

### **Pension Application for Thomas Conklin**

W.17456 (Sarah Place, Former Widow) Thomas died September 1793. They had 8 children, 4 sons and 4 daughters. Thomas died from yellow fever.

State of New York

County of Kings SS.

On this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May AD 1843 personally appeared before me Joseph Conselyea one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Kings and State above named aged ninety two year who being first duly cautioned and sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order that she may obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836 and the act explanatory of the said act passed March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1837.

That she was married to Thomas Conklin of Huntington on Long Island on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of March AD 1777.

That she with Mr. Thomas Conklin and his friends and her friends rode out to a village called Fresh Pond in the corner of the town of Huntington where preaching was occasionally had at the house of a Mr. Scidder. Mr. Conklin received a certificate of our marriage. I do not distinctly recollect the ministers name—Deponent states she believes there is but one living witness that saw us married viz. Solomon Ketchum, Deponent further states that according to her best recollection in the summer of AD 1779 her husband, Thomas Conklin and his brother John Conklin crossed the sound and went into the American Army. Deponent believes the company was commanded by Capt. James Krankhites in Coln Drakes Regt. Deponent further states that while her husband was in military servis [service] he was taken a prisoner by the British the length of time he was held a prisoner of war she is unable to say. Deponent believes her husband Thomas Conklin was in the military servis and a prisoner of war three years or more. Deponent further states she had eight children by Thomas Conklin our oldest child was a son his name was Gilbert he was born in the month of April the year after we were married. He died many years ago in the West Indies. Martha was born one year after Gilbert, Jonathan Titus was born three years after Martha, Elizabeth two years after Jonathan Titus, Hannah two years after Elizabeth, Richard a little more than two years after Hannah. Experience almost three years after Richard and Thomas was born the May before his father died.

Deponent further states my husband Thomas Conklin myself and children were living in the City of New York in the year AD 1793 it was sickly in the month of August of s'd year Mr. Conklin put me and the children on board of a packet for a place on Long Island called Cold Spring. I arrived there with my children, soon after my husband Thomas Conklin was brought there sick with the yellow fever. The next day after he arrived he died and was buried in the evening, it was the fore part of the month of Sept. 1783. The business of Mr. Conklin was left to strangers to settle in the City of New York where his papers and effects were left and lost to his family.

I have no remembrance of seeing the papers on which the certificate was wrote after I left New York and the death of Mr. Conklin. Deponent further sates she was given the best information in her power as to her connection with Thomas Conklin who was a revolutionary soldier she believes there is no more documentary evidence than what accompanies this application. Deponent further says she married a man by the name of Douglass we lived together but a short time in consequence of his death.

Deponent further states she married an other man by the name of Mr. Place in July A.D. 1815 we lived together until Aug 1827 from that time until the present deponent has been a widow, she further states after the death of her last husband Wm Place she removed to Williamsburgh Long Island in the State of New York into the family of her daughter Elizabeth Ackerly, Deponent was at that time poor and dependent on a widowed daughter for her daily support—and that daughter has but scanty means for the support of her family.

The deponent present this application to your honor with the certificates hereto annexed believing the servis of her husband Thomas Conklin will entitle deponent to a pension under the laws which this application is presented.

Sworn to and subscribed on this day and year written before me. (Signed with her mark) Sarah Place.

Joseph Conselyea, one of the Judges of Kings County Court.

Letter in file dated May 26, 1936, written in response to an inquiry.

Thomas Conklin

W.17456

You are furnished herein the record of Thomas Conklin as found in pension claim, W.17456, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

The date and place of this soldier's birth and names of his parents are not given.

Thomas Conklin crossed Long Island Sound and enlisted with his brother, John Conklin, and served from July 10, 1779 to November 10, 1780, as private in Captain James Cronkhite's company, Colonel Samuel Drake's New York Regiment, and while in service was taken prisoner by the British, no further details of service given.

The soldier died early in September 1793 in Cold Spring on Long Island, but was then a resident of New York City.

Thomas Conklin, of Huntington, New York, married March 27, 1777, in the Village of fresh Pond, a part of Huntington, Suffolk County, New York, Sarah Titus; the date and place of her birth and names of parents were not stated.

After the death of Thomas Conklin, his widow, Sarah, married, date not given, one \_\_\_\_\_ Douglas, of Huntington, New York, who did not live more than four or six months. She then married Willaim Place of Huntington, in July, 1815. They lived in Huntington until his death in August 1827. A few years after the death of William Place, his widow, Sarah, moved to Williamsburgh, Kings county, New York, where she resided with her daughter, Mars. Elizabeth Ackerly, widow of Samuel Ackerly who died in 1821. She was still living with Elizabeth Ackerly in 1836.

May 5, 1843, Sarah Place, aged ninety-two years and a resident of Williamsburgh, New York, applied for pension due her on account of the Revolutionary War service of her former husband, Thomas Conklin. Her claim was allowed.

Thomas Conklin and his wife, Sarah, had eight children; their names were as follow:

Gilbert was born April 11, 1778

Martha was born April 13, 1779

Jonathan Titus was born April 9, 1782

Elizabeth was born April 1, 1784

Hannah April 2, 1786

Richard July 3, 1788

Experience June or July 5, 1791

Thomas May 3, 1793 in New York City

In 1843 one Abel K. Conklin was Justice of the Peace in Huntington, Suffolk County, New York, his relationship to soldier's family not shown.

In the same year, Deborah Platt, aged Platt, aged seventy-eight years, made affidavit in Suffolk County, New York, that Thomas Conklin's oldest daughter lived with her after the soldier's death until she was twenty years of age, and that the youngest daughter, Experience Conklin, also lived with her and remained until she married, the name of the husband of Experience not stated, nor was any relationship given between Deborah Platt and the family of Thomas Conklin.

In 1843, one Solomon Ketcham, aged eighty-six years, made affidavit in Suffolk County, New York, that Sarah Titus who married Thomas, Conklin, when a girl lived in the home of his father, whose name he did not give nor did he state any relationship between the two families.