

## **Pension Application for Isaiah Keeler**

S.13625

State of New York

Oswego County SS.

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for said county now sitting Isaiah Keeler a resident of the town of Mexico in the County of Oswego & State of New York aged 71 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

In the spring of 1780 there were orders expressed from Governor George Clinton of New York for a regiment of men to be raised for seven months called New York "Levies".

On the twentieth day of May 1780 he enlisted as one of said state troops & joined the company at Fort Edward under the command of Capt John Chipman of Col. Warner's Regiment went immediately across Lake George to head a part of the enemy from Canada.

We were discovered beyond Crown Point & the enemy fled & we returned to Fort Edward.

He was employed on Scouting parties on the shores of Lake Champlain – crossed Lake George twice. After leaving Lake George marched by Ticonderoga & round Crown Point to the head of the great bay & then returned through the woods to Fort Edward.

In the month of September following he was ordered to march up the Mohawk River to Fort Stanwicks. He went to Fort Hunter, Fort Plain, Fort Plank, Fort Herkimer & there joined the whole regiment.

The morning he left Herkimer the party fell in with a part of Indians. Had a small "brush" killed seven of the Indians without loss on our side. He arrived at Fort Stanwicks & relieved a Continental Regiment to march to the south.

In the month of October a British scouting party from Canada & burned Schoharie. Orders were given for a party to go to Salt Point & destroy their boats. This deponent was one of the party—He left the Fort in the morning of October 22d. On the next morning one of the party deserted to the enemy & gave information of the object of the party. About the middle of the afternoon they were surrounded by about ten times their number. Six of our men were killed & scalped—of which our Lieutenant was one. The remainder of the party (except two who made their escape) were taken prisoners of which number this deponent was one. The party consisted of sixty two commanded by Capt. Froman & Capt Drake.

He was deprived of his clothes except his shirt & trousers. His hands were tied behind him & in this manner was carried to Montreal in Canada & remained a prisoner there till November 1782. Then went to Quebec in Lower Canada—There he

was put on board of the British frigate "John" & landed at Boston November 28<sup>th</sup> 1783. He was then entirely destitute of money or provision & 150 miles from home. He arrived home on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December 1782 after suffering anything but death itself.

He has no documentary evidence of his service & knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except John Closson whose affidavit is hereto annexed.

In answer to certain questions first agreeably to the directions of the War Department he declares.

1<sup>st</sup> He was born on the first day of January 1761 in the town of Norwalk in the State of Connecticut.

2d He has a record of his age given to him by his father, has at home.

3d When called into service was living in the Town of Stillwater State of New York.

4<sup>th</sup> he was a volunteer in the service.

5<sup>th</sup> The names of some of the officers who were with the troops when he served are Col. John Harper, Major Hugh, Capt Frowman & Capt Drake were taken prisoners & Lieut Phelps was killed when he was taken.

6<sup>th</sup> Rec'd no written discharge.

7<sup>th</sup> Gursham, Richardson, Daniel Hall, Frederick Swits, John Richardson, Peleg Davis, Daniel Hall Jr., Peleg K Crandall.

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) Isaiah Keeler

Sworn to & subscribed they ay & year above written. C. McPherson, Dep. Clk.

Letter in folder dated March 7, 1928, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim S.13625, it appears that Isaiah Keeler was born January 1, 1761 at Norwalk, Connecticut.

While residing at Stillwater, New York, he enlisted May 20, 1780 and served in captain John Chipman's Company, Colonel Warner's Continental Regiment, he was in an expedition to Lake George, Crown Point and Ticonderoga, was in a small skirmish with the Indians, he was captured October 23, by the British, who burned Schoharie, and was imprisoned in Montreal and Quebec, until November 28, 1782, when he reached Boston in the British frigate "John".

He was allowed pension on his application executed September 24, 1832, while a resident of Mexico, Oswego County, New York.

He died October 26, 1852.

It does not appear that his widow applied for pension on account of his services.