

Pension Application of John E. Reinhart

R.8696

State of Pennsylvania

County of Philadelphia SS.

On this Fourth day of October A.D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty two (1852) personally appeared before me in Alderman Ex. Officer a Justice of the Peace, within and for the said County and State aforesaid, John E. Reinhart, a resident of the Northern Liberties; who being duly sworn according to Law,; doth depose and say: that he was personally acquainted with Marquis de La Fayette, they were Schoolmates; and that he was born in the Town of Strasburg, on the River Rhine, within the borders of France, on, the 18th day of August 1759, now in his 94th year, Deponent states; that before quitting France, he accompanied the Marquis to see Dr. Franklin, who was then in France, and heard him ask the Doctor to furnish him with a Vessel to carry him to America, the Doctor said "he had not the means", then said La Fayette in reply "I will provide my own".

Deponent further states, that he came over with La Fayette and his forces, and was one of the number who offered their services to the American cause. They arrived at the Potomac River, early in the Spring of 1777.

Congress then setting in Philadelphia, he applied for, and received a first Lieutenant's Commission, the forces under La Fayette, were separated after their arrival. He, deponent, was placed under Capt. Schutz Company No. 8 10th Regiment Regulars under Count Pulaski.

The first battle in which he was engaged, was at the time, the American Army was posted near Chadd's Ford, on the Brandy Wine in September 1777, where La Fayette was wounded; the Americans retreated, first to Chester, then to Philadelphia, afterwards encamped on the Lancaster road, deponent was engaged at the Battle of Germantown in October same year where he was wounded by a musket ball in the left thigh, which was afterwards taken out by the Surgeon of the Army, was also at the fight at Red Bank, where Count [Doness?] was wounded and made a prisoner the American Army returned to White Marsh, and winters at Valley Forge in 1777, after which they pursue the British to New Jersey, and engaged in fight with them at Monmouth in June 1778, a part of the American forces marched to White Plains, while County Pulaski was sent in expedition to Egg Harbor, after their return, they meat [met] General Washington at Middlebrook New Jersey, and there the Army winters in 1778.

Sometime after Washington marched up the North River, and ordered general Wayne to take Stoney Point, the forces meat [met] and advance[d] in two columns, he deponent was on the right wing, and if he mistakes not. Col. Hull on the left, they attacked that post on the night of the 15th July 1779, and carried it by storm. Gen Wayne got wounded, and also is of the opinion that one of his aids, a man by the name of Fishbourn.

Short after Pulaski's Regiment was ordered to the South, they took up the line of March for Savannah, on arriving, they join in Count D'Estaing and Gel Lincoln, in

storming that place in Oct 1779, Count D'Estaing got slightly, and Count Pulaski mortally wounded, after this, they sat [set] out for Richmond, about this time Genl Gates in consequence of having been defeated in several battles at the south, was superseded by Genl Greene, who takes command of the Southern Army, they form a junction with La Fayette, Wayne, and Baron Steuben and follow Cornwallis to Williamsburg—he retreated to Yorktown, a few days before this Gen Washington arrived from the north, and after his arrival ordered La Fayette to take the Entrenchment and Baron Viomnel the Redoubt, Cornwallis, unable to stand the combined forces surrendered to Genl Lincoln in October 1881, after the Capture Genl Washington marched for the north with his forces, and arrived at New York—then to West Point, where deponent remained until the close of the war where he received his certificate of discharge, together with a Certificate of discharge, together with a certificate for 5 years pay which he never received, these papers together with his original record of his birth, and also his commission, were destroyed by fire at the time he lived on the wharf near the Red Stores below Race Street in Philadelphia on the night of the 28th day of January 1819, in proof of which your [you] are respectfully referred to the affidavit annexed.

Deponent further declares, that in consequence of the destruction of all his papers, he has no documentary evidence to prove his services in the Revolutionary War, nor are there any persons living near, on whom he could make application, Mr. Jacob Foulder, who lived some miles distant and on whom he intended to have made enquiry, has just departed this life; and Mr. Daniel Bowen for whom diligent search has been made I cannot find.

Deponent alleges that the reason of his not having made application at an earlier day, and before nearly all the old soldiers had become dead; was that his business as a Blacksmith, always afforded him a comfortable living; but existing with many losses, becoming aged, infirm and unable to work any longer, he is compelled to ask or that assistance which he believes he is entitled to; he therefore makes his application under the “Act of June the 7th 1832” relinquishing every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declaring that his name is not on the Roll of Pension sin any State. (Signed) John C. Reinhart

Thomas Walton, Alderman & Ex officio Justice of the Peace.