Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Gonter W11059
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Elizabeth Gonter

PA

Fixe Heibner

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,/ 13 Nov 1828.

John Gonter of [blank] in the County of Berks in the State of Pennsylvania has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that he enlisted in the Continental line of the army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued until its termination, at which period he was a Private in Captain Sharps's [sic: John Sharp's] company, in [Charles] Armand's Corps line; and that he received a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars, provided by the resolve of the 15th of May, 1778; and further, that he was not on the 15th day of May, 1828, on the pension list of the United States, and that he has received as a pensioner since the 3d of March, 1826, nothing.

York County Ss.

Personally came and appeared before me Charles F. Fisher one of the Justices of the peace in and for the County of York in the State of Pennsylvania, Frederick Hübner [W3088] aged seventy five years, who was an enlisted soldier in the United States servic under the Command of Collonel Almongs legion, in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and eighty one, who being sworn according to law doth depose and say that he knew John Gonder and that he was a soldier at the same time in the United States servic and belonged to Almongs legion, Commanded by Captain Sharp, and that the said John Gonder had enlisted for the term of during the war, this deponent further states that John Gonder aforesaid soldier served under said Captain Sharp about five years and after that time, this deponant and the said John Gonder ware honorably dischared after the war, Sworn and subscribed the 29th day of July A.D.

NOTES:

The file contains a 26 Feb 1828 letter from one Samuel Levan of Reading challenging Gonter's claim for a pension on the grounds that "he has an annuity of Forty two Pouns by his wife and a House free of Rent charge he has one Gold watch one do Silver his house packed with valueable furniture a Complete Sett of Gun and Rifle Smith Tools and again he lives equal to any Gentleman in the United States he has all and everything that is of the very best he keeps a hired Girl to do house work their has only nine Months elapsed since he and his wife made a jaunt to the City of Philadelphia at that time he took with him the sum sixty Dollars" He further alleged that Gonter "was only a Militia Man." Armand's Legion was in fact a Continental regiment. The pension act of 1828 provided for veterans of the Continental Line regardless of need.

On 30 May 1853 Elizabeth Gonter, 56, applied for a pension stating that she married John Gonter on 27 June 1839, and he died 18 Dec 1846. The file contains the following copy from the records of the German Lutheran Zion Congregation of Lancaster in the handwriting of Rev. William Beates: "John Gonder was lawfully married to Elizabeth Dun the 27th of June 1839." On an application for bounty land dated 17 March 1855 Elizabeth Gonter was said to be 62, and she gave her maiden name as Elizabeth Duns.

A document in the file states that Elizabeth Gonter last collected her pension on 4 Dec 1879.