

**State of Ohio Clermont County Ss.**

On this ninth day of November 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Hon. **Geo P Torrence** Pres. Judge and **Israel Whitaker**, **Robert Haines** and **John Emery** Esq. Associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Clermont County Ohio, now sitting, **Robert Leeds** of Tate Township Clermont County Ohio aged seventy five 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.

He was born at **Egg Harbour Gloucester County** State of **New Jersey** on the 7th day of July 1757 as appears from a record of his age copied from his fathers family bible into his own. He entered the service of the United States under the command of Captain **George Payne** and **Richard Somers** was 1st Colonel. **Elijah Clark** was 2nd Col. and **Richard Westcott** was major. **John Adams** was Lieutenant of the company to which deponent belonged, and **Cornelius McCollum** was ensign. On his first tour of service he was in a skirmish at **Mount Holly**, Col. Somers regiment at that place was attacked by a party of Hessians. The engagement took place in the fore part of the day and lasted three or four hours. After the skirmish at Mount Holly deponent with Captain Payne's company quartered at **Haddonfield**—and from Haddonfield the company marched to **Bordentown** and from Bordentown they marched in the night to **Trenton** on he thinks the 2nd day of January. At Trenton a deponent thought had been out and the British followed then an engagement between the British and the Americans at **Trenton** took place. It began pretty soon in the morning just after the mess to which deponent belonged had got its breakfast and lasted until night. The Americans had several pieces of cannon there—some of them brass pieces. And on this occasion deponent saw a young man named **Israel Ballangee** shot down by his side our main was between deponent and him. After Trenton after the skirmish was over the Americans had orders to make themselves up fires and some time in the night were ordered to **Princeton**. Had an engagement at Princeton town. The company to which deponent belonged were in the rear during this engagement. It lasted five or six hours, there was prisoners taken he remembers to have heard some of the Americans say just after the engagement that there were one hundred and fifty British taken and a considerable number of Dutch troops but he does not remember to have heard how many and several pieces of cannon. After the battle of Princeton the army kept on up the **Delaware** through a place called **Millstone** and then up on the side of the mountain to a place called **Pluckemin**. There deponents term of service was out. He had served one month from the time he entered the service and he returned home from Pluckemin.

In the ensuing season I think in the month of November he was again called on to perform a tour of duty and was commanded by the same Captain **Barner** but only part of the company turned out as other company officers went with them on this occasion they joined with other companies—the captain of the company they joined is not recollected—the Lieutenant was named **John Lucas**. The first station of the company when they went out was at a place called **Woodbury**—marched from that place to **Gloucester Point** on Delaware River and were employed in guarding the shore. The British bombarded **Mud Island Fort** below Gloucester Point and disabled the guns as deponent was then informed and believes that the Americans had to abandon it and the guard was called away from Gloucester Point and marched to **Haddonfield**. After they got to

Haddonfield the British landed at a place called **Billingsport** and were marching on towards **Philadelphia** and the body of troops at Haddonfield were sent down to oppose them. The company to which deponent belonged were at a creek called **Little Timber Creek** and exchanged shots with a party of the British from the other side. No material damage was done on either side that deponent ever heard of. The next day or the day after they had another skirmish with a party of the British near the same place—in this Lieutenant Lucas was killed by a ball which struck him in the breast just below the left nipple and went through his body. Lieutenant **John Tilton** was shot in the shoulder—no more of the company to which deponent belonged were killed or wounded. The Americans retreated to Haddonfield where their headquarters were. Between Haddonfield and Timber Creek deponent and some others who were out on a scouting expedition took four British prisoners and their horses and guns. His months tour expired while he was at Haddonfield—and deponent returned home.

After that the militia in the part of the country where deponent lived were kept at home to guard the coast. Deponent belonged then to Captain **Richard Higbee's** company. **John Adams** was Lieutenant and **Cornelius McCollum** was ensign—Col. **Richard Somers** commanded the regiment. **Elijah Clark** was Lieutenant Col. and **Richard Westcott** was Major. It was the duty of the men to be always ready when called on—which they often were to guard some place in danger of an attack from the enemy. The British took a little village called **Chestnut Neck** about this time. Upon one occasion they were called to go down to **Little Egg Harbor** inlet to a place called **Foxburys**. Continued in this service a year or two but does not know how long exactly. Never had a written discharge—lived in Gloucester County until twenty eight years ago when he moved to **Clermont County, Ohio**—lived in relation four or five months until he built a cabin and then moved into it in Tate Township, Clermont County, Ohio—in which he now lives ever since resided.

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.

**Robert Leeds** (signature)

Sworn to in open court Nov 9th 1832 P.D. Morris, Clerk

We, **Alexander Blair** of Batavia Township, Clermont County, Ohio and **James P. Perrine** a resident of Williamsburg Township County and State aforesaid hereby certify that we are well acquainted with **Robert Leeds** who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be seventy five years of age that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

**James P. Perrine Alexr Blair**

Sworn to in Open Court Nov 10th 1832 P.D. Morris, Clerk

