

Pension Application for Alexander Turner

S.9491

It appears that Alexander or rather his son didn't make application while Alexander was capable of telling about his service. There are any depositions in the folder from other people, but non from Alexander himself. In 1835, others stated they thought he was 91 years of age.

State of New York

Cortland County SS

Alexander Turner Junior being duly sworn deponeth & saith that he is the only surviving son of Alexander Turner and that he now lives and always has lived in the family with his father. That he this deponent (while yet a boy) sometime in the year 1801 removed together with his father and family, from Salem in Washington Co in the State aforesaid came to the town of Homer in the County of Cortland and then he and his father the said Alexander Turner do now and have ever since that time resided in the last mentioned place and this deponent further saith that from a family record which he has in his possession and from current refresh he verily believes that the said Alexander Turner is now rising of ninety one years of age; and that for more than six years past his father has been on the decline both in body and mind any [?] and for at least two or three years he has so far lost the use of his bodily senses and mental facilities that it is with the utmost difficulty he can be made to understand what is spoken to him on the most common topics or that a connected and coherent story, [?] be drawn from him on any subject whatever; he has so far lost the use of sight and hearing that he can neither distinguish the persons nor the voices of those who are about him daily.

And this deponent further saith that within a few months past he has frequently asked him for these questions respecting the Revolutionary War and concurring the past he took in that transaction but that he is unable to give a connected relative of any courts that took place therein or what office he held in the militia none the less he always insists that the was an officer during the war.

And this deponent further saith that prior to the period of six or seven years last past he had frequently heard his father (then being in a sound and healthy state of mind) relate to his grandchildren and others, [?] and stories connected with the Revolutionary war in and concerning which he bore a part. But this deponent does not recollect the particular events and excursions in which he has heard his father he was engaged, except that he distinctly remembers of hearing his father tell of being in the army at the surrender of Burgoyne, and has had for many years in his possession saw which he has heard his father say and always understood that he the said Alexander Turner plundered from the enemy in that occasion.

And this deponent further saith that in searching among his fathers old papers a few days since he came across those scripts which are hereunto annexed. This deponent further says that he is acquainted with the hand writing of his father and he verily believes that one of these scripts purporting ot have been written by him is din

his hand writing and was actually written by his father; to wit, the one bearing date May 26th 1781.

And this deponent further saith that the reason why he has not made application before for and in behalf of his father to have his name places upon the pension list in order to have his said father receive the benefit of the Pension Act passed 1832, in that he has always been advised by Counsel which he has taken in the promises, that it would be entirely useless to make application for said pension unless the said petition could give a coherent & connected relation of all the circumstances in or in regard to his services during the war or unless further proof of such services could be procured. And this deponent saith that ever since said act was passed & for sometime previous this father has been entirely unable to give such a relation of his said services as he supposes would be required and that this deponent now has been informed until a few days since which did he know, that any individuals were now living who could testify in relation to the services of his father during the Revolutionary War.

And this deponent further saith that a few days since he received from his sister a daughter of the said Alexander Turner who resides in Washington County N.Y. three affidavits the same being hereunto annexed. And this deponent further saith that Washington County is situated about one hundred and ninety miles distant from the town of Homer aforesaid where he resides and that he this deponent has not visited said county for more than ten years last past and this deponent did onto know that James McWhorter, John Steel or Abner Carswell the said deponents were now living northeast they knew anything of his fathers said service until he this deponent received the affidavits above mentioned. And further this deponent saith not. (Signed) Alexander Turner Jr.

Subscribed & sworn this 30th day of December 1834 before me. William Bartlit,
a Judge of Cortland County Courts.