

Pension Application for John Wilcox

R.11524

State of New York

Albany County SS

On this 23d day of November 1834, personally appeared in open court before the Justices Court of the City of Albany, (the same being a Court of Record) now sitting, John Wilcox of the Town of Coeymans in said County, aged seventy nine years & upwards, 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.

I entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated.

In the year 1776, I resided at New Lebanon, then Albany County now Columbia County and in the month of June of that year, I was called into the service as a private in the company of Militia commanded by Capt Fitch in Col. Whiting's Regiment.

In the fore part of the month as near as I can recollect, we marched from New Lebanon to Greenbush & Albany and from thence to Fort George, where we were stationed a spell. From thence to Fort Edward & from thence to Half Way Brook & back to Fort Edward then to a place called Snootskill a little below Fort Edward & then to another little station lower down called Moses's Creek & from thence to Saratoga.

I served with said company under Capt Fitch & Lieut John Gillett, at the several places last mentioned from June until the month of October following, when we were discharged & returned home—I think we returned from about 14th or 20th of October after having served as a private in said Company in said town, not less than four months and a half. I think Genl Schuyler commanded the army at the period above referred to.

2d In the year 1777 being the year that Burgoyne was taken, I was again called into the service in the company commanded by Capt Beebe and Lieut Manley in Col Baldwin's Regiment of Militia—I then resided in Stephentown then Albany now Rensselaer County, being then at work there. But my home was as I considered, at New Lebanon, in the family of Gideon Stevens Esquire. It was in the fall of the year when I was called into the service as last above stated but I do not recollect the month. I went with my company to Saratoga & am stationed part of the time at & in the neighborhood of Bemus's Heights. I was with the American Army at the time of the surrender of Burgoyne.

Whilst we were there we had an engagement with a party of Indians & Tories not far from a place called Snoots Kill. In that engagement Lieut Munsey was mortally wounded, by a ball which entered his body just above his hips. I saw him fall & helped carry him off the ground. He died a few hours afterwards.

I also recollect a private in our Company named Reuben King who lost his arm in the same action or on the same day. Also one Jarvis belonging to our company who had his eye shot out in the same action.

I do not know whether said King & Jarvis are now living or not. I also received two wounds in the same action;--one wound a little above the left knee and one on the aback part of my head. Both from musket balls. The scars of which wounds are both now visible.

We did not return home from this tour until after the taking of Burgoyne. I am unable to state with certainty the length of time I was engaged in this last mentioned tour but believe it was not less than two months as a private in said Beebe's Company.

3d-In the year that Cobleskill was burnt, the year I do well remember, I was again called into the service as a private in a company of militia belonging to the town of Stephentown, where I was at that time working. I have forgotten the names of the officers of the company, but I remember we marched to Albany and then joined several companies of Militia. I do not recollect the name of our commanding officers—But I well remember we marched to Schoharie, & were stationed at the Stone Church which was then called a Fort. We arrived then after Cobleskill [sic] was set on fire, and whilst it was yet burning—the men engaged in scouting parties watching the Indians and protecting the Inhabitants.

Whilst I was stationed at said Stone Church, one Capt Murphy show as an active partisan officer, returned to that place from an expedition against a party of Indians who had taken a number of prisoners, & were carrying then off when they came rescued & brought back by said Murphy & his men, I was engaged on this tour as a private, not less than three weeks.

4th In the year following the Capture of Burgoyne, I was engaged in tours of duty as a private in a company of militia belonging to Pittstown, then in Albany now Rensselaer County—I think it was in the fall, but cannot state the month, as were ordered to go & march to Fort Edward & kept garrison then about three weeks & were then discharged—I do not recollect the names of the officers of my company—but remember there were several companies there from Vermont.

In answer to Interrogatories by the Court I answer.

1. I was born in Dover, Dutchess County on the 4th day of October in the year 1756.
2. I have no record of my age but once had a record in a bible. Which was burnt as I believe—when my house was burnt about 30 years ago, when I resided in Middleburgh Schoharie County.
3. At the several times when I was called into the service, I resided at the places already stated in the preceding declaration. I have resided since the Revolutionary War at New Lebanon, Petersburg, Middle burgh and Rensselaerville & Broome, Schoharie County. Latterly I have resided in Middletown, [formerly Canten?] in the State of Pennsylvania & at present I reside in the Town of Coeymans, Albany County, State of New York.
4. I refer to my preceding declaration for an answer.
5. I refer to my preceding declaration for an answer.
6. I never received any written discharge, that I recollect. It was not the practice to give written discharges to the militia.

7. I know Archibald Stevens Esq & Gideon Stevens & Nathan Stevens Port
Master at Coeymans.

(Signed) J. Wilcox

Sworn & subscribed this 23d day of November 1835 in open court J. G. Wasson
Ck.