

Pension Application for Thomas Lewis Spotten

S.14562

State of New York

County of Rensselaer SS

On this fourth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas called the Mayor's Court of the City of Troy now sitting Thomas L. Spotten a resident of the town of Lansingburgh in the County of Rensselaer and State of New York aged seventy one year who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to 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.

Viz: Colonel Stephen J. Schuyler, (1) Lieutenant Colonel Henry K. Van Rensselaer (2) (who succeeded Colonel Schuyler in the command of the regiment) and Major John Fonda. (3)

Company officers viz-Captain Christopher Tillman, (4) Lieutenant Jonathan Severs, Ensign, John Clark, Orderly Sergeant George Boyes—(5)

That he entered the service of the United States under the above named field and company officers in or about the month of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven. That he afterward with the consent of his Colonel, enrolled himself in the company commanded by Captain George Sharpe (6) belonging to the same regiment.

That the first year of his enrollment (1777) in the fall of the year he served in the hospital service thirty four days.

That in the Spring of 1778 he was engaged on the Island between Troy and Albany in putting up fish for provisions for the Army, six weeks.—That in the forepart of the Spring of the same year his father procured John Spaulding (7) now deceased a substitute for him for three months.

That in the fall of the year (1778) he went to Fort Hunger on service, by way of Schenectady, and that he served on that tour one month.

That in the year 1779 he went in service to Fort Edward and served three weeks.

That he also in 1779 he went a tour to Saratoga & that he served on that tour three weeks—That he went also another tour to Saratoga and he thinks in the year 1780 and served one month.

That in the year 1780 he went on service to Stone Arabia, by way of Schenectady and Caughnawaga and he served on that tour two weeks. That the year Cornwallis surrendered they went to Johnstown and Caughnawaga and he served on that tour weeks. That in the year 1782 he went to Hoosick & served on that tour two weeks.

That in the year 1778 immediately after he got thro putting up fish he was put on the watch along the North river; station from Lansingburgh to Schodack and that he served on that watch three months.

That in the summer of 1777 before he enlisted as above stated, he went under Captain Philip Van Rensselaer (8) in the river service as far as Peekskill on the North river, for troops & brought them up the river and served on that tour four weeks.

Answers to those questions prescribed by the War department.

1. That he was born in the City and County of Albany and State of New York on or about the ninth day of June in the year our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty one.
2. That he has now in his possession the record of his age made by his ancestors.

3. That at the time he entered the revolutionary war he resided in the town of Lansingburgh County of Rensselaer and State of New York, that he has resided there ever since the revolution except one year, and that he now resides in the town of Lansingburgh
4. That he volunteered.
5. That he does not now recollect any of the regular officers who were with the troops were he served except that he recollects Col. Van Schaick's (9) regiment of the regular line. Col. Philip Schuylers (19) & Col. Yates' (11) regiment of the Militia. That his quarters were at Lansingburgh, that he kept himself ready at all times to be called out on duty and that when he was not actually engaged and at his quarters he was frequently out on Scouting expeditions.
6. That he never received any militia commission or discharge and that he has no documentary evidence.
7. That he is known in his present neighborhood to William Gilmore, Sevinus Lansing, Cornelius Myers, Jacob Lansing and others who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.
That he never was in any battle.

That he served during the whole time in the capacity of a private.

That the clergyman who formerly resided in the town of Lansingburgh and with whom he was acquainted & whose service he attended has removed from Lansingburgh, and that their present Clergyman is not sufficiently acquainted with him to certify in his behalf.

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) Thomas Lewis Spotten

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Archibald Prall Clerk.

End Notes—S.14562—Thomas L. Spotten

1. Colonel Stephen J. Schuyler was appointed Colonel of the Sixth Regiment of Albany County Militia in 1775. Colonel Schuyler resigned on March 26, 1781.
2. Henry K. VanRensselaer was appointed lieutenant colonel in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment in 1775. After Schuyler resigned VanRensselaer commanded the regiment as lieutenant colonel not as colonel.
3. John J. Fonda was appointed second major in 1775 and appointed the first major on February 20, 1776.
4. Christopher Tillman was appointed first lieutenant in Captain Floris Banker's Seventh Company in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment. Captain Banker was appointed second major on February 20, 1776 and Tillman was appointed Captain in Banker's place. On May 28, 1778, Tillman was commissioned Captain Jonathan Sever the first lieutenant, Henry Denkes the second lieutenant and John Clark as the ensign.
5. A George Boid was found as a sergeant in Captain Tillman's Company not a George Boyes.
6. George Sharpe was commissioned Captain on May 28, 1778 in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment.
7. John Spaulding, or Spalding, etc., has not been located as serving in Schuyler's Regiment.
8. Most likely Captain Philip VanRensselaer served in the Quartermaster Generals Department.
9. Colonel Goose VanSchaick of the First New York Continental Regiment.
10. Colonel Philip P. Schuyler commanded the Third Regiment of Albany County Militia.

11. Christopher C. Yates was the lieutenant colonel in Colonel Abraham Wemple's Second Regiment of Albany County Militia. In 1779 he served as Deputy Quartermaster General until 1781.