

Petition of Nicholas Lyberger for Revolutionary War Pension
Petitioned on the sixth of August 1839

State of Pennsylvania

County of Erie: On this sixth day of August 1839 personally appeared in open court before the judges of the court of Common Pleas within and for the county of Erie now sitting being a court of Record in the State of Pennsylvania, Nicholas Lyberger a resident of the township of Springfield in the county of Erie and the state of Pennsylvania aged seventy eight 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 provision made by the act of congress passed ... 1832.

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

In the year 1775 I was a resident of the Township of Londonderry Bedford county and state of Pennsylvania and in the month of May in the same year in the same county I entered the company of volunteers raised for the defense of the country (against the Indians) under the command of Capt Charles Cisney, we were employed in scouring the country and defending the inhabitants from attacks of the Indians, we were employed in Bedford County during the time we were in service. I remained in that service and in that company for the period of six weeks when I was dismissed and went home

In the fall of the same year 1775, the Indians killed two men at Frankstown on the Juniatta river (then) in Bedford County. I was then in the month of November of the same year again called out (I having joined said company as a volunteer) to defend the country against the Indians. The company was still commanded by Capt Charles Cisney. We were again employed in scouring the country and in the protection of the inhabitants from the incursions of the Indians. We were at this time employed in the said service for the period of seven weeks and were then dismissed and I returned home.

In the latter part of the month of May 1776 I was still residing in the said Township of Londonderry and a member of the said volunteer company. Capt Cisney had removed to Carolina and the command of the company had devolved on the Lieutenant Michael Oserwalt. I was at that time again called out for the protection of the inhabitants of that county against the Indians. Our headquarters were at Tygarts Garrison at Frankstown. We were employed everyday on scouring parties from the Garrison. Sometimes we were out three or four days before we returned to the Garrison. We continued five weeks in the service at this time and were then dismissed and returned home again.

In the fall of the year 1776, in the month of November about the 15th the Indians made an incursion into Morrison's Cove in Bedford County and burnt Ulrick's Mill and Killed all Ulrick's family but one who was absent at the time. On this occasion all the volunteers and Militia of Bedford county were called out and some from Conegocheague. We were collected at the town of Bedford and Col Davidson of the Militia took the command. I was then as a volunteer in the company commanded by Lieutenant Oserwalt. There were two companies of volunteers and three of Militia-Capt George Enslow commanded one of the companies Capt William McCall

commanded another. We were marched from Bedford to Morrison's Cove and from there to Frankstown on the Juniatta. We went to Fetter's Garrison. The militia kept the Garrison and the Volunteers were kept sentry in the country and looking out for the Indians. We were about five weeks in the service when we were dismissed and went home.

In the month of April 1777 Lieutenant Oserwalt's company of Volunteers of which I was still a member were again called out and myself with them to keep Tygert's Garrison at Frankstown and to scout the country and protect the inhabitants from the Indians. We were marched to Tygert's Garrison and kept on duty at this time about three weeks. Sometimes keeping garrison and sometimes scouting the country. We were there relieved by a company of Militia from Huntingdon County (then Bedford County) and were then dismissed and went home.

In the time of Harvest of the same year 1777 an Indian Trail was discovered by a boy hunting cows the alarm was given and the volunteers were called out. Our company was called out under Lieutenant Oserwalt. The company of Bedford scouts commanded by Capt Richard Delap was also called out. We went in pursuit of the Indians. Our company went along on a ridge of the Mountain. The Bedford Scouts went into a Gap of the Mountain and were ambushed by the Indians and the Captain and all the men belonging to the company except four were killed at the first fire. Our company was on a hill called the Chimney ridge. We went to Tygerts Garrison and soon after we arrived there one of the men who had escaped by the name of Michael Wallack arrived at the Garrison and gave us the information of the company having been cut off. They were killed three or four miles from Tygarts Garrison. On hearing the news we went out to the place where they were killed and found the men lying dead on the ground. Thirty men were killed. We buried the dead and then returned back to the Garrison.

We remained in the Garrison about five days and then scouted the country, we then returned to the town of Bedford and after being in service on this tour about six weeks were dismissed.

In the month of June 1778 I was again called out in what was called the Big Scout in the same Company of Volunteers commanded by Lieutenant Oserwalt in the Battalion commanded by Major George Woods of Bedford. We rendezvoused at Bedford: the Battalion commanded consisted of two hundred and eighty two men. We were marched from Conemaugh (then in Bedford now Somerset County) from thence to Black lick and from thence to Clearfield and come out into Bald Eagle Vallie (now Centre County) and from thence we came to Frankstwon and from thence to Bedford we were in search of Indians and expected to find them at Clearfield but did not come up with them. We go out of provisions on our march and were three days without any. We were seven weeks on this tour from the time we collected at Bedford to the time we returned there again. We were then dismissed and returned home.

Early in the month of May 1779 two men were killed by the Indians near George Wisegarbeid Garrison. This occasioned an alarm. Our Company of Volunteers was at this time broken. I was then called out in a company of Militia commanded by Capt Eve Cisney to serve for a term of two months. We were

employed in scouting the country from Bedford to Frankstown and in the neighbouring Country. I served two months on this tour and was then discharged and went home.

Soon after I was discharged vis-in the month of August 1779 a man by the name of Thomas McFarran in the same county was killed and a man by the name of Jacob Plum who lived a near neighbor to me was taken prisoner.

The militia were again called out. I was then called out in a company of Militia commanded by Capt William McIntire. We were employed in scouting the country and were sometime stationed at James Martin's Garrison on the Juniatta river fourteen miles from Bedford. While we were there George Beck-his wife-and family residing about a mile and a half from the Garrison were killed by the Indians. We went then from the Garrison and I helped to bury the dead. We were out a scouting till our time expired. I served on this tour for two months and then was dismissed and went home.

I have no documentary evidence in my possession by which I can support my claims and I do not know of any person whose testimony I can procure who can testify to my service. I have a Brother in the State of Ohio who I heard from about eighteen months ago- whether he is now living or not I do not know, He would know something of my service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present one and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

The court propounded the following interrogatories to the applicant

1. Where and in what year were you born?
2. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?
3. Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?
4. How were you called into service: were you drafted. Did you volunteer or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom?
5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?
7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services of a soldier of the revolution?

In answer to Interrog- he further states he was born in Frederick County in Maryland. He remained a resident of Londonderry Bedford County till he came to this County of Erie about twenty nine years ago. He has continued in Springfield Erie County PA his present residence. That among his present neighbors are the Ben Edson Hart, John Salesbury Esq. Thos R Meler who can prone his good character-
...Subscribed

Open Court August 6th

1832 Edson I Kelso Pro

Nicholas Lyberger...his mark