

Pension Application for Robert McClouchan

S.9945

State of New York

Orange County SS.

On this twenty seventh day of May in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty four personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Orange and State aforesaid now sitting as a Court of Record Robert McClouchan resident of the Town of Crawford in the County of Orange in the State of New York aged seventy nine years the tenth day of April last past 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.

That in the month of June in the year 1776 he entered into the regular service of the United States as a volunteer for the Term of Six Months at the Town of New Windsor in the then County of Ulster now orange and State of New York into a Company of Infantry commanded by Captain James Millikin and Alexander Beatty as first Lieutenant and James Morell as Second Lieutenant.

That he volunteered at the time aforesaid for the term of six months. And that he was first stationed immediately after the time of his volunteering at Kingsbridge in Westchester County and the company aforesaid to which he belonged was attached to a regiment commanded by Colonel Levi Paulding in General Clinton's Brigade and one—[Luydam?] was the adjutant of said regiment. That this deponent continued stationed at Kingsbridge with the regiment aforesaid for the space of two months, and then the British forces from New York City made an excursion up the East River on Long Island Sound and the American troops marched from Kingsbridge to White Plains.

That the regiment continued at White Plains about a fortnight as near as this deponent can recollect and at this time General McCougle laid with his regiment at White Plains aforesaid. And that after a stay of about a fortnight at White Plains the American troops returned up the Hudson River to Fort Constitution a small Fort directly opposite to where West Point now stands and the regiment was stationed at Fort Constitution aforesaid until his time of service expired which this deponent believes was in the month of December 1776, and that he served faithfully during the term of six months aforesaid as private in said company and that he was neither sick nor absent a day from his regiment unless upon duty during said time and that he was in no regular battles during said term but that while he lay with his regiment at White Plains he volunteered to go on a scouting party under the command of Captain VanWyck who was the Captain of the Company which lay at the same time at White Plains, and that the party was attacked by the British forces and were driven back to White Plains and that Captain VanWyck was killed during the skirmish, and that he was buried the next day with military honors by the American Army.

And that this deponent left White Plains for Fort Constitution some time in the month of September in said year. That the names of the officers above mentioned are all that this deponent can now recollect. And that at the time his term of service expired he was discharged by his Captain verbally—

That during the last part of the summer or the first part of the fall of the year 1777, but which time this deponent by reason of his advanced age, is unable definitely to State, he volunteered again into the service of the United States as a private soldier at the Town of New Windsor aforesaid into a Company of Infantry commanded by Captain John Burnett, the Lieutenants to this deponent cannot now recollect for one year of their services should be so long required for the protection s of the inhabitance [sic, inhabitants] along the Hudson River.

That directly after the time he entered the service aforesaid he was ordered to go with the company aforesaid to Fort Montgomery on the Hudson river.

And the said company was attached to a regiment under the command of Colonel James McLaughry and General James Clinton who was the Commander of the Fort. That he laid at said Fort at least two months, and that during said term of two months at Fort Montgomery the American Troops were daily in expectation of being attacked by the British forces that he left Fort Montgomery by the permission of a furlough obtained from Colonel McLaughry and this deponents father took his place as a substitute for him during the time of his furlough, and that before the expiration of said furlough Fort Montgomery was taken by the British forces but his father escaped and was not made a prisoner, that the company to which this deponent belonged was attached was dismissed after the taking of Fort Montgomery and the was attached was dismissed after the taking of Fort Montgomery and the captain and his men returned to their homes. This disbanding of the company to which this deponent belonged was before the expiration of his furlough and he was not present at the disbanding aforesaid and therefore he received no discharge and this deponent never understood that any of the men in the company to which this deponent belonged received a written discharge but were discharged verbally.

And that he was not called again into service by any of ;the officers of said company although he resided in the immediate neighbourhood of his captains residence and was personally acquainted with him nor were any of the company aforesaid called into the regular service again during the year for which this deponent volunteered to serve if required.

