

Pension Application for George Walter

S.10040

State of New York

Montgomery County SS.

On this Nineteenth day of June in the year 1835 personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of said county now sitting George Walter of Johnstown in the County of Montgomery and State of New York aged seventy nine 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.

That he entered the service of the United States at Palatine in said County and State where he then lived at the commencement of the revolutionary War in the year 1775 as a militia man under the command of Captain Andrew Dillenback (1) in the Regiment of Militia commanded by Colonel Jacob Klock and Lieutenant Col. Peter Waggoner (2) and that he continued in said service at various periods doing the various duties until the month of August in the year 1777 when his said Captain was slain in the Oriskana Battle (3) and was then succeeded by Captain Suffrenus Cook (4) and in which battle this deponent was engaged and was twice severely wounded for which he now receives an invalid pension that according to the best of this applicants recollection he commenced service in the spring of the year 1775 and served occasionally till the fall of that year and that he is certain he served at least a month during that year that he was eight days at Mounts in Jersey field on a scouting party and that he went from Stone Arabia where he then lived which in going and returning made in the whole eleven days service—that he was during that year ten days at Fort Plain keeping guard and was engaged several other times in that year in other services amounting in the whole to at least a month.

That in the year 1776 he was at Caughnawaga and marched to Johnstown and was at the taking of Sir John Johnson and was then engaged at least two days in that service and was engaged during that summer in going out upon several alarms the time he was engaged in each tour he turned out and how long he was out on each tour he finds it impossible to state with precision—but he thinks at least twenty times and therefore charges for twenty days service in those tours.

That in the year 1777 in the Spring he went to Unadilla (5) under his said officers and under the command of General Herkimer (6) in pursuit of Brant and his Indians and was engaged in that expedition twenty one days and after returning to Stone Arabia he again was engaged in service which led to the Oriskany battle on the 6th of August that he believes he was under arms at least fifteen days and engaged previous to that battle that after the wounds which he received in that battle (and which were very severe) he was confined and unable to do actual service during the remaining part of that campaign, the wounds he received in that battle having disabled him—that the whole time he was engaged during that season including the time that he was laid up from the wounds he received amounts to six months.

That in the year 1778 he went under Colonel Waggoner in June or July but under what Captain he does not now recollect in pursuit of the enemy to Springfield at the time that it was burnt by Brant and his Indians and Tories—he recollects distinctly of having seen horse meat roasted on a fire which [served] them for food—This term of service as charged at least six days—He continued in occupational service during the summer according to the emergency of the times and in November he thinks went under the same officers to the defence of Cherry Valley (7) at the time the same was burnt by Brant and Butler (8) and their incendiary troops and when the general massacre so well known in history took place there he was out then at least six days, upon this tour and was engaged during that year frequently in small excursions for a day as the advance or retreat of the Indians and Tories rendered it necessary which for certainty he is constrained to limit to ten days.

That in the years 1779 & 1780 he was engaged in Boat service (9) for which he is informed he cannot be allowed under the act of June 7, 1832 as military service and will not therefore specify the service.

That in the year 1781, he enlisted in the month of March for nine months in a company of Levies and that he actually served the said nine months under the command of Captain Lawrence Gross (10), Lieut Jacob Sammons and 2nd Lieut Peter Vrooman (11) and that himself as well as the company to which he belonged were under the command of Col. Willett that this applicant was during that period engaged in three battles first the Turlough Battle (12) in July—the second battle was commonly called Landman's Battle (13) occurred soon after the first and the third battle was the Johnstown Battle (14) which was fought in the month of October and after the battle he pursued the enemy to the West Canada Creek (15) where Butler was killed and that he served out the full nine months that he enlisted and until his company were disbanded—and he received no discharge further than was disbanding.

