

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Christopher Delezenne W10725
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Mary Delezenne

State of New-York, ss. [4 Apr 1818]

To the Hon. Richard Riker Recorder of the City of New-York, and one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, called the Mayor's Court of the City of New-York, which is a Court of Record of the State of New-York.

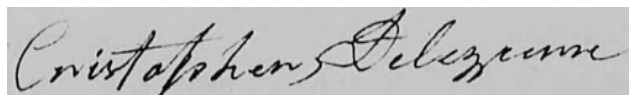
The Declaration under Oath of Christopher Delezenne formerly a Captain of Engineers engaged in the Service of the United States during the Revolutionary War, now a Citizen of the United States and resident of the City and County of New-York, respectfully sheweth,

THAT the said Christopher Delezenne sometime in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred & Seventy five joined the American Army as a Cadet and belonged to that part of the army under the command of Gen'l. Arthur St. Clair [see endnote]. That he acted as said Cadet at the Battle and retreat of Ticonderoga [6 Jul 1777] and in every battle on the Northern Frontiers. That on the Seventeenth day of October one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven (and on the day of the surrender of General Burgoyne) at Saratoga he received a Commission from the Congress of the United States as Captain of Engineers being then under Command of Major General Horatio Gates. And the said Christopher Delezenne further states that he continued in the service as aforesaid as such Captain until the army was disbanded by the authority of the said Congress of the United States

And the declaration further sheweth, that the said Christopher Delezenne is now a citizen of the United States, resides in the city of New-York, and is, by reason of his reduced circumstances in life, in need of assistance from his country for support being rendered in consequence of an injury received about ten years since wholly unable to do any manual Labor And that he has a wife wholly dependent on him for support and is now at the age of sixty five years.

Therefore the said Christopher Delezenne conceives himself entitled to the benefit of the Act of Congress of the United States, entitled, "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War," approved 18th March, 1818, and requests your Honor will examine into the truth of the matter aforesaid, certify and transmit the testimony in the case, and the proceedings had thereon, to the Honorable the Secretary of the Department of War, to the end that such relief may be had in the premises, as is by law in such case made and provided. And in support of the facts set forth, the said Christopher Delezenne refers to the Declaration Commission and affidavits hereunto annexed

Witness



IN CONGRESS.

The DELEGATES of the UNITED STATES of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina and Georgia, TO Christopher Delezenne Esq'r

WE, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, DO, by these Presents, constitute and appoint you to be Captain of Engineers in the Army of the United States, raised for the Defence of American Liberty, and for repelling every hostile Invasion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of Captain of Engineers by doing and performing all manner of Things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under your Command, to be obedient to your Orders as Captain of Engineers And you are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to Time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress, for that purpose appointed, or Commander in

Chief, for the Time being, of the Army of the United States, or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Dicipline of War in Pursuance of the Trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in Force until revoked by this or a future Congress. DATED at Saratoga October 17th 1777. By Order of the CONGRESS,

Attest. Chas. K[?]

Henry Laurens PRESIDENT



NEW-YORK MAYOR'S COURT.

IN the Court of Common Pleas, called the Mayor's Court of the City of New-York, held at the City-Hall, in and for the said City, before the Judges of the same Court, of July term, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty

PRESENT the Honorable Peter Augustus Jay Esquire Recorder of the City of New York

City of New-York, ss. Be it Remembered, That on the twenty ninth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty personally appeared in the Court of Common Pleas, called the Mayor's Court of the city of New-York, in open court, the said court being a court of record for the city and county of New-York, according to the charter of the said city and the laws of the state of New-York, Christopher Delezene aged Seventy years, resident in the City of New York who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the revolutionary war as follows: that is to say, he was a Cadet at Ticonderoga at the commencement of the War, and when the Army retreated from Canada under General Wooster [see endnote], deponent acted as Captain of a company of Engineers, under Colonel Kosiusko [sic: Thaddeus Kosciuszko] in the year 1775, and was at the taking of Burgoyne at Saratoga on the 17th October 1777, and after that battle, but on the same day, deponent received a Captains Commission from Major General Gates in the Corps of Engineers commanded by Colonel Kosiusko, from Saratoga they marched to Albany and from there to West Point where they threw up fortifications and remained about 4 years, when they were ordered by General Washington to Camden, South Carolina, to join General Gates Army, under Colonel Kosiusko, deponent was at the battle of Eutaw Springs [8 Sep 1781] where he received a slight wound in the head, deponent was Taken sick at this time and sent to West Point by order of Gen'l. [Nathanael] Greene, where he remained under the command of Colonel Rushfountain [possibly Brevet Major Bechet de Rochefontaine] until the Army was disbanded in the year 1783, deponent saith that he was in the Continental Establishment and that his original declaration is dated the fourth day of April one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and that his pension certificate is No. 2033

Christopher Delezene

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed, to wit:

Real Estate None

Personal Estate (necessary clothing & bedding excepted)

1 Small Glass	\$3.00	2 Chests	\$3.00
1 Trunk	0.75	1 Beureau	8.00
6 Tea Spoons	2.00	6 Knives & forks	0.25
6 Cups & Saucers	0.50	6 plates	0.50
1 Tea pot	1.00	1 Silver Watch	10.00
8 Chairs	<u>2.00</u>	1 Tea Kettle	<u>1.00</u>
	\$9.25		\$22.75

9.25

The whole value of Deponents property is

\$32.00

Deponent has no trade, he at present follows no kind of business, he has had his left arm broken in two places which deprives him of the use of it, his age & infirmity together with his broken arm renders him unable to do any kind of business.

he has a wife Mary Delezene aged Sixty seven years, who is unable to do any thing.

Deponent and his wife at present board with their son, who assists to support them – the name of his son is John D. Delezene is aged about thirty seven

he saith he is in such indigent circumstances as to be unable to support himself without the assistance of his country that is to say, without the aid of the General Government, except by private or public charity.

Sworn in open Court this 29 July 1820

Christopher Delezene

NOTES:

According to Heitman's *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the Revolution*, in 1775 Arthur St. Clair was a Colonel of Pennsylvania Militia. He became Brigadier General on 9 Aug 1776.

On 1 Jan 1776 Gen. David Wooster assumed command of American forces in Canada. On 1 May 1776 he was succeeded by Gen. John Thomas, who led the retreat from Quebec to Montreal beginning on 6 May.

On 30 June 1828 John D. Delezene applied for half pay for life under the act of 15 May 1828 for his father, Christopher Delezene, who died on 19 Jun 1828.

On 28 Oct 1836 Mary Delezene, aged 82 on 27 Apr 1836, of Mount Pleasant in Westchester County NY, applied for a pension stating that she was married to Christopher Delezene on 14 Feb 1778 at Courtlands Manor in Yorktown in Westchester County by Rev. Sackett. Frances Mikles, her sister, certified the marriage. Joseph E. Delezene, 50, stated that the record of the marriage of his parents had been burned by the British during the Revolutionary War. On 10 April 1853 John D. Delezene, Esq. of Honesdale in Wayne County PA applied for the pension money not collected by his mother, Mary Delezene, who died on 29 Nov 1841. He further stated that he and Joseph E. Delezene were the only surviving children, and that the latter was "gone to parts unknown" and had not been heard from for more than a year.