

Pension Application for John Edwards

S.12852 -- Died Dec. 21, 1833

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

State of New York

County of Suffolk SS.

On this third day of October 1832 personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas in and for the said County of Suffolk, now sitting John Edwards a resident of the town of Brookhaven in said County, of Suffolk and State of New York aged eighty years and upwards, who being 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: viz.

On 1st Jany 1776 enlisted in Captain Daniel Griffin's Company of State Troops, at Coram, and passed muster at Middle Island in the said town.

He does not recollect that he enlisted for any particular term.

Very soon afterwards the company marched to Shelter Island, and were stationed there from this time until Long Island was given up which was a few days after the Battle at Brooklyn.

His company officers were Capt. Griffin, Lieutenant Norton, Serjeant Marvin and Corporal Wm Phillips.

There were three companies belonging to the regiment; one stationed at Oyster Ponds under Captain Roe, and the other at Montauk under Captain Davis.

The regiment was under the immediate command of Colonel Livingston, who was with the company on Shelter Island and obeyed the orders of Colonel (or General) Clinton who was not with the company and deponent don't know where his quarters were.

He does not recollect the names of any other officers. When Long Island was surrendered Capt. Griffen's Company left Shelter Island and coming over to Long Island, went as he understood to Connecticut.

While the company was thus on Long Island, deponent was taken sick and left by the company and no provision was made for him. His family soon afterwards removed him home and he never afterwards entered the service.

He was thus in active service about eight months and was sick for about three months afterwards.

He as born in the said town of Brookhaven, but cannot state the year, the record of his age which he formerly had and has often seen, having been long since lost. He is however more than eighty years old. He was living in Brookhaven when called into the service, and has resided, there since the Revolutionary War.

He voluntarily enlisted and was not drafted nor a substitute. There were no regular officers nor other regiments with this company. No important circumstance occurred while deponent so served.

He never received any written discharge and has not documentary evidence of his service. -- John Corwin, Jonathan Worth and David Howell reside near deponent, and can testify as to his character for veracity and as to their belief or knowledge of his services in the war of the Revolution.

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) John Edwards.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Joseph L. Hunting, Clk
Letter in folder dated March 28, 1923, written to reply to a letter requesting information.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of John Edwards, a pensioner of Suffolk County, New York.

The record of the above noted soldier is given herein as shown in the papers on file in pension claim, S. 12852, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

John Edwards, son of David Edwards of Suffolk County, Long Island, New York, was born in Brookhaven in said Suffolk County the date of his birth, and name of his mother are not shown.

While a resident of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York, he enlisted January 1, 1776, as private in Captain Daniel Griffing's company, Colonel James Clinton's New York regiment, and served on "Shelter Island" under the command of Colonel Henry B. Livingston until after the British took possession of New York.

He was allowed pension on his application executed May 26, 1830, at which time he resided in Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York. He was then seventy-nine years of age.

The soldier died December 21, 1833.

In 1830, John Edwards stated that his family consisted of his wife, Betsey, aged about sixty years, a daughter, aged fifteen years, and a minor son; he did not give the names of his children.

One John Edwards was a resident of Brookhaven, New York in 1832, and stated then that he was acquainted with the soldier, John Edwards, but he did not state any relationship between them.