That in the spring of the year (1778) he was ordered out by Captain William Cross the Captain of the Company of Militia in the Town of New Windsor aforesaid to which this deponent belonged to defend the frontiers in the northwest sections of the Counties of orange & Ulster they being frontier counties against the invasions of the Indians that he was ordered into service by the said William Cross aforesaid and was stationed at this time at a picket fort built about the House of Jacobus Devens in the then County of Ulster now Sullivan for the purpose of defending the inhabitanance [inhabitants] aforesaid that during this time he was faithfully employed in Military

duty a guard being regularly kept watch night and the men were regularly exercises [exercised] in military tactics.

And that he continued in said service at the place aforesaid for the space of two weeks and at the end of this time the men were discharged and the whole company returned home that at this time he was called out by order of his captain William Cross who as the deponent understood received his orders from Colonel Johnston who commanded the troops to which; said company belonged and that during the time aforesaid the troops were regularly exercised in military discipline and that a body of troops were continually kept on said frontiers or the greater part of the time during said year.

That during the spring of the same year (1778) in the month of May as this deponent believes he was again ordered out by Captain Cross again to defend the aforesaid frontiers from the invasions of the Indians and that he was stationed at this time in a stone house belonging to Jacobus Van Kuren which was occupied of ra picket that this service was rendered near the place of that last mentioned and that he served under the same captain and colonel as before, but the names of the other officers he does not recollect that the company was embodied and called into service in the manner and by the authority aforesaid and that he served as a private at this time at least two weeks and was then verbally discharged.

That this deponent by reason of his great age and infirm memory is unable to remember the names of any other officers than those stated that he was well acquainted both before and after his service with his captains James Millekin John Burnett & William cross and also with Colonel McLaughery.

And that during all the aforesaid terms of services this deponent was regularly employed as a soldier and not engaged in any civil pursuits during the terms of service aforesaid and that during his first term of service while he was in the militia stationed at the picket fort built about the house of Jacobus Devens the Indians made an incursion upon there one morning and carried off a man by the name of Camp or Van Camp. That they often made attacks upon the aforesaid frontiers and killed the inhabitation [inhabitants] burned there [their] dwelling and destroyed there property.

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

That the persons who were acquainted with the service of this deponent are not dead or reside if living in places to this deponent unknown except Elnathan Sears and Thomas Oliver who are acquainted with his services in part and can testify to the same. That there is now no minister of the gospel residing near this deponent who can testify his reputed service as the minister of the church to which this deponent belongs is now a young man and cannot state anything from reputation, but others are among his neighbours Henry Linderman and Thomas Oliver who can testify as to his reputed service.

In answer to the first Interrogatory when & where was your born. This deponent answers. That he was born the tenth day of April 1755 at Belfast in the

Country of Antrim in Ireland and that his parents emigrated to the United States when he was about two years of age.

In answer to the second Interrogatory this deponent says that he had a record of his age contained in a bible formerly belonging to his father, but that the same was burned by the burning of the house of this deponent several years since.

In answer to the third Interrogatories says he was living in the Town of New Windsor County of orange and State of New York. And that this deponent did live in a few years in the place last mentioned after the close of the revolutionary war, and that he has lived for the space of forty years last part in the Town of Crawford formerly Montgomery, County of Orange and State of New York where he now resides.

In answer to the fourth Interrogatory, this deponent states that he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer for the first two terms of service, and that the last two terms he was called out by his Captain aforesaid by the authority aforesaid.

In answer to the fifth Interrogatory this deponent says that he can mention the names of no other officers from his own knowledge than those before mentioned to wit: General James Clinton, Colonel McLaughery, Colonel Levi Paulding, Colonel Johnston & General McDougle, Captain James Millikin and John Burnett and Lieutenant Beatty & Monell and one Sudam as adjutant.

In answer to the sixth Interrogatory this deponent says that he never received any written discharge but was discharged verbally.

That this deponent is acquainted with Henry Linderman & Thomas Oliver in his neighbourhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier in the revolution. (Signed) Robert McClouchan

Sworn & Subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. Asa Dunning,
Clerk