That he has no documentary evidence to prove his claim and that although he is positive as such from the nature of the services he was engaged was from his general recollections of that service that he has been engaged full two years in such military service never the less when he wishes to tax his memory for particular services and therefore tours he finds that by reason of the great length of time as well as the infirmity of age he is unable to

be more definite than he has been [?] in and that he could not have recollected the particular services herein stated were they not connected with prominent events which were collimated to make an indelible impression on the mind of every one who participated in them—That he has no record of his age--that since the Revolutionary War he has lived in Johnstown in said County. That he was born in the year 1756 in State of North Carolina. And the claimant further states that the reason why he has not presented this his claim before now is that he made enquiry upon the subject but that he was informed that he could not obtain a claim under the act of 1832 without surrendering his invalid pension and he never knew the [?] to be true until he was so informed this summer upon inquiry by Charles McVean Esqr and this Deponent immediately upon such information commenced preparations for presenting this his claim to the department and the said claimant hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present (and except his said pension as an invalid) and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state—only on that of the State of New York for his said invalid pension that the clergyman to whose church he belongs has lately left his church and this town and gone away into parts unknown to this applicant and he has as yet found no personal acquaintance with his successor who is a stranger in these parts & that this claimant is well acquainted with Aaron Haring Esqr who has lately been for many years past first judge of said county and for 25 years past a Justice of the Peace residing in said town and that he has known Joseph Packard for more than 20 years a merchant in said town both of whom have known him during that time and in whose neighborhood he has resided during the whole of that time and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. (Signed with his mark) George Walter.

Subscribed and sworn the day and year aforesaid in open court. Geo. D. Ferguson, Clerk.

Increase of Pension

It is hereby certified that George Walter formerly a private of Captain Andrew Dillenbach's company in the Infantry Regiment of Colonel Jacob Klock's New York State who it appears by the accompanying certificate was placed on the pension roll at the rate of two dollars & fifty cents per month, on account, as he sates, of having received two musket balls the one in his left hip and the other in his neck while in the line of duty, and in the said service, on or about the twentieth day of August in the year 1776 [The Battle of Oriskany occurred August 6, 1777] at a place called the Oriskany in the state or territory of New York, is not only still disabled in consequence of the said injury, but, in my opinion is entitled to more than he already receives as a pensioner, being disabled to a degree amounting to three-fourths, from obtaining his subsistence by manual labor. James W. Miller M.D.; Saml Maxwell M.D.

Subscribed & sworn to this 3rd day of April in the year 1825, before me Aaron Haring, First Judge of Montgomery County Common Pleas New York State.

End Notes—George Walter—S.10040

1. Andrew Dillenbach (Dillenbeck, Dillenbogh, etc.) was appointed the First Lieutenant in Captain John Keyser Jr's company (Fourth company) on August 26, 1775, in Colonel Jacob Klock's Second Regiment of Tryon County Militia. Captain Keyser in 1775 was appointed Second Lieutenant in Captain Christopher P. Yates' company in Colonel Goose VanSchaick's Second New York Continental Regiment. Dillenbach commanded the company in Keyser's absence. Keyser died in Canada in November of 1775. Dillenbach was in 1776 appointed Captain of the Fourth Company.
2. Peter Waggoner (Wagner) was the Lieutenant-Colonel in the Second Tryon.
3. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on August 6, 1777.
4. Severinus Klock was the First Lieutenant in Captain Dillenbach's Company. Klock was commissioned on June 25, 1778. Klock was appointed Captain sometime in 1778 and was commissioned as Captain on March 4, 1780.
5. On June 27, 1776 at Unadilla General Herkimer and Joseph Brant held a conference. Herkimer attempted to persuade Brant and his warriors to remain neutral in the war between England and America.
6. Nicholas Herkimer was appointed Brigadier General of the Tryon County Militia on September 5, 1776.
7. Cherry Valley was destroyed on November 11, 1778.
8. Walter Butler was a Captain in Butler's Rangers which was commanded by his father Colonel John Butler.
9. Captain Samuel Gray's Company of Bateauemen.
10. George enlisted as a private on May 22, 1781 in Captain Lawrence Gros' Company in Lieutenant-Colonel Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, Folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
11. The Lieutenants in Captain Gros' Company were Jacob Sammons and Simon J. Vrooman.
12. The Battle of New Dorlach (Terlow, Turlough, etc.), was fought on July 10, 1781.
13. The Battle of Lampman's was fought on July 29, 1781.
14. The Battle of Johnstown was fought on October 25, 1781.
15. The Skirmish at West Canada Creek was fought on October 30, 1781.