

Pension Application for Francis Frederick

S.23643

State of New York
County of Otsego SS

Francis Frederick of Danube in the County of Herkimer & State aforesaid being duly sworn deposeth & Saith. That his services—in the War of the Revolution so far as he can now specify. This same were as follows. That they were under the officers set forth & described in this declaration hereunto annexed. Viz:

At Sir Guy Johnsons (1) the militia being called out.	6 days
At Johnstown twenty days [sic]	20 days
With a party of Militia in pursuing from Johnstown & capturing 12 tories, out at that time	10 days
At the Fish House (Socknedaga) near Johnstown	15 days
On an alarm at Stone Arabia and going from thence to guard a lot of fat cattle from thence to Fort Stanwix	8 days
At the time the bateaux were guarded up the Mohawk River, the deponent with a small party drove cattle on land	8 days
At Fort Plank at one time	15 days
At Fort Plain six times 2 days each time	12 days
At the Block House at Socknedaga at one time	15 days
At the same place at another time	10 days
At Van Alstine's on the Mohawk	5 days
At the time of the Oriskany Battle near Fort Stanwix (2)	16 days
At Caughnawaga at the time of the wounding of Col. Fisher six days (3)	6 days
At the time of the burning of Schoharie Settlement	12 days
Keeping garrison at Stone Arabia (4)	19 days
At Johnstown when the troops were esconded from that place	15 days
At Tripes Hill at one time	15 days
At Johnstown in the year in which independence was declared, previous to that above mentioned	15 days
At Fort Herkimer on an alarm Major Fonda being there	8 days

That the above services were performed as a private soldier under Capt. Pettengil until his death and after that under Capt. Snook who succeeded him in command.—Thomas Van Horne being first lieutenant after the death of Capt. Pettingill. That he cannot specify the particular year when each piece of service took place.

And he further saith that he has no doubt that he served on other occasions not above specified which are now by him forgotten or so faintly remembered that he cannot truly specify the length of each term of engagement. That the above is all that he is now able to specify at the above services are specified.

And Further saith not.

(Signed with his mark) Francis Frederick
Sworn this 8th day of November AD 1833
Selah Havens, Justice of the Peace.

State of New York
Otsego County

I Horace Lathrop Jr. Clerk of said County do certify that Selah Havens, Esquire before whom the preceeding affidavit purports to have been sworn, was at the date of the same a Justice of the Peace in & for the said County: and that I am acquainted with his hand writing and verily believe his name subscribed to the said affidavit to be his genuine signature. Witness my hand and seal of office this 11th day of November 1833.
Horace Lathrop, Clerk.

State of New York
County of Herkimer SS

On this ninth day of October in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Herkimer now sitting Francis Frederick a resident of Danube in the said County of Herkimer 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 at the commencement and during the whole continuance of the war he resided in a place called Warren's Bush, now the town of Florida, South of the Mohawk river within the now County of Montgomery and State of New York. That he was there enrolled as a private in a company of militia commanded by Capt. Samuel Pettingill (5) in Col. Frederick Fisher's regiment. William Snook and Peter Young were officers in this same company. That the first service which he performed was before Independence was declared, he turned out with the Militia and went to Sir Guy Johnson's distant about five miles. That he staid but a day or two and returned, on this occasion a quarrel took place between Sir Guy who was for the king & Capt. Pettingill who was for the Country. He believes he was called out on other occasions the same year but has now forgotten the particulars. The next

