

Pension Application for Leonard Whyland

S.7886 Ent. Oct 5, 1777. Dis June 13, 1778.

State of New York, Rensselaer County & City of Troy SS.

On this third day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Mayors Court of the City of Troy now sitting Leonard Whyland a resident of the Town of the Town of Sandlake in the County of Rensselaer and State of New York aforesaid aged eighty two 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 Uited States under the following Officers and served as herein stated.

He first served as a private soldier in the Malitia under the command of Captain Henry Oothout and Lieutenant Jacob Fonda, Capt Oathouts company belonged to a regiment under the command of Colonel Philip Schuyler of Albany—thinks this was in the fall of 1775, but how long he continued in the service at this time he does not distinctly recollect but believes about three months.

He marched from his place of residence to Fort Edward & Lake George about seventy miles where he was dismissed.

In the month of May 1776 he enlisted as a private soldier into the Continental service as he believes and marched under the command of Captain Brant VanSchoonhoven but believes he did not continue under his command. He continued in active service until sometime in the month of August following when he was dismissed after serving about three months.

In February 1777 he again enlisted as a private soldier into the continental service for the term of eight months and was put under the command of Capt Gerrit Fisher and marched out of Albany on the first day of March 1777 for the north—tht he continued in said services until after the taking of Burgoyne the 17 October 1777 and was duly dismissed after his term of service expired—

He does not recollect the names of any of the other officers in Capt. Fishers company.

He recollect of seeing Col. Wynkoop during this term of service but does not recollect whether or not he had the command of the regiment to which this declarant belonged. He was among the troops (commanded by General Philip Schuyler) who retreated before Burgoyne from Ticonderoga to the plains of Saratoga. This declarant was immediately sent to Albany among a small detachment for some purpose and before the return of the detachment Burgoyne surrendered. He frequently saw Generals Gates & Arnold during this campaign.

About the first of November of the same year 1777 he was appointed a Captain or Commandant over a small company of men enlisted to cut ship timber for the term of four months and continued this service until the following March he and his men were to receive the same pay and rations as the Continental troops and were considered in the continental service.

On the second September 1778 he was again called out among the Militia under the command of Capt George Sharp & marched about sixty or sixty five miles from his place of residence near a place called Caghnewaga [Caughnawaga] on the Mohawk River when a portion of said militia were drafted and the rest were dismissed. He recollects that Col. Stephen Schuyler had the command of this detachment of Militia.

In March of the year 1779 he again enlisted among the continental troops as a private soldier & was put under the command of Capt Jacob Van Deusen and on the first day of April following he left Albany in a detachment for Coeymans and about the first of May following the detachment returned to Albany afterwards they marched to a place called the Helderbergh and remained there until sometime in July when they received the news that the Americans had made a treaty & league with France—made the 30th October of the year before—where they were dismissed this company belonged to a regiment commanded by Col Wynkoop.

In the fall of the same year (1779) he was again called out among the militia and again under the command of Capt George Sharp and marched to Lansingburgh – Half Moon & Stillwater in Saratoga County and thence to Schenectady where they were dismissed after an absence from home of about five or six weeks. This detachment of militia consisted of two Regiments one of which was commanded by Colonel Henry K. VanRenssalaer and Major Leonard Van Deusen and he recollect the name of the Mayor of the other regiments to have been Jacob Schermerhorn.

In the spring of year he believes of 1780 he enlisted under Capt John Reilay of the City of Troy among and independent band called Rangers a kind of Indian Spies for the term of nine months in the duty of this band was to protect the lives and property of the Inhabitants against marauding bands of Tories and Indians. He continued among the Rangers until the expiration of term the following winter.

He was in the campaign in the fall and winter of 1775 under General Montgomery and was at Montreal when General Montgomery was killed at Quebec the last day of December 1755 [1775] --& He has frequently seen him.—He believes he had served in the Revolutionary war nearly three years in the whole.

1 Was born in the City of New York the twenty third day of November 1749.

2 Has no record of the age.

3 Has resided in the Counties of Rensselaer and Albany ever since he was a year and a half old.

4 Has never received a written discharge from service and has no documentary evidence of his services.

5 Philip Coons of Brunswick David Baninger of Sandlake & Gilbert Reilay Abraham Price & John Taylor of Troy are well acquainted with this declarant and will testify as to his character of truth and veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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 with his mark) Leonard Whyland

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Archibald Bull Clerk.