

Pension Application for Samuel Darling

R.2665

State of New York

Monroe County SS

On this twenty fifth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty four, personally appeared in open court before the honorable Addison Gardiner Vice Chancellor of Eighth of the State of New York. Samuel Darling a resident of the town of Clarkson in the County of Monroe and State of New York aged seventy nine years on the seventeenth day of March last past who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted into the service of the State of New York, in the State troops in the month of August in the year 1776. (The particular day in that month he does not remember) at the town of Dover in the County of Dutchess in said state—in the company commanded by Captain William Pierce.

That immediately after he entered the service he marched with the company under the command of captain Pierce from Dover to Peekskill on the Hudson River in said State of New York where the said company joined the regiment under the command of col. Courtland. That from Peekskill he marched with the said Regiment to White Plains near New York and from that place crossed over to Long Island, and was there when a battle commenced with the British troops in the latter part of the month of August as near as he can recollect.

That this declarant was not engaged in the battle. That the regiment to which he belonged retreated across the river to the main land very soon after the battle commenced.

That he continue a considerable time with the same company under the command of Captain Pierce, in the vicinity of New York.

That while they remained there a battle was fought near a place called Harlem Heights in which Col. Knowlton of the Connecticut troops was killed.

That the Regiment under Col. Swartwout to which this declarant belonged was engaged in a part of that battle, and a Captain by the name of VanWyck belonging to that regiment was killed.

That the company to which this declarant belonged retreated up the North River and continued along that river for a considerable time, and then crossed said River and marched into New Jersey and continued to, and across the Delaware River and remained neat that river until the latter part of the month of December.

That on Christmas Evening in that month he crossed the River Delaware under the command of Captain Pierce, and marched to Trenton. That the troops which crossed the river were divided into two part or detachments and the one in which this declarant was marched down near the river and the other by another road further from the river. That it snowed very hard through the night and that they arrived at Trenton about daylight in the morning and attacked and took prisoners a party of Hessians who were stationed at that place.

That this declarant remained for several days at that place until the troops there crossed the river on the approach of Lord Cornwallis as deponent thinks.

That after they crossed the river fires were kindled on the bank and the troops marched away in the night toward Princeton, and had a battle at that place in which this declarant was engaged that a quantity of provisions were there taken.

That very soon after the taking of that place, this declarant and the company to which he belonged returned to Peekskill in the State of New York and were then dispersed.

That no discharges were given to any of the soldiers to the knowledge a or recollection of this declarant. That this declarant at the time when he entered the service was living with the Captain Pierce before mentioned at Dover and joined the army with him and under his command and continued with him until he (this declarant) served out the term of five months for which he had entered the service.

And this declarant further says that in the spring of the year 1777 in the month of April as he thinks, he enlisted as a private soldier in the Continental Army at Peekskill in the State of New York in the company commanded by Captain Hamans in the Regiment under the command of Col. Courtland one Livingston was Lieutenant col. and a man by the name of Fish or Fisher was Major. That they marched very soon down the North River and then crossed into New Jersey and continued in motion from one post to another until a short time before the battle of the Brandywine when they joined the main army under General Washington.

That he was engaged in the battle of the Brandywine in August or September in the year 1777. That he does not now recollect the month. That before the time of that battle from the ill health (as this declarant thinks of Captain Hamans) the command of the company in which this declarant served was given to one HamTram or Han Trammaock (as near as he can give the name).

That General Anthony Wayne had the command in that part of the battle where this declarant was engaged. That immediately after that battle the regiment to which this declarant belonged was sent to the north to join the army acting against Burgoyne.

This declarant thinks that Col. Courtland did not go with the regiment at that time. That they reached the Northern Army and were engaged in three several battles on different days before the surrender of General Burgoyne. That in the second of those battles this declarant received a slight wound in his thigh from a musket ball, but not sufficient to disable him for duty. That on one of the day she recollects that Generals Poor—Glover—and Nixson were engaged with the enemy.

That immediately after the surrender of General Burgoyne he returned with his regimen to West Point and at that place this declarant received (very soon after the surrender of Burgoyne but at what particular time he cannot more definitely state) a Lieutenants commission which he held under the Captain last above named, until some time in the month of June next, after that time as near as he can now recollect—when he received a captain's commission at a place called Robinsons Farms on the

North river and then took the command of a company in the same regiment in which he had before served.

That he held the said commission and continued in the command of that company in the same Regiment until the termination of the war. That from the great lapse of time and the failure of his memory in consequence of old age, and infirmity he cannot give a connected statement of the motions of the Regiment to which he belonged.

That he marched through Philadelphia at one time and was engaged in the battle of Monmouth.

That the division to which he belonged was under the command of General McDougal at that battle and the Regiment was commanded by Col. Courtlandt.

That he spent one winter at Valley Forge near Philadelphia one winter at West Point and one at Peekskill.

That one time he was stationed near West Point on the North River, the news arrived that General Arnold had taken and burned New London in Connecticut and a part of the Connecticut Troops were ordered across the North River and to march to Connecticut but were recalled by counter orders shortly after they had crossed the river.

That this declarant was with the army at Yorktown when Lord Cornwallis surrendered at that place in the fall of the year 1781, and had the command of his company at that place—and the Regiment was under the command of Col. Courtlandt.

That shortly after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis he returned with his regiment to Philadelphia and remained there a short time and marched from there to Newburgh on the North River in the State of New York where the main part of the regiment spent the winter and the company under the command of this declarant wintered at Fish Kill on the same river. That he continued in the command of his company at different places along the North River for some time afterwards, but how long he cannot exactly recollect and was finally discharged at West Point.

That he received a discharge from General Knox which together with his commissions he carried home with him to Dover aforesaid but what has become of them he does not know. That they have been as he supposed long since lost or destroyed. That he kept them for a considerable time after his return from the army but has not seen them for many years.

That after his discharge he returned to Dover in the County of Dutchess and lived there a few years, and from that place he moved to New Lebanon, then in the county of Albany now county of Columbia in the State of New York, lived there seven or eight years from there he moved to West Stockbridge in the State of Massachusetts where he resided eighteen years—from that place he moved to Whitestown in the County of Oneida, and State of New York, and lived there several years & moved from that place to Hannibal in the county of Oswego in the State of New York where he lived four or five years and from there he moved to the town of Clarkson about three years since where he now resides.

That he knows of no person except Mr. Elijah cook whose affidavit is hereto annexed by whom he could prove his service or part of it.

That he has caused letter to be written to the late places of residence of all the persons whom he knew & were with him in the service whose residence he was acquainted with and has learned that none of them are living except said Cook, so far as eh has been able to ascertain, that he is well known by [blank] and [blank] of the town of Clarkson who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief in his services as a soldier of the Revolution and he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Samuel Darling

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid before me. A. Gardiner.