

Pension Application for David Godwin

S.17982

B.L.Wt.1593-100

Revolutionary Claims

Under the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution," approved 15th May, 1828.

Treasury Department

13 Augt 1829.

Sir:

Your claim, under the abovementioned act, having been examined, you are found to be entitled to the pay of a Musician of Infantry in the Continental Line. The amount which may be due, accordingly will be remitted to you by the Treasurer of the United States.

I am sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) S. D. Ingham

Secretary of the Treasury

Paterson, Sept 9th 1828.

Dr Sir

I take the liberty of addressing you on a subject in which I feel considerable interested, it is the case of my Brother David Godwin who is as much entitled to a pension as I am only that he was not on the ground when the army was disbanded to receive his discharge, he was very young and very small of his age and weakly withal which made him receive many indulgences from the officers of the Regiments, he became sick, and was suffered to go home on Furlough, and some little time previous to the disbanding of the army—and not mending in health, he was returned sick, absent, and so remained. He never was discharged, neither was it in the power of the officers of the regiment to discharge him without the signature of Gen. Washington—but when he went to the Land office to claim his Land Warrant, they told him they could not find his name on any of the muster rolls then in their possession.

This was in the State of New York, he therefore could not obtain his land warrant-but I am willing to make oath that he enlisted at the same time that I did, and for the same term viz, for during the war, and that while he was able he did his duty faithfully as a musician for he was not old enough to be capable of doing any other kind of duty—he and myself were compelled at a very early period of our lives, to quit our native place of abode in consequence of its being on the lines of the enemy, or very near them, and my Father being one of the prescribed Rebels, it was impossible for us to remain at home with impunity—and it was fortunate for us that we had a brother who was then an officer in the Army under whose protection we could throw ourselves—or, I know not what might have been the consequences.

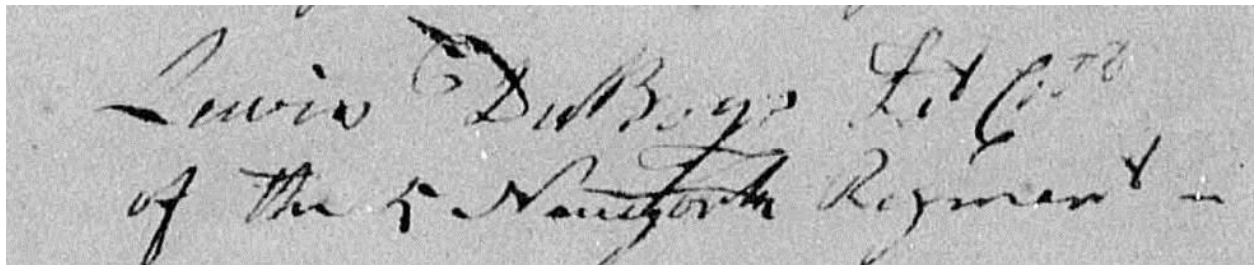
That brother however is now no more—his name was Henry – my Brother David who is not living in the City of New York in the present claimant, and is in precipitous

circumstance, and has a large family to maintain in his old days. Therefor if you can do anything to serve him in his case, it will be ever gratefully remembered, and I have no doubt, but he will be willing to enumerate you to the best of his best of his abilities there will be a certificate accompanying this from his former Colonel which I trust will be satisfactory—please advise me on the circumstance as early as convenient and oblige [blot] Yours very respectfully (Signed—with fancy curlycues and flourishes) A. Godwin.

To Col. Aaron Ogden,
City of Washington.

This certifies that David Godwin at present of Hoboken N. U. served as a faithful soldier in my Regiment from the year 1776 until the period when the then other five Regiments of New York State Infantry were consolidated; and that to the best of my knowledge, after this consolidation which placed him, from under my command he continued to serve faithfully as before until the conclusion of the war, according to the term of his enlistment.

The said David Godwin was in the battle of Fort Montgomery in the year 1777 and as far as his behavior came under my personal inspection he conducted himself from first to last as a brave and faithful soldier of the United States.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script. The text reads "Lewis D. Boylston Lt. Col." on the first line and "of the 5th New York Regiment" on the second line. The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured paper.

At the City of Jersey, John Welling Justice of the Peace.