

Pension Application for Edward Cain

R.1585 (Widow: Bethiah) Edward died in the Town of Portage, Allegany County, New York, May 7, 1833.
State of New York
Allegany County SS.

On this tweveth [twelfth?] day of October in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two appeared before me Azel Fitch a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Allegany, Edward Cain a resident of the Town of Portage, County of Allegany and State aforesaid aged eighty six 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 he enlisted in the New York State troops in the Spring 1775 at Clarkston in the State of New York to go to Canada in a company commanded by Capt. Johnson, Lieutenant Martin, Leiut Colonel Wisenfeet, Christian names forgotten, the time that he enlisted for he does not remember that he went with the company under Capt. Johnson to Canada and joined the troops under Genl Montgomery, was at the siege of Saint Johns in Canada at the time it was surrendered up to Genl Montgomery, the British officer that had command & who surrendered up the place was a major his name he has forgotten, immediately after the surrender of Saint Johns he was sent with the prisoners taken at that place to Albany in the State of New York, which from the best of his recollection was the latter part of October on the forepart of November of the same year was discharged at Albany the latter part of December but no written discharge –

That he enlisted a second time at Haverstraw New York in the month of March 1776 in the New York Troops in a company commanded by Capt. Hutchins in a regiment commanded by Col. Richmore the Christian names he has forgotten, went from Haverstraw to New York was with the American Troops when they retreated from the City of New York, was in the Battle at the White Plains in New York, where one half of the company he belonged to was killed [killed] recollects a General McDugal & General Lee was at the Battle at the White Plains, after that was marched to New Jersey was with the troops that took a party of Hessians at Trenton in New Jersey, we lay at Trenton when the British came up where we retreated late in the night and went to Princeton the British drove us hard fired on our rear guard had an engagement on our retreat I was one of the rear guard & came near freezing to death.

Genl. Washington was frequently with us and encouraged us to keep up good spirits promising gus better times, was afterward attached to the troops under Genl Lee & was with his troops when Genl. Lee was taken by the British at his lodgings a little distance from his troops—that he then returned to Clarkston New York, and afterwards enlisted under Lieut. Martin conditionally that he should be discharged when he should make out his quota of men that Lieut Martin soon after was killed while on a scouting party by the British—the officers in command when they marched form Clarkston refused to let him go denying having any knowledge of his enlisting conditionally to encourage others on an affidavit made by Esquire Pie an acquaintance of his & a Col. Johnson to Col. Spencer who there had the command. Col. Spencer gave him a discharge that he kept for a long time but has lost it, that all the engagements he was in was at the White Plains & at Princeton except frequent scurmishing [skirmishing] with the British & tories while out with scouting parties that he is so infirm & his memory so much impaired that he cannot recollect dates for certain as he once could. But that the above statement is substantially correct. That he served in all a little over eighteen months.

That he was born in the Parish of Bela County of Antrim Ireland the 18th of July 17436 that he has no record of his age only knows it as informed by his parents that he emigrated to New York in the summer of 1774 lived a short time in the city then at Clarkston until he entered the service immediately after he left the service he went to reside in the Town of Litchfield in the State of Connecticut where he resided until 1802 when he removed to Levonia Ontario County, New York, where he resided until 1873 when he removed to Portage Allegany County his present place of residence, that he knows of no

person whose testimony he can procure to testify to his service that he is acquainted with the Reverend Jonathan A. Miller a clergyman in his neighbourhood & James [ends here] (Signed with his mark) Edward Cain.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Azel Fitch.