

Pension Application for Nathan Daley, Dailey, Daly, etc.

R.2621 (1)

State of New York

County of Ontario

On this thirteenth day of December A.D. Eighteen Hundred and Fifty-One personally appeared in open court before the county court of said county now sitting Nathan Daley as resident of Manchester in said county and state, 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 in the spring of the year 1780 (Seventeen Hundred and Eighty) in the month of May, he went from the Town of Egremont in the State of Mass. Where he resided up to Albany NY with one Sergeant Swart (2), and served in the New York Militia under said sergeant in Colonel Vrooman's Regiment till winter-till in the month of December, same year, 1780.

That he was in active service, under said officers, in said militia, during said year, for the period of seven months. That he was employed in defending the inhabitants from attacks and incursions of the Indians and Tories. That he was marched through Cherry Valley to Fort Plain where Colonel Willis (Willet) (3) commanded and about there.

That he was acquainted with Colonel Willis.

That most of the old soldiers and regulars had gone from Albany to the aid of Gen'l Washington who was guarding the movements of Cornwallis near New York City, leaving for comrades Of said Daley, mostly boys like himself.

He further states that in the previous year 1779 he served several months about and near Albany and Schenectady under command of Sergeant Loomis, in Colonel Harper's (4) Regiment one Fonda (5) being Major and in the year 1781 he served three months at Poughkeepsie under Colonel Luttenton (6), where he became sick and unable to do further service.

He further states that he knows of no person living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. That since the year 1832 he has tried several times determined to have his claim for a pension perfected and forwarded to the department, but has been discouraged previous ways and has never before applied for a pension.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except for the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. And that he desires return to the within declaration to be forwarded to the care of S.W. Salsbury of Canandaigua New York.

(Signed with his mark) Nathan Daley

Signature witnessed by S. W. Salisbury

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the day and year first above written, said Dailey not writing his name by reason of old age and infirmity.
Mark H. Sibley Judge of Ontario Co.

Interrogatories performed by the court and answered by Nathan Daley who subscribed and sworn to the above declaration.

1st, Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in the Town of Egremont in the County of Berkshire and State of Massachusetts in the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-Five on the eighth day of January in that year. (Jan. 8th, 1765).

2d, Have you any record of your age and if so, where is it?

The original records of my age are all lost.

3d, Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War; and where do you now live?

I was living in Egremont, Berkshire County, Mass. I removed to Cayuga Co., New York soon after the war where I lived till 1834, when I removed to Manchester, Ontario Co., where I now live.

4th, How were you called into service; were you draughted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute; and if a substitute for whom.

Sergeant Swart was going to Albany from Egremont and I accompanied him as a volunteer militiaman.

5th, State the name of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect; and the general circumstances of your service.

Same as Declaration.

6th, Did you receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

Never received a written discharge, was mustered out of service without one.

7th, State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Rev. Nelson Scott

Mr. Jacob Smith who has known me for 30 years.

(Signed with his mark) Nathan Daley

Following is a signed statement by Nelson Scott and Jacob Smith that they are well acquainted with Nathan Daley that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood.

Statement by Mark H. Sibley, Judge of Ontario Co. He believes the above was a Revolutionary War soldier and served as stated, that it appears Mr. Scott is a clergyman and Jacob Smith a credible person, their statement is entitled to credit.

No reason was stated as to why the application was rejected.

End Notes—R.2621—Nathan Daley

1. Although there was proof that a Nathan Daley had served but this Nathan that applied had a problem of establishing a proof of identity to receive a pension.
2. Peter Swart was an ensign in Captain Jacob Hager's Second Company in Colonel Peter Vrooman's Fifteenth Regiment of Albany County Militia. Swart was commissioned as ensign on February 20, 1778. Daley had to have lived in Schoharie to serve in the militia as the militia did not recruit New York men from other counties or states. In his pension file the New York State Comptroller R.C. Fuller had provided proof of his service in Captain Hager's Company as follows. 1780 Decem 21 No. 13724 for £1. . 4. . 2 Capt. Jacob Hager & Ensign Peter Swart, Novem 23 No. 13971 for £10. . 11. . 8 Lt. Ephraim Vrooman, Ensign Peter Swart. Novem 23 No. 15702 for £21. . 4 . . 10 2/3 Lt. Ephraim Vrooman, Ensign Peter Swart. Decem 21 No. 15840 for £2. . 11. . 6 2/3 Capt. Jacob Hager, Ensign Peter Swart. There were two certificates issued on each of the two dates. The small amount of pay for each respective date was for provisions and the two larger amounts were for wages. These are the only certificates for service in Colonel Vrooman's Regiment.
3. In 1780, Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett commanded the Fifth New York Continental Regiment and was stationed in and around West Point, New York or in New Jersey.
4. Nathan is in error on this service. In 1779, John Harper was still the Colonel of the Fifth Regiment of Tryon County Militia. As this was the year of the Sullivan and Clinton Expedition against the Iroquois Villages in Western New York, Colonel Harper went as a volunteer with the rank of Captain under Brigadier General James Clinton. From June to October of 1779, Harper was on this expedition plus as Nathan claims to have been born in 1765 he would have been only 14 years of age. Sergeant Loomis is unknown in Harper's Regiment. A Sergeant Job Lomis of Captain Thomas Brown's Company in Colonel Peter Yates' Fourteenth Regiment of Albany County Militia. Detachments from this regiment did serve in the Schoharie Forts in 1778, 1779, and 1780. In 1779 or 1780 Colonel Harper could have visited the Middle Fort as his brother Alexander's wife and children were living in the Middle Fort. Captain Alexander Harper had been taken prisoner on April 7, 1780.
5. Possibly First Major John J. Fonda of Colonel Stephen J. Schuyler's Sixth Regiment of Albany County Militia. Detachments from this regiment also served in the Schoharie forts in 1778, 1779, and 1780.
6. Apparently Nathan had moved to Dutchess County, New York. Colonel Henry Luddington of the Seventh Regiment of Dutchess County Militia. So far the name Daley under any spelling has not been found.