

Pension Application for Alexander Fergeson (Ferguson)

R.3499

Declaration: In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

State of New York

Tompkins County SS.

On this ninth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared before me, Nicoll Halsey, a Judge of the Court of Common pleas in and for the county of Tompkins, at the dwelling house of the petitioner who by reason of bodily infirmity is unable to attend Court, Alexander Fergeson resident of the Town of Dryden in the County of Tompkins, and State of New York aged Seventy years, who first 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated—In the year 1780 in the month of April at the Town of Montgomery in the County of Orange and State of New York, he entered the service as a volunteer in the Militia under the command of Capt. Cross (1) and marched to a place called Nipingaugh,? In the county and state aforesaid, served there four days then he was dismissed and returned to Montgomery aforesaid, and in two days then after he was called out by an alarm to go to Nipingaugh, aforesaid from thence to Mamakating under the command of Capt. Cross—from thence he marched to Warsink in the county of Ulster and State of New York (at the provision store was kept under the care of Col. Hornbeck) (2) from that time during the season in the last of December he served as a volunteer private soldier at the place called Nipingaugh, Mamakating, Warsink and [blot]ambacey in guarding the frontiers from the ravages of the Indians (who was then under their commander Brant) at the last of December he was dismissed and returned home to Montgomery from aforesaid.

The year 1781 the last of May he substituted for John Comfort and served two weeks under the command of Captain Fevers Johnson (3), Marched from the Town of Montgomery aforesaid to Nipingaugh then he was dismissed and returned to Montgomery the [blot] About the first of June he substituted for Samuel Ferguson (4) at the Town of Montgomery aforesaid, under the Command of Capt. Conklin (5), Marched from thence to the Town of Manakating, [?] County near the Blue Mountains, thence to MarbleTown thence to Shandakin and Served at that place two weeks. Then he was dismissed and returned to Montgomery. In the month of August next following an alarm was made and the Militia was called out he then volunteered and went to the Town of Mamakating, under the Command of Capt. Conklin.

He served one week and was dismissed and returned to Montomery (6) aforesaid. In the month of September next following at the Town of Montgomery he Substituted for William Foresyth and marched to Shandakin in Ulster County under the command of Captain Robertson (7) and served there two weeks, and returned to Montgomery aforesaid.

In the month of October the same year he volunteered to go to Nipingaugh he marched to that place and served two weeks, he then was dismissed and returned to Montgomery, the first of November next following at the Town of Montgomery aforesaid he substituted for Matthias Millspaw (8) to go to a place called Hunk, under the command of Captain Gautt (9), he marched to Mamakating thence to Nipingaugh, thence to the place called Hunk (at which place he had a skirmish with the Indians and Lieut. John Gayshams(10) was killed and also Sergeant Adam [Epsiles?] Was killed.) (11) Served there three weeks, and then was dismissed, and returned to Montgomery Town; In the month of December next following he volunteered and marched to Warsink, he has forgotten who commanded at this time, (at Warsink the Indians and Tories attempted to drive off Cattle and also to burn the meeting house at that place but was prevented by the Militia at this time the Indians Met John Kettle (12) and killed him) He served at this place about [blot] weeks, then was dismissed and returned to Montgomery town.

The first of April in the year 1782 he volunteered at Montgomery Town aforesaid to go to Mamakating from thence marched to Nipingaugh and served from the first of April aforesaid, until the last of December next following, at Nipingaugh, Mamakating, Shandakin and Mamloius, under the command of the aforementioned officers, who command in their turn, the last of December aforesaid he was dismissed and returned to Montgomery Town aforesaid, That he served several times there, and four days at a time which he the said applicant can not particularize all the times aforementioned to guard as a private soldier (that about the time he first commenced his service, the regular Army lay at Marble Town, who were commanded by Col. Philip Van Cortland (13) they marched from the frontiers at or near MarbleTown to Join Genl Sullivan & Genl James Clinton (14), which occasioned a call for volunteers and militia at the aforementioned place.

That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. (Signed) Alex'r Fergeson

Sworn & Subscribed the 8th day of October 1832 before me Nicoll Halsey.

That he was born in the Town of Little Brittan near the North River [Hudson] in the County of Ulster and State of New York in the year 1762. That the record of his age is lost.

That he resided in Montgomery Town in the County of Ulster then, now Orange and State of New York when he entered the Service of the United States as a soldier, and entered his service at Montgomery Town aforesaid at the different periods of his service. That since the Revolutionary War he has resided as follows-viz that in the Town of Rochester in the county of Ulster and state aforesaid he resided two years from thence he moved to the Town of Dryden in the County of Cayuga, now Tompkins and State aforesaid which two last mentioned places he has resided ever since Revolutionary War and now resides in the Town of Dryden in the County of Tompkins and State aforesaid.

That he was called into the service by drafts, and calls for the Militia as he has above stated. The foregoing declaration at the different periods of his service, in the year 1780 he served as a volunteer & Draft 1781 substituted for John Comfort, Saml Ferguson, William Forsyth and Matthis Millspaw. That the names of some of the officers where he served were as follows to wit, Captain Wm. Cross, Lieut Robert Thompson (15), Joseph Crawford had no field officers there remaining to guard the frontiers and they acting by Companies only and were not committed with the Continental Troops—

That he never received any discharge during his services in the Revolution, were merely dismissed from the Service—

That he is known in his present neighborhood by James McElhiny, John Ellis, Esqr., Parly Whitmon, Abram Farmer, Esqr, Price Weed, Esqr, Gilbert Sutpin, William Sutpin, Elder Amos, Daniels, the Reverend William Clark the Honb'l Samuel Critendin, who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier 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) Alex'r Ferguson

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me Nicholl Halsey, a Judge of Tompkins County.

En Notes—R.3499—Alexander Fergeson

1. William Cross was a captain in Colonel Jonathan Hasbrouck's Fourth Regiment of Ulster County Militia.
2. Jacob Hornbeck was the Lieutenant-Colonel in Colonel Levi Pawling's Third Regiment of Ulster County Militia.
3. Captain Matthew Jansen served in Colonel Hasbrouck's Regiment. He replaced Thomas Jansen Jr. as Captain on March 9, 1778.
4. Private Samuel Ferguson served in Captain Jansen's Company.
5. Jacob Conklin served as a captain in Colonel Hasbrouck's Regiment.
6. William Foresyth or Forsyth, etc., served as a private in Captain Jansen's Company.
7. A Johannes Roberson served as an Ensign in Captain Jansen's Company.
8. Mathias or Mattias, etc., served as a private and sergeant in Captain Cross' Company.
9. So far a Captain Gault cannot be found.
10. Lieutenant John Graham of Colonel James McClaughrey's Second Regiment of Ulster County Militia was killed on killed on September 6, 1778.
11. On pages 16-19 The Clinton Papers of George Clinton, First Governor of New York, Vol IV you will find the report of Lieutenant Graham's fight. In the letter dated Marbletown 9th Sept. 1778 from Colonel John Cantine of the Third Regiment of Ulster County Militia, to Governor George Clinton, Colonel Cantine states the following were killed in the fight; Lieutenant Graham, Robert Temple, and Adam Ambler.
12. John Kettle or Kittle served as Colonel Cantine's Regiment. He was killed August 12, 1781.
13. Philip VanCortlandt was the Colonel of the Second New York Continental Regiment.
14. Major General John Sullivan and Brigadier General James Clinton each raised armies in 1779 and joined together to destroy the Iroquois Villages in western New York.
15. John Crawford was the First Lieutenant and Robert was the Second Lieutenant and Robert Thompson was the Second Lieutenant in Captain Cross' company.