year he turned out with the whole company and went to Johnstown, ten or twelve miles off at the time when Genl. Schuyler was there and disarmed the Tories. That he was out to Johnstown Sochnedaga, Caughnawaga, and other places in service in the course of this summer, and was once at Johnstown in the winter before on an alarm. That in the Summer of 1777 he was at the Oriskany battle near Fort Stanwix at the time when Genl. Herkimer was mortally wounded and Capt. Pettingill his own Capt. was killed. That he was out on duty a good deal during the campaign of 1777 but it is impossible for him now to mention all places and instances of service. That he was at Fort Plain, Fort Plank, Germanflatts—Stone Arabia, Little Falls, and other places many times each in the course of the war, but how long he staid at each time, or how often he was out he cannot now state. That he remembers one time in particular being with about one hundred militia who guarded the bateaux with provisions up the Mohawk River to Fort Stanwix. That on this occasion this claimant with six or seven other militia men were ordered to drive a pair of fat cattle on land. That the cattle were for the use of the Army at Fort Stanwix. That during the whole war he was in actual service every summer a great part of the time he thinks at least three months from the time Spring opened until the fall and was also engaged several times in winter. That while at home he was liable at all times to be called out at a minute's warning and was continually prepared for alarms. That he did but little other business. That the settlement within half a mile of where he lived was entirely burnt off by the Indians in one of their incursions.

That after the death of Capt. Pettingill who was killed at the Oriskany battle, Lieut. Snook was made Capt. of the company and Thomas Van Horne became the first Lieut. That the most of the service performed by this applicant was under the said Thomas Van Horne as such Lieut., but he was out many times under other officers when Lieut. Van Horne (6) was not present.

That he verily believes he actually served his country during the Revolutionary War as a soldier at least two years but he has no mode of asserting the time as the service was from time to time more or less almost every month in summer. That he has no documentary evidence of his services.

In answer to the interrogatories put by the court he states.

1st. That he was born in the now town of Florida in the county of Montgomery and State of New York. I was born I think the year 1753 and will in August be eighty years old.

2d. When called into the service lived at place of my birth.

3d. That when he was first called into service and during the whole revolutionary war he resided at Warren's Bush on the south side of the Mohawk river in the now town of Florida, County of Montgomery and State of New York. That he has since the revolution resided part of the time in the said County of Montgomery and part of the time at Danube in the County of Herkimer and state aforesaid at which later place he now resides.

4th. That his services were in the militia which ordered out from time to time.

5th. That but few regular troops were stationed at any time along the Mohawk and he does not recollect the names of any regular officers who were with the troops where he served except he recollects seeing Col. Willett at Fort Hunter.

6th. That he does not remember of ever receiving a written discharge from service.

7th. That for persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier in the revolution he refers to Jacob J. Young of Stark Herkimer County and Lewis Pryne of Danube in the same county.

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.

Sworn and subscribed to the day and year aforesaid.

(Signed with his Mark) Francis Frederick

We, Jacob J. Young and citizen residing in Stark in the County of Herkimer and State of New York and Lewis Pryne a resident in the town of Danube in the County of Herkimer and state aforesaid, hereby certify that we are well [record ends here]

End Notes

1. Sir Guy Johnson's home still stands in Amsterdam, N.Y. It is a New York State Historical Site. Col. Guy Johnson was a nephew and son-in-law to Sir William Johnson. Guy was also a colonel in the British Indian Department.
2. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on the 6th of August 1777.
3. Caughnawaga and Tribes Hill were destroyed on the 22nd of May 1780 by Sir John Johnson, son of Sir William Johnson. John's Town was named by Sir William for his son John. It originally was two words.
4. Fort Paris is the fort where he would have been stationed.
5. Captain Samuel Pettingill of the Fifth Company. Thomas Caine was first lieutenant and Samuel Barnhardt, Jr. was the ensign. The second lieutenant was blank or vacant in August of 1775. Sometime in 1776 William Snook was appointed the second lieutenant and received his commission dated 25 June 1778. Thomas Van Horne was the Ensign with the same timeline as Snook. After the Battle of Oriskany, William Snook was appointed Captain, Thomas Van Horne First Lieutenant, Peter Young was Second Lieutenant and Conradt Stine was Ensign. All were commissioned on the 8th of March 1781.
6. Francis's name appears also in Captain Robert A. Yates' Company (Third Company) in Colonel Visscher's Regiment. As Francis did not move and each company had a particular area of enrollment this is probably for a draft of men from various companies to form a detachment to perform a particular duty. The date is unknown.