

Pension Application for William Kerns, Kearnes, Kearns

W.20297 (Widow: Susannah Palmatier) Married June 1, 1788. William died 25, April 1822, by the Rev'd Wm. Freligh, Pastor of Dutch Church, Hackensack, NJ. Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, of the 7th July, 1838, entitled "An act granting half-pay and pension to certain widows."

State of New York

County of Schenectady SS.

William Kerns formerly a soldier in the service of the United States, now a resident in the City and County of Schenectady and State of New York, being duly sworn deposed and saith, that he is now about sixty three years of age –

That in or about the month of April in the year 1778, during the war of the revolution, this deponent enlisted into the service of the United States, at the Town of Fishkill in the State of New York, to serve during the war.

That he was attached to Captain Hughes Company, in a regiment on the Continental Establishment commanded by Colonel Moses Hazen, which Regiment was called the Congress Regiment—

That shortly after the said Captain Hughes resigned and this Deponent was transferred to Captain William Satterlee's Company in the same Regiment. Which Regiment was after the promotion of the said Colonel Hazen to the rank of Brigadier General commanded by Colonel Antell. That this deponent continued attached to the said Regiment & Company until the close of the war—where in the month of June in the year 1783, at Pumpton [Pompton?] in the State of New Jersey, he was discharged from the service & honored with the badge of Merit for faithful service"—

While discharge is now in the City of Albany if not lost.

This deponent further says the hear received from government one hundred acres of land for his services aforesaid.

That he served during the war of the revolution, on the Continental Establishment against the common enemy as before stated.

That he is by reason of his reduced circumstances in life in need of assistance from his country for support—and that he has never had any pension allowed him for his services aforesaid by the laws of the United States—and further he said not. (Signed with his mark) William Kerns

Sworn before me this second day of April 1818. John Yates, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Schenectady.

In the 1820 deposition, William declares his family

William Kearns-myself aged 65

Susan – wife aged 56

Betsey daughter aged – 16

Stephen – son-14

Nancy – daughter aged 12

Caty – daughter aged 9.