

Pension Application for Frederick Countryman

W.22855

State of New York
Herkimer County

Frederick Countryman being duly sworn saith that he is a resident of the Town of Danube in the County Herkimer, and has served as a private soldier in the war of the revolution against the common enemy, for the term of nine months and longer at a certain period of the war herein after mentioned on the Continental Establishment, and is yet a resident citizen of the United States; and by this reason of his reduced circumstances in life, he is in need of assistance from his country for support. And this deponent further saith, that he never has received any pension from the United States, and doth hereby relinquish his claim to every pension that may have been heretofore allowed him by the laws of the United States, excepting and reserving to himself the right of claiming, and he doth hereby claim a pension under an act entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war," passed 18th March 1818.

And this deponent doth further declare under oath, that the time he entered the army of the United States in the war of the revolution aforesaid, on, the Continental Establishment, the officers under whom he served, and the line to which he belonged, together with the time and manner of leaving the service, are currently set forth, according to the best of his knowledge and recollection in the following manner; that is to say, he the said Frederick enlisted some time in the month of April one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight as a private in Capt. Robert McKean Company in Col. Van Dyck's (1) Regiment for the term of nine months. That he served the said nine months faithfully in said company and was at the expirations then discharged.

That this deponent while in said service a part of the time in Fort Herkimer, was a part of the time in Fort Dayton and a part of the time in Fort Schuyler or Fort Stanwix. (2) That this deponent was in the Oriskany Battle (3) that he was in a skirmish in the present Town of Sharon in the County of Schoharie wherein Capt. McKean was killed.

That he was also in a skirmish near the village of Johnstown in the County of Montgomery.

That after his term of service was expired he this deponent entered into the bateaux service upon the Hudson River under the Command of Captain Leffler (4) and continued in said last mentioned Service for the nine months and were thereafter discharged and further this deponent saith not.

(his mark) Frederick Countryman

Sworn this 5th day of April 1819 before me [name crossed out] The above aft of Frederick Countryman subscribed & sworn this 14th day of July 1819 before me. Rufus Crane, Judge Herkimer County

State of New York
Herkimer County

On the 3d day of April 1821 personally appeared in open court, being a Court of Record to wit the Court of Common Pleas in and for the county aforesaid and constituted such court of record by the statutes of the state, Frederick Countryman aged sixty-four years. Resident in the Town of Danube in said county who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows to wit.

I entered some time in the month of April 1778 as a private in Captain Robert McKean's Company in Col. VanDycke's Regiment for the period of nine month, that he served the said nine months faithfully in said company and was at the expiration thereof honorably discharged, this deponent further saith that a part of the time he served at Fort Herkimer and part of the time at Fort Schuyler or Fort Stanwix that this deponent was in the Oriskany Battle and in a skirmish in the Town of Sharon in Schohary County wherein Capt. McKean was killed was also in a skirmish near Johnstown in the County of Montgomery that after his term of service expired he entered into the bateaux service upon the Hudson River under the command of Capt. Leveller and continued in the last mentioned service for other nine months and was thereafter discharged and this deponent further states that he made application for a certificate to the War Department and had his papers made out and furnished as he supposed by Henry Brown Esq. one of the Attorneys of the Supreme Court of Judication Of the State of New York and the last of his vouchers to identify his services was dated 6th day of May 1819 and supposed the same was forwarded to the War Department by his said attorney but from his neglect or other mismanagement they have not been forwarded to his attorney has informed him and verily believes the same to be true.

And that he has lately taken his papers from his attorney and attached them to this affidavit not doubting but that justice may yet be done in the promises and he be entitled to a pension from the time he made application before the said Judge because in consequence of his attorney's neglect or at such other time as the Hon'l. Secretary of War may think proper and this deponent furthers states that the first declaration was made before John Herkimer a Judge of the Court of Herkimer County on the 26th June 1818 And was served the same way by Daniel Grant.

And I do further solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent to bring myself within the ??? act or Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war passed the 18th day or March 1818" and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or

securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in my schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed to wit:

Real estate, none.

Personal Property as follows, One cow \$10, 8 sheep \$8, 4 goats \$4, pot kettle and pan \$3, tin pail \$1, one trammel \$1, 1 table and chest \$3, 2 old barrels \$1, 2 wheels \$2, six knives and forks \$1.50. One suit of every day wearing apparel for myself and wife and the bed and bedding for two poor beds \$8.

My family consists of the following persons to wit, myself aged 64 unable to do much labor in consequence of a rupture which I contracted in the army, my wife Abigail (5) aged 46 years not very healthy five small children not able to support themselves and the said declarant is indebted to different persons more than fifty dollars for necessaries in the support of his family. (his mark) Frederick Countryman.

Subscribed and sworn to April 3d 1821 before me. David Holt.

The Court is of the opinion that the value of the property contained in the foregoing schedule is worth forty-two dollars and fifty cents including bedding and wearing apparel.

David Holt, Landers Lansing, Rufus Crane.

End Notes—Frederick Countryman - W.22855

1. Frederick is mistaken as the year is probably 1779. Captain Robert McKean had resigned from the first New York Continental Regiment on January 29, 1778 due to the death of his wife. His son Samuel was under 16 years of age (14 or 15) and was unable to care for the younger children. Captain McKean in 1779 was appointed Captain in a regiment of New York State Levies commanded by Colonel Henry K. VanRensselaer. Captain McKean with half the company went to Fort Dayton. There are no muster rolls for McKean's Company for 1779, 1780 in Colonel John Harper's Regiment and 1781 in Colonel Marinus Willett's Regiment. But as he mentions Colonel VanDyck who was the Lieutenant Colonel of the First New York. I did check the muster rolls for McKean's Company in that regiment and did not find Frederick's name.
2. Fort Stanwix was built in 1758 by General John Stanwix. In 1776 when the Third New Jersey Continental Regiment repaired and or rebuilt parts of the fort, it was renamed Fort Schuyler in honor of the American Army's Major General Philip Schuyler.
3. Although Frederick does not mention his militia service he did serve in the First Regiment of Tryon County Militia. There are two Frederick Countryman's that served in this regiment. One was killed on July 31, 1780. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on August 6, 1777. The Battle of New Dorlach (Sharon) was fought on July 10, 1781. Captain McKean was mortally wounded in this battle. The Battle of Johnstown was fought on October 25, 1781.
4. Captain John Leffler's Company of Batteauxmen—Muster Roll for 1778—Frederick enlisted April 24. He also served in Captain Samuel Gray's Company of Batteauxmen in 1780. FROM: Revolutionary War rolls 1775-1783. Series M-246, Roll 122, folder 78. Quartermaster General's Department, National Archives, Washington D.C.
5. Abigail (Appolonia) applied for widow's pension on October 6, 1840, age 63 years, while a resident of Boonville, Oneida County, NY. Her maiden name was Hauss (House). She was married to Frederick on November 27, 1792 by Reverend D. C. A. Pick at Reverend Pick's house in Fort Plain. Frederick died on November 23, 1836.