

### **Pension Application for John Jones**

W.20188 John died Dec 5, 1844.

State of New York

Tioga County SS.

John Jones of the Town of Spencer in the said County aged seventy one years and upwards being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare, in addition to the facts set forth in the annexed declaration made by him before the Court of Common Pleas of said county, that he cannot with precision state (in consequence of the lapse of time, his advanced age & consequent loss of memory) the exact periods of his service as a soldier of the Revolution in each particular year of the continuance of the war, but that according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below to wit:

In the year 1776 two months as a private 2

In the year 1776 one months as a corporal 1

In the year 1777 five months as a serjeant (five) 5

In the year 1778 six months as orderly serjeant (six) 6

In the year 1779 eight months as orderly serjeant 8

In the year 1780 eight months as orderly serjeant 8

In the year 1781 six months as orderly serjeant 6

In the year 1782 six months as orderly serjeant 6

In the year 1783 two months as orderly serjeant 2

months 44 making three years and eight months of actual service for which he claims a pension under the act of June 7, 1832.

He states in explanation of his declaration in which he declares "that all his service make more than two years", that he did not enter into an exact detail, from the supposition that a claim of two years was sufficient to meet the requirements of the law, and therefore the statement "more than two years", that he did not enter into an exact detail from the supposition that a claim of two years was sufficient to meet the requirements of the law, and therefore the statement "more than two years" was made, although the deponent might have justly claimed more service, having actually performed it. (Signed) John Jones

Sworn & Subscribed the 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832 before me. Israel Hardy J.  
P. Tioga Co. NY.

At a Court of Common Pleas held at Elmira in & for the County of Tioga in the State of New York commencing on the first Tuesday in September 1832, the same being a Court of Record constituted by the Laws & Constitution of the State & having a seal and Clerk.

Present. Hon. G. B. Baldwin First Judge.

Jno.R. Drake

Darius Bentley

Joseph L.Darling

Elijah Shoemaker Esquires Judges.

State of New York  
Tioga County SS.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 before the above named Judges now sitting personally appeared in open court John Jones aged seventy one years and upwards, a resident of the town of Spencer in the said County of Tioga 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 resided on Courtland's Manor in the County of Westchester in the State of New York during the war of the Revolution. That the British troops were in possession of the City of New York from September 1776 to November 1783, and as the County of Westchester adjoins the County of New York, the Inhabitants were necessarily subjected to constant depredation from the neighbourhood of the British troops and from the countenance & support which the Tories & Refugees received from them.

It therefore became absolutely necessary during that period to keep the militia continually employed as guards and patrols, and in resisting attacks from the enemy. The deponent entered the service in a militia company in the said County of Westchester in September 1776 then commanded by Lieut. David Ferris & afterwards by Capt Ebenezer Boyd and continued in service until late in the fall of 1783; that during the said seven years' service he was frequently at White Plains, New Rochelle, Crumpond, North Castle, Marmaroneck, Morisania & in every town in the County of Westchester & many of the adjoining ones.

That the said company was frequently out at various points along the Hudson River for periods of a month or two, as the emergencies of the times required. That it was also necessary to keep up constant patrols at night when the company lay in the neighborhood of Cortlands Manor, and as the deponents father was also a member of the company he generally performed the duty of both as patroles. [patrols]

That during the war he entered into no other business but devoted his whole time to the service and the members of the said company were continually on the alert and he does not recollect a single instance in which company was called out & he returned as absent.

In the month of Jan or Feb 1783 he went with a party of volunteers under Capt. Daniel Williams to Morrisania with the design to capture LeLancey a noted leader of the Tories, who eluded their search, but they succeeded in bringing off one of the Refugees & brought him with them as far as the mouth of Croton River when they were overtaken by a party of British & Tories who succeeded in his rescue after a warm engagement; in which the deponent being surrounded by the enemy lost his horse & equipage, tho he escaped himself.

That on one occasion while out with a patrolling party he was attacked by a party of British troops in which he received a wound in the thigh & had two of his fingers injured, there were a number of bullet holes through his overcoat, & his life saved by the circumstance that a ball struck the guard of his musket; that the first half of his service in 1776 was as a private, and the remainder as a Corporal; in the

year 1777 he acted as Serjeant in the said company during the remaining years of the war he acted as orderly Serjeant of the said company, and during the last three years of his service he was commander of the patrol when portions of the said company were out on that duty & that all his service make more than two years.

That his father's residence was near to the Continental Barracks in the Manor of Cortland which were built on what was called Gallows hill and Turner's hill; and the house of his father was occupied as the head quarters of such Continental officers as were occasionally in the neighborhood.

That he knew of the Continental officers who were then at his father's Generals McDougal Huntington & Putnam Colonels Campbell, Cortland, Weisenfelt, Lamb, Livingston, Weisenfelt, Gansevoort & Willett, & many others.

That he was born at Philipstown County of Dutchess N.Y. (now Putnam) that the record of his birth is kept in his family bible taken from his fathers family record. That he went to reside in Westchester at about eleven years of age in Cortland's Manor, or Cortland Town; that he continued to reside there until 1806 when he removed to New York where he continued to live 'til about 1809, thence removed to Cortlandtown again where he continued until 1815 when he removed to the County of Tioga in the said Town of Spencer where he still resides.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services & the persons by whom he can prove them are Joshua Ferris & Richard Ferris of the said town of Spencer who are here present in Court.

For the belief in regard to his services in the neighborhood he refers to Nathaniel Scofield John McQuigs, and Henry Miller Esqrs., of the said Town of Spencer.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) John Jones

Subscribed & Sworn the day & year aforesaid. Green M. Tuthill, Clk

Letter in folder dated October 8, 1934, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of John Jones of Westchester County, New York.

The data furnished herein were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, W.20188, based upon the military service of John Jones.

He was born in Phillipstown, Dutchess County, New York, date not given nor are the names of his parents shown; when about eleven years of age, he moved to Westchester County, New York. His father's residence during the Revolution was near the Continental Barracks, Cortland manor, Westchester County, New York.

John Jones, while residing in Cortland Manor, in 1778 drove his father's team and hauled provisions for the army. He served from early in 1777 at various times as private, corporal, sergeant and Orderly sergeant under Captain s Ebenezer Boyd, James Kronkhite, Buckhout in Colonel Samuel Drake's regiment of New York militia; he was wounded in the thigh and two fingers injured and had many bullet holes &

through his coat; early in 1783 he went with a party of volunteers under Captain Daniel Williams and was in an "Warm engagement" with the Tories, in which his horse, saddle and bridle were taken from him; he continued to serve until the fall of 1783, amounting to about three years. A part of his service was as substitute for his father, who was a member of the militia and was lame, and could not go out on duty at night.

The soldier, John Jones, was allowed pension on his application executed September 5, 1832, at which time he was aged seventy-one years and a resident of Spencer, Tioga County, New York, where he had lived since 1815.

John Jones married July 29, 1783 in Cortland Manor, New York, Sarah Swine or Swim; the date and place of his birth are not given, nor are the names of her parents stated.

John Jones died December 5, 1844. His widow, Sarah Jones, was allowed pension on her application executed December 15, 1845, then a resident of Spencer, New York, and aged seventy-six years. She died September 27, 1849 in Spencer.

The following children survived their mother—James M. Jones; Samuel Jones; Leonard Jones; Nancy, widow of Elisha Sacket; Rachel, widow of John Buskirk; Susan, wife of Caleb Valentine; Hannah, wife of Sylvester Kelsey.

There are no further data in this claim; concerning the family of the soldier, John Jones.