

### **Pension Application for William Conklin**

W.16915 (Widow: Hannah) William died of small pox, December 1784. Hannah died Aug 15, 1843.

State of New York

Rockland County SS.

On this eleventh day of January AD 1838 personally appeared before me George V. Allison one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said county Hannah Conklin, a resident of the town of Haverstraw in the said county aged ninety two years, who, being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836. That she is the widow of William Conklin, who was a Sergeant and an Ensign during the Revolutionary War and served as herein stated.

That early in the spring of the year 1776 he being then a Sergeant in a company of Militia then commanded by Capt. Hearse, in a Regiment whereof she believes A. Hawks Hay was Col'n her said husband was called out to guard along the Hudson River at Haverstraw, and to make breast works and served at periods of 3, 4, and five days at a time, and served not less than one month in tours as aforesaid, between the time first called out and the month of July in said year. That near the first of July in said year, the British came up the said river and anchored in the Tappan Bay, when the said company was called out to—guard along the shore of the said river, and her said husband attended and guarded continually until the said ships sailed down the river, which she believes was not less than one month and after the said ship had been absent for a few days they returned again or others in their stead, when her husband was again called upon to guard as aforesaid, and was out until they again sailed away and the British continuing to come and go until winter prevented them, and when they came up would remain in said bays at different stations, from one to three weeks at a time and during all which time her said husband did guard at some stationed along said river and she feels confident that he served not less than two months, between the first of July and the twenty fifth of December in the year 1776.—

That early in the Spring of the year 1777 (and she then believes that John Gardner was made Cap't of the said company as Mr. Kearse was promoted to the rank of Major and had the charge of the commissary stores, and what time of the year 1777 Cap't Gardner took the command of the company, she is unable positively to say. The British again sailed up the said river and took their stations in said bays and sometimes sailed away but soon returned, and continuing to occupy their stations most of the time, her said husband was out a guarding at some station along said river at Haverstraw or Nyack or on scouting parties, through different part of the now county of Rockland or in the State of New Jersey to Schralenberg [Schraalenbrugh] Closter the Liberty Pole and as far below as they thought fit to venture, until the beginning of October, when the British landed at Stony Point and marched to take Fort Montgomery, at which time they served at Haverstraw and continued on duty until the British returned to New York at which time they succeeded in taking a large quantity of baggage from the enemy, and her husband served during said year in tours of from one, two, and three days at a time, to one, two and three weeks at a time and served not less than three months in tours as aforesaid.

That in the year 1778 her husband served under Capt. Gardner aforesaid in tours and duty as aforesaid as Sergeant, until in the month of August [August] when he received his commission as Ensign, (hereunto annexed) and served not less than one month and a half in tours as aforesaid.

That after receiving his said commission and the company being divided into classes, agreeable to the muster roll hereunto annexed, and there being a great commotion the enemy marching in a great body the upper part of New Jersey and the southern part of this county her husband was out the greatest part of his time until winter and served considerable during the winter, and served not less than two months, in tours of one, two and three at a time as Ensign.

That in the year 1779, her said husband served in stations and on duty as aforesaid until the last of May in said year and served not less than one month, at which time the British took possession of Stony Point and fortified it when her said husband was ordered with said company on duty and

continued on duty a guard in & around about Stony Point until the British evacuated the same, late in the fall of that year, except he occasionally did visit his home for a day or part of a day at a time, and served not less than four months.

That in the year 1780, her husband served at stations and in tours of one, two, and three weeks at a time as is mentioned as to his service in the fall of the year 1777, and served not less than three months in tours as aforesaid.

That in the year 1781, her said husband served at stations tours and duty as aforesaid and served not less than two months in tours as aforesaid.

She further declares that she was married to the said William Conklin, by the Rev'd David Burns at Haverstraw aforesaid on the twenty first day of May in the year seventeen hundred and sixty two, that he maiden name was Hannah Allison—that she nor her husband did ever receive a certificate of their marriage, to the best of her present recollection, and that there is no record thereof to be found; that her husband the aforesaid William Conklin died of the small pock in the month of december [sic] in the year 1784, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereunto annexed.

And she further declares that in setting forth the time that her said husband served during the Revolutionary War she has been guided only by the time he was from home and on duty and feels confident that if her memory did enable her to set forth all the time that he actually did serve, it would far exceed the time by her above stated, that she is now unable to set forth the commencement and end of each engagement of duty by him performed, more particularly that she has above set them forth, as she has no record thereof and the tours of duty, was performed not in regular tours of weeks or months, nor of the same length of timer at each engagement and has used every particularity that her memory at this late period would enable her truly to do. And that she should long care this period have made application, but until a few days since was unable to procure a witness to prove her marriage. And that she has no documentary evidence in support of her claim, except the muster roll hereunto annexed. (Signed with her mark) Hannah Conklin.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me. G. V. Allison, one of the Judges of Rockland County

Letter in folder dated June 12, 1937, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of William Conklin, who served as ensign of the orange County Militia, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, commanded by Ann Hawk Hay.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim, W.16915, based upon the military service in that war of William Conklin.

The date and place of birth and names of the parents of William Conklin are not shown.

William Conklin enlisted, place not shown, early in the spring of 1776, served in that yar and in 1777, as private and sergeant under Captains Kiers and John Gardiner and Colonel Ann Hawkes Hay in the New York troops. The service was rendered on short tours of from a few days to three weeks in length, as a guard along the Hudson River and on scouting parties: August 3, 1778, he was commissioned ensign of Captain John Gardiner's Company, Colonel Ann Hawkes Hay's New York Regiment (commissioned signed by George Clinton, Governor). William Conklin continued to serve as ensign in the New York troops until sometime in 1781.

He died in December, 1794, of smallpox. The place of his death not given.

The soldier married May 21, 1762, at Haverstraw, New York, Hannah Allison. The date and place of her birth and names of her parents are not shown.

Soldier's widow, Hannah, was allowed pension on her application executed January 11, 1838, at which time she was aged ninety-two years and resided in Haverstraw, Rockland County, New York.

Pension was allowed for service of William Conklin, one month and twenty-nine days as ensign and one month and twenty-four days as private.

Hannah Conklin died August 15, 1843.

Children survived their father, only name given is daughter Hannah Noble, who, in 1859, was living in Pine River, Waushara County, Wisconsin. In above year, Warham Noble resided at same place and it was stated that he was the son of James Noble, of Salisbury, Connecticut, a Revolutionary War soldier name of the mother of said Warham Nobel was not given nor was his relationship to Hannah Noble shown.

In 1838 one Joseph B. Allison lived in Rockland County, New York and in 1839, one George S. Allison was one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Rockland County, New York; their relationship to Hannah Allison Conklin, widow of the soldier, William Conklin was not shown.