

Pension Application for Roger Barton

W.16827 (Widow: Sarah) Married July 10, 1780, Rev. John Close, Presbyterian Church in New Windsor.
State of New York
Orange County SS.

On this 16th day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared before me Gilbert Ogden Fowler one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Orange aforesaid Roger Barton Resident of Cornwall in said county aged seventy six 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.

When the Revolutionary War commenced deponent lived within the beat of Captain Christian Vanduzen's Company of Militia in the Town of Cornwall aforesaid and has continued to live ever since that time. He belonged to said company and served in the same as a Militia man through out the war. William Roe was first lieutenant, one Smith second lieutenant, Gilbert Weeks was Ensign, Stephen Peet and Patrick Southerland were Serjeants, said company belonged to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Woodhull of the County of Orange, aforesaid and was divided into detachments which alternately performed a regular tour of duty on the frontier with which the said county was nearly surrounded, one of which detachments was always in service and so remained until relieved by the others. On all alarms the whole company turned out. These were very frequent and I never failed to perform my duty as a militiaman of said company either with the detachment or the company though at this time I cannot distinctly recollect the particular times or circumstances of said service, I belonged to the detachment of said company which was commonly commanded by Captain Vanduzer when in actual service.

In the fall of the year 1776 deponent together with the said detachment was ordered down to Fort Montgomery NY. We went by land to that place our detachment was employed whilst there in cutting facienes and erecting breast works. General George Clinton was there then. We remained there this time one fortnight, and then returned home. In the fall of the same year after the British had taken New York, I was ordered to Haverstraw with said detachment under command of said Christian Vanduzer. We stood guard at this place two months waiting the movements of the enemy and daily expecting an attack from them. From Haverstraw we marched to Ramapo there we remained one fortnight from Ramapo we marched under the command of Colonel Hawthorn of the County of Orange aforesaid to Hackensack in the State of New Jersey where the British Light Horse lay at that time. We returned to Ramapo and staid there one fortnight . We were then permitted to return home where we remained one week, and then returned again to Ramapo and staid there nearly one fortnight.

That in the latter part of March in the year 1777 Fort Montgomery on the West side of the River Hudson in the Highlands was threatened with an attack from the British army from New York which it was said were proceeding up the river. An alarm was given and the Militia of that part of the country above, and contiguous to the Highlands on said river were ordered to turn out.

The company of Captain Vanduzen to which I belonged were ordered to rendesvoy [rendezvous] at New Windsor from whence we were transported in sloops to Fort Montgomery, we remained there eight days expecting an attack from the enemy. Captain VanDuzer commanded the company Brigadier James Clinton commanded at Fort Clinton, and Gen. George Clinton commanded at Fort Montgomery, Colonel James McLaughry commanded his regiment which was stationed at Fort Clinton. The alarm having subsided. We returned home.

In the month of April of the same year at the time Danbury in the State of Connecticut was taken and burnt by the British, there was another general alarm and our company was ordered down to Fort Montgomery. We proceeded to said fort by land deponent served in said fort under the officers before named eight days, when said company returned home. In harvest time thereafter said company

was ordered to proceed to said fort on a general alarm, which they did by land, and deponent remained there under the command of the same officers one month and then returned.

On the fifth day of October in the year last aforesaid there was another alarm at said fort and this deponent together with said company was ordered down, we went by water and stopped at Fort Constitution for ammunition—on arriving at or near Buttermilk Falls we met Captain Machin returned from the battle of Fort Montgomery he informed us the fort had been surrendered to the enemy and directed us to return which we did. We were immediately thereafter stationed at the river in said Town of Cornwall here we remained until after the British had returned from Kingston which they burned.

The whole time of our service from the time we left home was four weeks, in the spring of the year 1778 deponent was ordered with a detachment of said company to West Point to assist in erecting fortifications at that place. Deponent went down according to orders, but was taken sick and hired a substitute who served for deponent three weeks. When Arnold left West Point which was in the month of September 1780 I was there with a detachment of said company and served one week—and deponent also saith that John Canfield, John Woods of the Town of Cornwall aforesaid belonged to and served in same company of Christian Vanduzer, a considerable part of the time deponent belonged to and served in the same as aforesaid and until they had respectively joined other companies in the service of the County. That Henry Vanduzer of the Town of Cornwall aforesaid belonged to said company and served in the same throughout the revolutionary war. That Thurston Wood Esquire of New Windsor belonged to and served in said company a part of the war and that Major James Edmonson of Cornwall aforesaid was in the service, and knew of Deponents belonging and serving in said company against the common enemy as aforesaid and deponent also saith that Joseph Morrell Esquire of the Town of New Windsor aforesaid is knowing to his services.

Deponent also saith that the whole of his service exceeded two years but it was so frequent and irregular that deponent at this distance of time cannot be more precise.

And in answer to the Interrogatories, specially put to this deponent by the said Judge in pursuance of the instructions of the Secretary of War, he on his oath saith that he was born in the said town of Cornwall in the year 1756 that he has a record of his age at his residence in his family Bible.

That he lived in said Town of Cornwall when called into service and has lived there ever since.

That he entered the service as a Militia man as aforesaid. That he has already stated the names of all the regular officers he can recollect who were with the troops where he served such Continental and Militia Regiments as he recollects and the general circumstances of his service. That he never received a written discharge.

Deponent is known to William A. Clark Esquire, Nathan Westcott Esquire, and Joseph Morell Esquire of his neighborhood, who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, and deponent also saith that he is almost blind that he is in ill health and very feeble and will not be able to attend the next court of record in and for said county with out great inconvenience and at the risqué [risk] of his life.

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. (Signed) Robert Barton

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Gilbert Ogden Fowler, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Please in and for Orange County.

Letter in folder dated July 25, 1924, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you, that the Revolutionary War records of this bureau fail to afford any information in regard to John and Joseph Barton of the New York Troops.

From the papers in the pension claim, W.16828, it appears that Roger Barton was born in Cornwall, Orange County, New York in 1756 and lived there during the Revolution, when he served from

the fall of 1776, until the fall of 1780, at various times, when called out, as a private in Captain Christian Vanduzer's Company of Orange County Militia, under Colonels Woodhull and Hathorne.

He was allowed pension on his application executed February 16, 1833, while living at said Cornwall. He died in November 1835.

He married at New Windsor, New York, July 10, 1780, Sarah Canfield and she was allowed pension on her application executed November 26, 1839, while living at Cornwall, N.Y. aged 79 years. There is no further data as to family.