Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Ferguson W21103
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Martha Ferguson

PA

State of New York County of West Chester Ss

On this ninth day of January in the year of our Lord on thousand eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared before me Edward Kerneys[?] one of the Judges of the court of common Pleas in and for the County of West Chester aforesaid, of the degree of counsellor in the Supreme court of said State, John Ferguson resident of the town of Mount Pleasant in the said County of West Chester aged seventy seven years who being by me 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 June 7th 1832

That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the month of June or July in the year 1777 in the company commanded by Captain McLane (he thinks the Christian name of said McLane was George) for the term of during the war, and served in the first Regiment of the Pennsylvania line under the following named officers viz in the company under the command of Captain McLane aforesaid (the name of the other officers of the company he had forgotten) and in the Regiment under the command of Colonel Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] (does not recollect the name of any other officer of the regiment his memory having in a great measure failed him in consequence of old age); that he continued in the service in the said Regiment until the close of the revolutionary war and was then discharged at West Point in the State of New York some time in the Spring of the year 1782 to the best of his recollection and belief after he had been in the service of the United States four years and ten months. that he enlisted as a private and served as such one month when he was appointed an orderly sergeant and served as such one year and nine months when he was appointed first Lieutenant in the said company and served as such during the remainder of said time of service, it being three years that he received a Lieut commission but that he has not seen it in thirty years and he believes that it, together with his discharge has been accidentally lost or destroyed, that he resided in the town of York in the County of York in the State of Pennsilvania at the time he entered the service as aforesaid: that he was in the battle at Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] and was in the army at the time of the Battle at Monmouth court house [28 Jun 1778] but was not in that part of the army engaged in fighting that he was in several skirmishes with the enemy and one in particular at James River in Virginia about the time of the taking of Lord Cornwallas [Cornwallis at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781]: that he marched through a part of the state of Pennsylvania to Philadelphia and through the states of Maryland Virginia North & South Carolina and after the Capture of Lord Cornwallis was marched to West Point in the State of New York where he was discharged as herein before stated He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any state

NOTE: On 31 July 1840 Martha Ferguson, aged 70 on 9 July 1840, resident of Oswego in Tioga County, applied for a pension stating that she married John Ferguson in Brookfield CT on 23 Jan 1789, and he died on 27 July 1834. On 17 March 1842 she stated that she was born in Brookfield CT, that her maiden name was Martha Wildman, and that her marriage to John Ferguson was officiated by Rev. Langdon of Danbury. She stated that she had moved to New York City about the end of September 1834, then soon after moved to Oswego where several of her children lived. She also stated that two children, Henry and Hugh, were dead, and John H. had gone to the West and not been heard from for several years. The family record written by her husband on two blank pages of a Bible was certified by her son, Hiram Ferguson of Oswego, and is transcribed below.

John ferguson & Martha was Marid January the 23 1789
John H Ferguson was Born Aprile the 2^d 1790
Henery ferguson was born Agust the 29 1792
Thamas ferguson was born october the 29 1794
Lebuef ferguson was born 18^{the} 1796 September
Rachel ferguson was born october 27 1798
Ezra ferguson was Born May the 20 1801
Wiliam ferguson was Born May the 20 1805
Hugh ferguson was born october 20 1807
Hiram ferguson was Born Agust the 27 1809