

Pension Application for John Parshall

S.14084

Otsego Com. Pleas OPf October Term 1832.

State of New York

Otsego County.

Be it remembered that on the 16th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court being a court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Otsego & State of New York a Court of Record proceeding according to the principles of the Common Law with power of fine & imprisonment John Parshall aged 75 years a resident of the town of Middlefield in said County of Otsego who being duly sworn deposeth & declares in order to obtain a pension under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved June 7, 1832 entitled "An act supplementary to the act for the relief of certain surviving officers & soldiers of the revolution" that in the year 1776 he this deponent lived in the town of South Hole in Suffolk County on Long Island, that sometime in the spring of that year he enlisted as a volunteer into a company commanded by Capt Reves & went with him to the west end of said Island where he remained in service until they were drove off by the British being five months.

This deponent then went to Newburgh in the now county of Orange in the State of New York when he again enlisted & served as a carpenter for the term of one year under Capt. Conkling.

On the 5th day of May 1778 (this deponent is positive as to the day from the fact that is was his birth day) he this deponent again. Enlisted at Newburgh aforesaid under Capt. Walker as a nine months man & marched from thence to Valley Forge in the State of Pennsylvania where he was attached to the standing army & served out the full term of nine months. He did not remain at Valley Forge all this time but was one of the fifteen hundred men chosen to pursue the enemy whom they followed & engaged in battle at Monmouth in the State of New Jersey, from New Jersey they marched to Fort Plank in the State of New York when at the expiration of the said nine months the full term of his enlistment as aforesaid this deponent was discharged.

This deponent further says that during the year 1779 she was attached to the militia at Newburgh thought he is not at this distance day able to recollect his Captain's name & was very often during that year called out on alarms & went to West Point & to New Jersey.

He further says that in the spring of 1780 he again enlisted as a volunteer under Capt. Drake at Newburgh & went from thence to West Point & from thence to New Jersey & from thence to Fort Plain in the now county of Montgomery & State of New York & that there he engaged in a battle with the Indians—this service under Capt Drake was three months. This deponent then returned again to Newburgh & during the remainder of the war was very frequently called out on alarms as a militiaman.

And the said John Parshall further declares in manner aforesaid that he hath not at any time heretofore received any annuity or pension under any law of the United States for services rendered by him during the war of the Revolution.

(Signed with his mark) John Pashall

Sworn & subscribed in open court of Otsego Common Pleas the 16th day of [October] 1832. Horace Lathrop, Clerk

Letter in folder dated January 14, 1896, written in response to an inquiry.

In response to your request for the military record of John Parshall and Stephen McGown, Soldiers of the Revolutionary War, I have the honor to advise you that their papers have been examined and they appear to have served as follows:

John Parshall

In the spring of the year 1776, at which time he was residing in the town of South Hole, in Suffolk Co., Long Island, he enlisted as a volunteer in the company commanded by Capt. Reeves and served about five months; immediately after enlisted in the company commanded by Capt. Conklin and served as a carpenter at Newburg, N.Y., one year; May 5, 1778, enlisted at Newburgh in the company commanded by Capt. Walker, under whom he served for about nine months, during which time he was engaged in the battle of Monmouth; in the year 1779 he was attached to the militia company of Newburgh, N.Y. (captain's name no remembered) and was often called out to render short tours of duty as occasion demanded; in the spring of 1780 again enlisted as a volunteer under Capt. Drake, of Newburg, and served about three months and during that time participated in a battle with the Indians near Fort Plains, N.Y.

At the time of his application for pension, October 16, 1832, he was residing in the town of Middlefield, N.Y., and seventy-five years of age.

Stephen McGown

In the year 1778, when about sixteen years of age, he was performing guard duty at the Fort in Cherry Valley, then commanded by Col. Alden, as a private in Capt. Thomas Whitaker's company of militia; in November, 1778, when the valley was invaded by the Indian chief Joseph Brant and the refugee Col. Butler, he was taken prisoner with many others, marched down the Susquehanna to Owego, thence to an Indian stronghold on Lake Cayuga, where he was detained as a prisoner until the following year (1779) when Gen. Sullivan approached the Indian country with a large force of troops and he was taken with other prisoners to Fort. Niagara, at which place he was sick and confined to the hospital for some time; while still confined to the hospital he was purchased from the Indians by Capt. Powell of the British army and taken to Castle Island, thence to Oswego, thence to Kingston in Canada, where he was detained until 1783, when he was permitted to return home. It appears that the time he was detained by the Indians as a prisoner was one year and seven months, and that the whole period of his captivity was about five years. About two minutes before he was taken prisoner by the Indians he was wounded in the wrist by a musket ball,

which wound caused him a great deal of suffering and annoyance during the time of his captivity.

At the time of making his application for pension, November 10, 1832, he was residing in Cherry Valley, N.Y., and seventy years of age. He was born in the county of Newcastle, Delaware, married Margaret Wilson, August 10, 1791, and died on October 10, 1842.