

## **Pension Application for Alexander McLeod**

S.11052

State of New York

County of Washington SS

On this twenty fifth day of August one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared before me John Willard fist Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Washington, Alexander McLeod of the town of Argyle in said county aged seventy seven 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 7—1832.

That he was born on the twelfth day of January 1755, in North Brittain but has no record of his age, and when the Revolutionary War commenced he lived in the lower part of Dutchess County in the State of New York, which place continued to be his place of residence during the war, at the close of which he went to Santee in the State of South Carolina, where he resided until 1795 when he went to the twon of Argyle aforesaid, and has since then resided alternately at Argyle & Santee aforesaid & for the last five years in Argyle.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That he entered the service of the United States on the twenty sixth day of July 1775, in the Militia in the Company of Minute men commanded by Captains Asa Barnam, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Fields of the town of South east in the County of Dutchess and State of New York; that about the sixteenth day of September he marched in said company down to New York to fortify the city; that he continued to serve in said company until some time in November following & was then dismissed.

That on or about the second day of July 1776 he enlisted for twelve months in Captain Bryant's Company of the Bay State Troops, in the Regiment of Artillery commanded by Colonel Knox; that he marched in said company to Fort Independence, about a mile East of Kingsbridge & continued there, until some time in August:--

Some time in August (in the latter part he thinks) went to Long Island, and was engaged there in the battle at Flatbush & its vicinity, which lasted some day—it rained about one half of the time; retreated over to York Island continued there a few days & the Americans being likely to be surrounded (the british vessels having sailed up the North & east rivers) retreated on Sunday one Monday morning was in a severe engagement with the enemy near Harlem Heights which resulted in the retreat of the enemy with considerable loss.

On account of his activity in this engagement this applicant was promoted to Sergeant, birth, [sic] in which capacity he acted during the four succeeding campaigns, that he served in the New York State troops--

That he was on Sentry opposite to where the Rose & Phoenix men of War lay at anchor, in the North river about forty miles above New York, when the Continental Fire Ships came up to burn them, in a very dark & rainy night. That a few days after

this he turned out as a volunteer to take a small Island that lay in Harlem river, where the british [British] kept a guard; that he was in the boat with the gallant American Commander (Major Precott) when he was killed—the british were relieved with fresh troops & this applicant & those in company with him, after fighting about half an hour were obliged to retreat—the british got between the party & their boats—they retreated to Fort Independence—about a week or two after this the british landed on Frogsneck—

General Washington was at White Plains, where on or about the 28 October 1776, a severe battle was fought in which this applicant was engaged, & so badly bruised that he never got over it; it still continuing to give him inconvenience & distress to this day; a few weeks after this, this applicant with the rest of the army marched to Peekskill & rested there some days, & about the last of December had a long and sharp cannonading with the Hessians over a small river called the [Allerinfink?] –

That he was at Princeton & Trenton, in both the engagements had at those places; that about the middle of March 1777, he went as a volunteer down to the lines in West Chester County and (at Delancy's Refugees were robing [robbing] the poor inhabitants on the lines) this applicant and the whole scouting party he was in, was surrounded in Stephen Wards large house by Captain A. Campbell of the british who was killed in the contest & the house was defended with the ammunition was all appended [apprehended?] & then some surrendered prisoners of War, and this applicant with nine others made his escape through the back door of a cellar kitchen, & went to Morristown where on the sixth of April 1777 he received his discharge, which was signed by Major Edward Craft & is now lost.

That he enlisted for six months on or about the first of May in the year 1777 at Fredericksburgh in Dutchess County, in the company commanded by Captain Calkins in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Henry Ludington in the line of the State of New York in the State service—was in the engagement at Ridgefield in the State of Connecticut when the enemy came to burn Danbury, some time in the month of May 1777 when General Woster was killed—was in sight of Fort Montgomery When it was taken, but could not get over the river for want of boats:--that he continued to serve in said company until the beginning of November following, when he received his discharge which was signed by Colonel Ludington & is now lost.

That on the third of May 1779 he enlisted for six months in the company commanded by Captain Robert Woods in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Albert Paulding in the line of the State of New York in the State service; that he went in said company on General Sullivan's Expedition against the Indians over the Susquehannah—after this expedition was successfully terminated he went to Stony Point, where at the expiration of the said six months he received his discharge which was signed by Colonel Paulding & is now lost.

That on the first of May 1780 in the County of Dutchess he enlisted for six months in the company commanded by Captain Richard Sacketts in the Regiment

commanded by Colonel Albert Paulding, in the line of the State of New York in the  
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Captain Sackett's Company was under the command of Colonel Sheldon who commanded the light horse & a company of infantry in Westchester County on the lines.

This applicant was in several skirmishes & ambuscades with Colonel Delancy's Refugees, & recollects in particular one successful ambushade with Major Hatfield of the said Delancy's Refugees, on or about the eighteenth of June at the town of Stanwich in Westchester County, in which some of them were killed on the spot the cattle they had taken, taken back & three hundred of them chased by the Americans about six miles:--That he continued to serve in said Sackett's Company until the first of November in the year aforesaid when he received his discharge in the County of Westchester which was signed by Captain R. Sackett's & is now lost.

That he enlisted during the war on the first of May 1781 at Peekskill in the company commanded by Captain Hamtramicks in the Regiment of light infantry commanded by Colonel Hamilton, in the line of the State of New York: that he continued to serve in said company until November following when he was drafted into the commissary's department in which he continued to serve until on or about the 18<sup>th</sup> of December in the year 1783, when he received his discharge at Fort Constitution, which was signed by John Elderkin deputy commissary of issues & is now lost.

This applicant says that he was in both the mighty scouts when the combined armies of Continental & French troops were in motion with a design to New York from Sir Henry Clinton—He recollects that the grand army was on its march towards Morrisina point when the commander of the allied armies, (Washington & Roschambeau) met: the Continentals halted & opened to the right & left & the two Generals met opposite to where this applicant stood & so near to him that he could have touched them with his bayonet; he recollects that a detachment of troops had a hot engagement with the british between Valentine's hill & old Fort Independence & drove them over Kingsbridge.

This applicant says that he recollects several of the Continental officers, of the Regiment to which he was attached or those which lay near the troops with which he served—recollects Colonel Knox before he became Major General, Edward Craft before he became colonel, Colonel Lamb of New York & other artillery officers, --Of the light horse he recollects Colonel Sheldon, Colonel Jameson & Major Talmadge—of the light infantry, Colonel Hamilton before he was made General, Major Fish & others.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services except "An act (of the Legislature of the State of New York) for the relief of Alexander McLeod & for other purposes passed, April 9—1811", on the petition of this applicant after he returned from the State of South Carolina, whether he went at the termination of the Revolutionary War & from whence he returned in the year 1793, to the State of New York & there applied for his arrears of pay (in the four campaigns he served in the line

of that State) and was directed to the Treasurers office where he found his name forged & his money drawn out & obtained from the Treasurer a certificate proving the same, which certificate he kept 18 years as he did not know how to apply for his arrears, when in 1811, he was advised to petition the Legislature by which he succeeded in obtaining the passage of that part of the act above referred to, which relates to this applicant; the whole of which said part a printed copy is hereunto immediately following annexed.

That he knows of no person who can procure who can testify to his services.

That he is known to Alexander Livingston of the town of Greenwich in the said County of Washington & Alexander Robertson of the town of Salem in the same County, who can testify to his character for truth & veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) Alexander McLeod

Sworn this 25<sup>th</sup> August 1832 before me. John Willard first Judge Wash Com.  
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