

Pension Application for Thomas Halsted

S.13338

State of New York

Saratoga County SS.

On this fifth day of September personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Saratoga now sitting, Thomas Halsted a resident of the Town of Half-moon aged seventy five years in October next, who being fist 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 has herein stated.

That he then resided at the place called Rumbout's Precinks [Rombout Precinct, Dutchess County] now Fishkill in the County of Dutchess & State of New York was called out on an alarm in a detachment of the Militia, was ordered to a rendezvous [rendezvous] at Fishkill about then miles from where he resided & was then marched to Peekskill, George Brinkerhoof was his Captain, Stephen Orsbern first Lieut was then out five or six days. This service was rendered in July 1776.—

Soon after his return from this expedition and in the latter part of July in the same year he enlisted for the term of five months, under Capt. Cornelius VanWyck at Fishkill, Nathaniel Smith first Lieut. Henry Bailey Second Lieut. were marched by Companies down near to Kings bridge 7 there joined Col. Jacobus Swartwouts Regiment, stayed a short time there and when the British landed from Long Island, the Americans force at Kings bridge marched up to White Plains.—This deponent was still in Col. Swartwout's Regiment, Col. Pauldings—Col. Nicholas, Col. Thomas' & other Regiments were in the same Brigade. Geo. Clinton had the command of the brigade.

They remained at White Plains until after the Battle at White Plains in October of the same year, were then marched up to New Winson [Windsor] on the west side of the Hudson river near thirty miles from White Plains, were employed in that neighborhood at a place called Murderer's Creek in getting out timber for the Chevoix de frieze [cheval de frise] until discharged—were discharged the first of January 1777 received no written discharge.

Soon after his return from the five months service above mentioned he was pressed into the service by a wagon master to go and assist in removing stores from Peekskill up to the Barack's at Fishkill assisted at this time in driving teams—many of the teams in that part of the Country was pressed into the service at that time. This term of service was six or eight days.

In the same year in the month of October this deponent was again called out in a detachment of Militia at Fishkill & marched to Peekskill on an alarm, while at Peekskill Fort Montgomery was taken by the British—This term of service was twelve or fifteen days, Roger Movey was his Captain—Lieut. Bently were attached to Col. Wm. Humphrey's Regiment.

In the year 1780 in or about the month of July this deponant was again called out in a general call upon the Militia of that part of the Country, were stationed at Fishkill Village.

This term of service was five or six days. Capt. George Brinkerhoof was his Captain, Stephen Orsburn Lieut. Col. Abraham Brinkerhoof commanded the Regiment.

In the year 1781 in the month of June, to the best of his recollection, was again called out on an alarm, to the same place & under the same officers & for about the same period of time.

In the year 1782 in the month of June was again called out on an alarm, to Fishkill Village under the same officers the term of service was not less four or five days.

That this part of the country where this deponent resided was kept for many years in almost a constant state of alarm and he was after required to perform service for short periods of time, the particulars of which he is at this time unable to recollect.

That he has no written evidence of his services and never received a discharge from any of the terms in which he was engaged—and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, to testify to his services other than that of Jacob Hutchins whose affidavit is hereunto annexed.

To Interrogatories put by the court, this deponent answers as follows.—

1. That he was born as he is informed & believes, in the Town of Hempsted, on Long Island, State of N. York .
2. That he was born in the year 1757. Has a Record of his age in his Bible at Home.
3. That he was living in Fishkill, County of Dutches[s] State of N. York when called into the service, land resided in Fishkill until 1796, then removed to Halfmoon, Saratoga County N.Y. and has resided there from that time to the present.
4. That he served five months by enlistment and his other terms of service, by calls made upon the Militia of that part of the Country, as stated in the above declaration.
5. That in addition to the officers above mentioned he says that Generals Washington & McDugall were with the troops at white Plains where this deponent was stationed there.
6. That he never received any written Discharge.
7. That he is acquainted with Seth P. Higgins, John B. Taylor, Isaac Vail—who reside near him and can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

That there is no Clergyman whose attendance he can procure in Court & who resides in his neighborhood & knows anything of his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

(Signed) Thomas Halsted

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court. Thomas
Palmer, Clerk