

Pension Application for Stephen Holmes

W.18042 (Widow: Rebecca) Married February 1773. Stephen died March 16, 1840.
State of New York
WestChester County SS.

On this twenty sixth day of [blot ?ember] in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared [before] me Ezra Lockwood one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of WestChester Stephen Holmes a resident of the Town of Bedford in the County of WestChester and State of New York, aged eighty eight years, who being first 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.

On or about the month of September 1775 he volunteered into the company called minute men, in the Town of Bedford, under the command of Capt Eli Seely and was called out under said officer to the White Plains and there stationed as a guard six days, from thence marched through Shapauqua to Pines Bridge on –Croton River and there stationed as a guard two weeks.

On or about the month of May 1776 he volunteered or entered the service under Capt. Marcus Moseman, Gabriel Higgins Lieut, and Eli Tyler ensign; and in the Regiment under the command of Col. Thomas Thomas, in the Town of Bedford, was ordered out by said officers and marched to New Rochelle and there served four weeks as a guard and at that place was verbally discharged by Col. Thomas.

And in the month of October 1776 was called out by said officers and marched to Mamaroneck in WestChester County near the East River, to guard Lumber and commissary stores for the term of six weeks, and then retreated before the enemy to the White Plains and was there verbally discharged by said officers.

On or about the month of January 11777 was called out by said officers to Harrisons purchase from thence marched to East Chester, and there stationed as a guard at Wards large house, and there served as guard and patrol in collecting forage for the period of Ten Weeks, and about the last of March, the enemy surrounded the guard house in the night, and twenty or more of the Americans were taken prisoners. The enemy left one Major Campbell killed, from thence retreated to Harrisons purchase, and there stationed as a guard and patrol for the term of six weeks, and was there verbally discharged by Col. Thomas.

On or about the month of September 1777 was called out again by said officers, and marched to Mamaroneck and served there as a guard and patrol for the term of three weeks, from thence marched through the aforesaid County of West Chester by SawMill River to Pines Bridge on Croton River from thence to Peekskill at the time Fort Montgomery was taken by the enemy from thence marched back through WestChester County to Harrisons Purchase, and there served as a guard and patrol for the term of four weeks and was there verbally discharged by Col. Thomas.

On or about the month of December 1778 was called out by said officers and stationed at William crafts house in North Castle and there served as a guard and patrol for the term of three months, and was then verbally discharged by said officers.

And in the month of July 1779 the enemy advanced as far into the County of WestChester as the Town of Bedford, and burnt the Village of Bedford, and from the month of July 1779—was called at different times out under said officers in the Town of Bedford and served as guard in the Town of Bedford and served as guard and patrol to repel the excursions of the enemy in the Town of Bedford and on the lines in West Chester County till the close of the war, and the service thus rendered from July 1779 to the end of the Revolutionary War, was the full term of one whole year.

And to the Interrogatories propounded to him by the Judge agreeably to the instructions of the war department, he on his oath, maketh answer and saith that he was born in the year 1744 at Bedford in the county of WestChester.

That he has a record of his age, which record is in his family Bible at his own house in the Town of Bedford.

That he resided in the Town of Bedford in said County of WestChester at the times he entered the service as aforesaid.

And since the Revolutionary War has lived and now lives in the said town of Bedford in the county of West Chester aforesaid.

That at one of the periods, for which he entered the service he entered as a volunteer, and at the other times, when called out as herein before stated, was called out by his officers.

That the names of the Regular officers he now recollects, who were with the troops where he did service in the County of West Chester are Col. Sheldon, Col. Mileden, Col. Lee, Col. Drake, Col. Mileden, Col. Lee, Col. Drake, Col. Ludington, Major Strang, Col. Hammond, General Scott, Col. Philip VanCortland and the officers belonging to his company and regiment as herein before stated.

That the services he rendered was in the Town of Bedford and in the different Towns adjoining and on the lines in WestChester County as herein before stated, that there were sometimes a few regular Troops with the Militia on the lines.

That he now recollects, Col. Sheldon, Col. Miledon, General Scott, Capt. Prichard.

That he did not at any time receive a written discharge. That he has no documentary evidence of his service.

That the names of the persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution are—Abraham Barrett and Samuel Nicholas a Clergyman.

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) Stephen Holmes

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year aforesaid before me Ezra Lockwood, one of the Judges &c of Westchester County.