

Pension Application for William Sherwood

R.9504

State of New York

Yates County SS.

On this twenty eighth day of September in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-two personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Yates, aforesaid now sitting William Sherwood a resident of the town of Italy in the County of Yates aforesaid aged seventy three 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the latter part of the year 1775 and according to the best of his recollection in the month of November, he enlisted to serve as a soldier for the term of five months, in a company of New York State Militia commanded by Capt. Samuel Raymond and Lieuts Langdon and Reynolds in Col. Isaac Nichols' Regiment of Militia (1) State troops. He was enrolled and mustered in the said company at Cornwall in the County of Orange and State of New York and was forthwith marched to the Hudson River to a place since known as Fort Constitution where he was stationed and served as a soldier of the said company and regiment six months, being one month more than his term of enlistment as aforesaid. He was then discharged.

In the Autumn of the next year (1776) but in what month he cannot determine he again entered as a soldier at Cornwall aforesaid, to serve for the term of nine months in a company of state troops of the State of New York under Capt. John Wisner (2) and Lieuts Strong and Little (3), in Col. Dubois' Regiment (4) immediately marched to Fort Montgomery and thence soon after to Haverstraw Bay where he was stationed and served in the said Company and Regiment about three months. Within a few weeks after being so stationed at Haverstraw, a detachment of British troops was landed from the British shipping then lying in Haverstraw Bay, about six miles from the encampment of the Regiment to which he belonged.

Immediately after such discharge he returned home to Cornwall aforesaid, and there learned that his father Daniel Sherwood had been drafted as a soldier and was then in actual service of the United States at Clarkstown in the State of New York in a company of militia under Capt. Van Duzer (5) and Lieut Smith (6). The said deponent immediately proceeded to Clarkstown aforesaid and took the place of his said father, Daniel Sherwood in the said company and served as his substitute three or four weeks then the said company was dismissed.

A few months after, and as the deponent now has the impression, in the month of January of the year 1778 he again enlisted as a soldier to service for the term of nine months in a company of volunteers under Capt. Tallman (7). The said Company was attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. Hays and was stationed at Clarkstown aforesaid four or five months. The Regiment then marched to Haverstraw. A detachment of the troops at that place marched under the command of the said Col. Hays to Hackensack in New Jersey deponent being of the number. He continued to serve in the said company and regiment till the expiration of his said term of enlistment when he received an honorable discharge.

He further said that subsequently at various times during the War of the Revolution, he was called into actual service as a soldier for a few days at a time on short expeditions, and on sudden alarms, and that on every occasion the promptly obeyed such calls.

That when Fort Montgomery (8) was attacked by a British force, he was serving in the said Fort as a soldier of the garrison under Gov. George Clinton, and that he the said deponent was in the engagement which then took place.

Deponent saith that he served as above stated.

Under Capt. Raymond—six months.

Under Capt. Wisner—nine months.

Under Capt. VanDuzer—one month.

Under Capt. Tallman—nine months.

On several other occasions – say three months.

The said deponent further saith

1st. That he was born at Cornwall in the County of Orange and State of New York on the day of [blank] in the year 1759.

2nd. That he has no record of his age.

3rd. That he lived at Cornwall aforesaid when called into service as above stated; he continued to reside at that place twenty five years after such service. He then removed to the town of Gorham in the County of Ontario in the same state where we resided then years from whence he removed to the town of Middlesex in the County of

Yates in the same state where he has since resided except that recently he has removed a distance of about four miles, from his former residence in Middlesex aforesaid and into the adjoining town of Italy where he now resides.

4th. That he enlisted or volunteered when in service as herein before stated except that he served one month as a substitute for his father Daniel Sherwood.

5th. He recollects to have seen the following regular officers at different times, with troops where he served. Viz. Gen. Washington, Gen. LaFayette, Gen. Wayne, Gen. Putnam, Gov. George Clinton, Col. Stevens of the Artillery, and Capt. Matchin.

6th. He does not recollect to have received but one written discharge. That which he does remember to have received as signed by Col. Hays. He lost the same as he believes before the close of the war nor has he any knowledge of having seen it since.

7th. Deponent saith that he is known to Gilbert Ireland and Elisha Kelly—who reside in the town of Middlesex aforesaid and in the vicinity of his residence, and who as he believes can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He knows of no person now living who has personal knowledge of his said services as a soldier except his brother Andrew Sherwood who if yet living resides in the County of Tompkins and State of New York but who is entirely blind, and so infirm and superannuated as to be unable to transact any business.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Wm. Sherwood.

Subscribed and Sworn the day and year aforesaid. Thomas J. Nevins, Deputy Clerk.

End Notes—R.9504—William Sherwood

1. Captain Samuel Raymond, First Lieutenant David Reynolds, Second Lieutenant Richard Langdon or Landon, etc., and Ensign Jeremiah Fowler from the Cornwell Precinct were part of Colonel Isaac Nicoll's Regiment of Orange County Minute Men. The company officers were commissioned on November 9, 1775.
2. John Wisner was appointed Captain on March 6, 1776 of the Florida and Warwick's Company in Colonel Nicoll's Regiment of Minute Men. The other company officers were as follows: Abraham Dolson as First Lieutenant, Nathan Sayre as Second Lieutenant and Asa Wisner as Ensign.
3. It appears Henry is referring to Second Lieutenant James Little and Ensign Nathan Strong of Captain Thomas Moffat's Company, the Blooming Grove Company, in Colonel Nicoll's Regiment.
4. They were not part of Colonel Lewis DuBois' New York Continental Regiment which was un-numbered, but he may have been in command of Fort Montgomery.
5. Captain Christopher VanDuzer of the Third Company in Colonel Jesse Woodhull's First Regiment of Orange County Militia which was also known as the East Orange or Cornwall Regiment.
6. Obadiah Smith was the Second Lieutenant in Captain Van Duzer's Company.
7. Probably First Lieutenant Teunis Tallman of Captain Arie Smith's Company in Colonel Ann Hawkes Hays' Third Regiment of Orange County Militia or otherwise known as the Haverstraw Precinct Regiment.
8. The Battle of Fort Montgomery, N.Y. was fought on October 6, 1777. George Clinton was the Governor of New York and General of the Militia.