

Pension Application for John P. Becker

S.23536 Born 1762. Sergeant
State of New York
County of Jefferson SS.

On this 24th day of February 1835 personally appeared in open court before the court of Common Pleas now sitting John P. Becker a resident of the town of Brownville in the County of Jefferson and State of New York aged seventy two 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

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He was enrolled in the service of the United States on the 15th day of July in the year 1776 in the company commanded by Capt. George Rightmire in Col. Peter Vrooman's Regiment at the time he was enrolled he resided in the town of Schoharie in the then county of Albany and state aforesaid and did duty at a Fort Situate in said Town of Schoharie aforesaid—said fort was called the Middle Fort and that he served faithfully in the service of the United States till the 15th of September of the same year when he was dismissed and returned to his house—after having served two months.

Second, he was again called into service of the 1st day of May in the year 1777 under the officers above mentioned when called into service he resided at the same place as aforesaid and did duty at the Middle Fort aforesaid in guarding and repairing the same under the command of Capt. Rightmire aforesaid and that he remained in said service as aforesaid til the 1st day of September in the year last aforesaid after having served faithfully in the service of the U. States at this time four months.

Third—on the 8th day of May in the year 1778 he was again called into service under the officers aforesaid and at the place aforesaid and was appointed or chosen first Sergeant in Capt. Rightmire's Company aforesaid and did duty at the Middle Fort aforesaid until the 15th day of July 1778 when he was drafted for three months out of Capt. Rightmire's company with seventeen others to go to the Upper Fort so called situate about five miles from the Middle Fort aforesaid under the command of Capt Joseph Hager, and that he remained in said service as aforesaid until the 15th day of October of the same year after having served faithfully in the said service five months and seven days.

Fourth, on the 1st day of June in the year 1779, he was again called into the service by the orders of Capt. Rightmire to the Middle Fort aforesaid to guard the fort and repair the same and assist in building barracks and remained on duty at and about the fort til the 1st of October of the same year, afterwards to wit on the 20th day of October of the same year he with the rest of the troops were ordered to pursue the enemy and on the 22 of the same month they over took the enemy near the head of the Delaware where they had a skirmish with the enemy consisting of Indians and Tories.

Fifth, on the 15th day of April in the year 1780 he was again called into service under the command of Captain Rightmire to the Middle Fort which was then called headquarters and did duty in and out of the fort in the capacity of a spy in watching the movements and getting such information as he could of the movements of the Indians & Tories.

On the 16th day of October of the same year he was ordered by Major Woolsey to ride on Express to the City of Albany in the County of Albany aforesaid on the 18th day of the same month he returned from Albany to the Fort aforesaid and on the next day the troops were ordered to pursue the enemy and did pursue and over took them at a place called Fort Plain on the Mohawk where a skirmish was the result of the pursuit returned to headquarters. On the 26th of the same month—on which day and at the place aforesaid he was dismissed from service after leaving served faithfully in said service six months and eleven days.

Sixth, on the 1st day of May in the year 1781 he was again called into service in the company and under the command of the officers aforesaid and did duly in repairing the Middle Fort and building it larger and that on the 1st day of July he was relieved by a company of Nine Months men so called at which time and at the place aforesaid he was dismissed from said service by Col. Vrooman and returned to his home.

Seventh, June 1st 1782 he was ordered into service and had the command as Sergeant of 24 men to guard the fort and remained on said duty for one month and was then dismissed.

And he further says that he was frequently and often called upon to render services, and did whenever so called upon render such services as was required of him by the officer under whose command he was at different times sometimes for a week and several times for a month or more at a time which said services are not set forth or included in the periods of his service set forth above.

He was born in the year 1762—has no record of his age, he resided in the Town of Schoharie in the County of Albany and State of New York when he was called into service, does not recollect of ever having received a written discharge.

In the neighborhood where he now resides he is acquainted with the Rev. Lyman Ackerman and Zeno Allin Esquire who is a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas who will testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution since the Revolutionary War. He has resided in the Town of Middleburgh in the County of Schoharie and State of New York and now resides in the Town of Brownville in the County of Jefferson and state aforesaid—he has no documentary evidence and is not in possession nor does he know of any other or deponent or person within his power that he is above to provide as the officers under whom he served are all of them dead.

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 any agency of any state. (Signed) John P. Becker

Sworn to and sub scribed the day and year aforesaid. P. Burchard, Clerk