

Pension Application for John G. Blauvelt

W.20728 (Widow: Ann Blanch. Married November 1782.) One child, Elizabeth.

State of New York

Rockland County SS.

On this twenty ninth day of November personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, now sitting in Clarkstown in said County, John G. Blauvelt a resident of the town of Orange, in the County of Rockland and State of New York, aged seventy three years the fifteenth day of the said November Instant, 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.

That on or about the first of August 1776, I enlisted as a volunteer for five months, in a company raised in the twon [sic] of Orange, (then Orange) now Rockland County, at which place I resided at that time, which said company was at that time commanded, by Capt. James Smith, in a regiment, whereof Isaac Nicol of Goshen Orange County was Coll., and Gilbert Cooper of Hempsted, then Orange, now Rockland County was Lieut Coll., we were first marched to Dobs' Ferry Whestchester [Westchester] County and from thence, to the White Plains in the same county near the court house, at which place we joined the American Army of which Gel [must mean Gen.] Putnam or Gel Clinton's to which I was attached, and in which Isaac Nicol had the Coll command, had an engagement with the British army, which as near as I can recollect lasted about one hour, a hot firing was kept up on both sides for some time, until over powered by numbers we were obliged to retreat to our intrenchment which was about half mile from the place were [where] the battle first commenced were [where] we continued until the British army crossed the Hudson River into New Jersey, when we marched to Peekskill in the same county and continued there until the first of January 1777 when we where [were] discharged and went home, when engaged in the said battle at the White Plains, one of my neighbours, a soldier, Abraham Onderdonk was killed by a cannon ball from the enemy separating his head from his shoulders, two besides of our men fell within a few feet from me, while we where [were] at said place Gel. Putnam took part of the army on an expedition for one night, for the purpose (it was said) to int [enter?] one wing of the British army, said to be Hessians, we got so near them that we could hear them talk so as to understand them, their [there] was a creek between us and the British army, Genl. Putnam was gone for some time and when he returned, I herd [heard] him say to the other officers to them, we can't get at them, afterwards I heard some one remark the bridge is taken up and cannon placed to prevent the crossing of our army, also that night we were kept under arms, and returned next morning to our entrenchment we left the evening before.—

In the month of March 1777, I volunteered and enlisted for three months in a company commanded by Capt John Blauvelt, John Bogart from New York was Orderly Sergeant, we joined a Regiment commanded by Cool. Paulding of Warwhick [Warwick] Orange County and marched to Totewa in New Jersey, now called Patterson, where we continued until our term of service was expired, and then went home, at that time the British aided by disaffected American's Refugees, and Tories, where [were] very troublesome to the friends of liberty and Independence, taking their property, steeling [stealing] their horses, cattle or everything they could lay their hands on that was worth carrying away, burning, plundering and destroying by fire and otherwise, killing the friends of their country and taking their prisoners to New York.

At the same time the British shipping were anchored of [off] Rockland County on the Hudson River, their men frequently landing, did plunder, steel [steal], burn, and take some of the inhabitants prisoners so that those residing on the margins of said river were also very much harassed by the enemy, part of the melitia [militia] were necessarily, constantly on guard, when one company had been

out a short time another was sent to relieve them, and exclusive of that service those that were at home, had to be ready at a moment's warning, whenever an alarm was made, and we we [sic] were obliged to take our arms and accipments [equipment] with us to our daily labour, to be ready to pursue the enemy immediately which often happened that we were called out on an alarm three times in one week, so that there was little time left to attend to our domestic concerns, except during the winter season when alarm calls where [were] not so frequent, besides serving under the above said Capt I frequently volunteered under Capt Thomas Blanck and Capt Abr'm Harring, both of Bergin [Bergen] County New Jersey, which service was mostly in that country and state at Scrawlingburg, English neighbourhood, over on the mountain along the Hudson, one part of said service I will recollect, while under the command of Capt. Abm's Harring, we marched to the English Neighbourhood at which place we had an engagement with the enemy, suppose they were refugees, and British, we kept up fire for some time until they received a reinforcement, when we were obliged to retreat a small distance, they left pursuing us, at this engagement one of our company, Mr. --- Cooper fell wether [whether] he recovered or died of his wound I am not able to say I do not recollect the year the last mentioned battle was in, but it was after my service of 3 months at Totewa New Jersey, in the manner above stated.

I served my country from the time I left the service at Totewwa until the close of the Revolutionary War and verily believe, that I was in actual service during that time in companies commanded by Capt John Blauvelt, Capt John Hogencamp, Johanis Blauvelt being Maj., and Gilbert Cooper acting as Lieut Col., of the Regiment for more than eighteen months (except my enlisted service of five and three months).

I also recollect that I volunteered for a few day[s] under Capt Crane we marched first to Suanelinburgh, then to New Bridge and then near Hackensack at which place the British army lay at that time; I remember that in the time of my service as a soldier I was in company and saw Genl. George Washington; Gen. De Lafayeth [LaFayette], Genl [?], Genl Putnam and Genl J. Clainton I saw that the White Plains where they had the command of the American Army, I was stationed at the left wing of said army under the command of Col. Isaac Nicol, I hereby refer the court to the following persons who can testify as to my carector [character] for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution, Garrit I. Blauvelt, John C. Smith, Conv. J. Smith, Richard R. Blauvelt, Conv Sickles, and John P. Smith.

I have no documentary evidence of any of my services for I do not recollect ever to have received a written discharge for any of my services, when my time of service was expired, I was verbally discharged, and sent home, and all the positive testamony [testimony] I can offer is some of my fellow revolutionists, who served with me in said war.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pention [pension] or annuity, except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. (Signed) John G. Blauvelt
David Pye Clerk