 1790 I removed to Bucks Co. Pennsylvania where I resided for twenty years. In 1810 I removed to Washington County Pennsylvania, where I now live and have lived ever since. When I entered the service I was on all occasions a volunteer. I never received a written discharge from the service on any occasion.

I know of no clergyman who I can procure who can testify for me according to the form prescribed by the War Department.

I am well known to the following named persons, who reside in my present neighbourhood, who can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution viz. Aaron Miller, James Brice, Vincent Cockins, Hayden Furgus, Wm. Wylie, Samuel Miller, Richard Miller &c.

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 with his mark) Jeremiah Brown.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Thomas Officer. Pro.

Letter in folder dated December 17, 1836 written in response to an inquiry.

The Revolutionary War record of Jeremiah Brown which follows was obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.22138, based upon his service in that war. This is the record of the only Jeremiah Brown (Brows) who served in the New Jersey Troops, as found on file in the Revolutionary War records of this office.

Jeremiah Brown stated that he was born August 18, 1769 on the east end of Long Island; the names of his parents are not given. He moved at an "early age" with his parents to reside in Morris County, New Jersey.

While residing in Morris County, New Jersey, he volunteered July 1, 1778, served as a private in Captain Bates' company, Colonel Martin's New Jersey Regiment, was on Long Island at the time of the battle, but not actively engaged in the battle, was in the retreat from Long Island, length of service five months.

The soldier, Jeremiah Brown, moved from Morris County of Orange County, New York, and enlisted June 1, 1777 served six months in Captain McKinstry's company, Colonel Malcolm's New York Regiment, marched to "German Flats", to keep the British and Indians in check, was in several skirmishes. He enlisted April 15, 1778, served eight months in Captain Vanasdoll's company, under Major DeWitt to protect the frontier settlements from the depredations of the Indians.

The soldier moved from Orange County, New York in 1790 to Bucks County, Pennsylvania and in 1810, moved to Washington County, Pennsylvania.

He was allowed pension on his application executed June 17, 1833, at which time he was living in Chartiers Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania. He then stated that he was aged "seventy four years on the tenth day of August next ensuing."

There is no reference to wife and children.