

Pension Application for Joseph Sternbergh

S.14,579 SS.

State of New York
County of Niagara.

On this ninth day of May one thousand eight hundred & thirty three personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas at the Court House in Lockport in and for the County of Niagara now sitting Joseph Sternberg aged Eighty two years & upwards who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

Previous to the Capture of General Burgoyne (1) & his army & in the year 1777, Declarant entered the service of the United States as a Searjant in the Company of New York Militia commanded by Capt. Peter Yates. (2) The day nor the month when declarant thus entered the service, Declarant cannot state by reason of old age and loss of memory—Francis Putman (3) & Rechter Putman were Lieutenants of said company—Does not remember the names of the officers of this company further than above stated. Volkert Veeder (4) was Col. of the Regiment to which declarants company belonged—Declarant joined this company at the house of said Capt. Peter Yates in the Town of Charlestown in the County of Montgomery in the State of New York—From there Capt. Yates marched said company to Johnstown in said County from thence to Saratoga—The object of raising said company as this declarant then understood was to aid in arresting the progress of Burgoyne & prevent his passage to Albany—When declarant arrived at Saratoga but a few troops were there & he cannot tell who commanded them—Declarant remained at Saratoga until Burgoyne approached that place. The Regiment to which declarant belonged was not engaged in the battle at the taking of Burgoyne—Declarant served as said orderly Sergeant at the time three weeks & was then dismissed & returned home.--

In 1775—Declarant was guard to Col. Schuyler (5) when he treated with the Indians at Herkimer in County of Herkimer aforesaid the declarant volunteered his services at the request of Col. Schuyler & served over two weeks as one of such guard.

In 1777, Declarant was in the whole of the disastrous battle of Oriskany (6) in the now County of Oneida—Declarant acted as orderly Searjeant in the Company of New York Militia Commanded by Capt. Peter Yates above named—Maj. NewKirk (7) commanded the Regiment to which applicants company belonged—Col. Veeder commanded another Regiment of said Militia & Col. Cox (8) Commanded the third regiment & said Militia in this battle these regiments were nearly cut to pieces—Col. Cox was killed in the early part of the engagement—The whole forces was commanded by General Herkimer. 9(0

From the commencement of the war until its close Declarant was engaged in similar services almost weekly to recount all of which Declarant is unable to do from loss of memory—Declarant was also engaged in scouting & guarding the country the whole of the time during said war at intervals sometimes Declarant would serve one week sometimes two weeks, & often three weeks at a time according to circumstances required—Declarant can lastly say that he served said United States as a soldier & was engaged in actual service in this manner above stated for more than seven months during the continuence of said Revolutionary War—for which services Declarant claims a pension – Declarant knows of no person living by whom he can prove his services.—

Declarant 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.

1. Declarant was born in the Town of Charleston in the County of Montgomery in the State of New York on the 24 Day of January 1751-as this deponent was informed by his parents & believes true.—
2. Declarant has no record of his age, but the family record of declarants age is now with a son of declarants sister in the Town of Charleston in the County of

Montgomery in this state—Which declarant has after seen & is certain in the family bible of declarants father.

3. When Declarant entered the service & during the whole time of the Revolutionary War he resided in the Town of Charleston in the County of Montgomery in the State of New York & until the years 1803 when he moved to the Town of Minden in said County where he resided until 1810 when he moved to the Town of Lenox in the County of Madison in said State where he resided until 1825 when he moved to the Town of Lockport Niagara County where he resided until 1830 when he moved to the town of Cambria in the County of Niagara where he now resides.
4. Declarant always volunteered when he entered the service—never was drafted nor was he a substitute.
5. Declarant cannot state the names of the regular officers who were with the troops further than above nor can he state the persons of the continental or militia regiments further than above—Cannot state the general circumstances of this further than above.
6. Declarant never received a written discharge from the service but was always dismissed by his captains.
7. Declarant refers to John Hitchcock David Hayden Albert Smith & the Reverend John B. Loneleton persons residing in the neighborhood of Declarants present residence & who can testify to Declarants character for truth & veracity & their belief of this services as a soldier of the Revolution. (Signed) Joseph Sternbergh.

Subscribed & sworn to before me in open court this ninth day of May 1833. Henry Catten Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas & General Session of the Peace of Niagara County.

Reply to a letter of inquiry dated February 12, 1925.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.14579, it appears that Joseph Sternbergh was born January 24, 1751 in Charleston, Montgomery County, New York.

While residing at said place, he served more than two weeks as guard to Colonel Schuyler in his treaty with the Indians at Herkimer.

From in 1777, he served at various times to close of War as private and Orderly Sergeant, under Captain Peter Yates, Colonels Volkert Veeder and Newkirk in the New York Troops, he was in the battle of Oriskany, the service amounting to seven months.

He was allowed pension on his application executed May 9, 1833, while a resident of Cambria, Niagara County, New York. There is no data on file as to family.

End Notes—S.14579—Joseph Sternbergh

1. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British and Ally forces at Saratoga on October 17, 1777.
2. Joseph served as a sergeant in Captain Robert A. Yates' Third Company in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia. Peter A. Yates served as the second lieutenant in his brother's third company.
3. Francis Putman served as an ensign in Captain Hermanus Mabee's Company in Colonel Visscher's Regiment. Victor Putman served as a corporal in Captain Yates' Company.
4. Volkert Veeder served as the lieutenant-colonel in Colonel Visscher's Regiment.
5. Major General Philip Schuyler held a treaty with various Indian nations in 1665 in hopes they would aid the Americans in their struggle against England or at least for a promise of being neutral.
6. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on August 6, 1777.
7. John Newkirk served as the second major under Colonel Visscher. Joseph is in the error. Visscher, Veeder and Newkirk served as officers in the same regiment.

8. Ebenezer Cox was the Colonel of the first Regiment of Tryon County Militia's Cox was killed at Oriskany.
9. Nicholas Herkimer served as the brigadier general of the Tryon County Militia Brigade.