

Pension Application for William Bramble or Bramblee

S.23550

State of New York

Delaware County SS.

On this 9th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for said County of Delaware now sitting William Bramble a resident of the town of Bovina in said County of Delaware & State of New York aged eighty 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.

In the year seventeen hundred & seventy seven he resided at a place called Hallenborg in the County of Albany and State of New York the last of February or first of March in that year and enlisted then & there as a private soldier in a company of carpenters under Captain Jacob Van Doosen of Albany went from Hallenburgh to Albany there joined the company and marched from Albany to Fort Miller then in the County of Albany on the North or Hudson River above Saratoga remained at Fort Miller sometime and while there made two scouts from Fort Miller marched to Fort Edwards on the Hudson River then in the County of Albany and remained at Fort Edward sometime and while there made two other scouts on flat bottomed boats from Fort Edward, marched to Fort George on Lake George in the State of New York, then a province remained at Fort George some time and while there principally employed in cutting and hewing timber to make barracks from there marched to Ticonderoga remained some time at Ticonderoga & while there was engaged in laying platforms for the cannot to run on and in making & mending bateaus from Ticonderoga marched to Mount Independence and remained there some time and while there was engage in moving and making bateaus till the approach of Burgoyne and his army when we retreated in the night & marched to Shrewsborough up the bay from Ticonderoga from Skenesborough retreated to Fort Ann up Wood Creek from Fort Ann retreated back to Fort Edward the night after we left Fort Edward the fort was burned by order of Col. Poor the American officer in command of the fort remained at Fort Edward four or five days then retreated to a place called Half Moon remained there four or five days and were set to work mending old wagons and carts remained there till the American troops began to collect to go up and meet Burgoyne then we were ordered up to a place called Still Water by an officer belonging to the Quartermaster department remained at StillWater till the day before the last battle with Burgoyne and while there was engaged in making & repairing baggage wagons were ordered to put our tools into a blacksmith's shop and go up into the camp at a place called Bemus Heights and accordingly marched up and joined the American forces at the camp under the command of Gen. Gates the next morning we went out as a pilot to an officer it being supposed that Burgoyne's Indians would come round a pond of water and surprise the American forces on the left flank or wing.

He does not recollect the name of the officer he went to pilot or guide the Indians came forty or fifty in number within about eighteen rods of us when we fired from our ambush killing a number of them and the rest fled, leaving their dead and wounded. We immediately returned to the main army and joined the American forces on the left.

He fired three times and whilst loading his piece for a fourth shot received a wound in his right leg which broke the leg this was in the forenoon in the afternoon of that day the principal battle was fought and the next day or the day after Burgoyne surrendered. He was carried off the field after receiving his wound and left in a barn where there were several wounded. He lay there about three weeks and was then brought down to Albany under the care of Dr. Stringer about two weeks and had liberty from Dr. Stringer to go home to Hallenburgh and was carried home in a wagon before he got well the nine months the term of time for which he enlisted expired and he did not join the army again under

that enlistment. He had no written discharge nor ever received any pay but lost his tools which were burned at Fort Ann. He does not recollect whether his company was or was not attached to any particular regiment.

Col. Arnold was aid de camp to Gen. Gates in the taking of Burgoyne. About the first of March seventeen hundred and seventy eight he resided at the same place Hallenburgh in the county of Albany and State of New York and again enlisted in the three years services for three years as Lieutenant went to Albany and enlisted some recruits and on the seventeenth day of that month went down the Hudson River by water to West Point with the recruits and carried several letters from Col. Gainsvourt [Gansvoort?] to General Washington and a letter of recommendation to General Washington which he delivered to General Washington at West Point who told him to keep the letter of recommendation from Col. Gainsvoort and that it was as good a commission as he could give him.

Col. Arnold then commanded at West Point remained at West Point four or five days and crossed the Hudson opposite West Point under the command of Capt. Johnson and marched down the East side of the river to the lines at York Island remained stationed at York Island for the principal part of the time till fall some of the time under Capt. Johnson at other times under the command of Captains Fowler & McCracken in the fall returned to West Point under Capt McCracken, Col. Arnold in the falls still commanded at West Point on our return to West Point in the fall. Genl Washington & Col. Gainsevort were at West Point remained at West Point three days.

He was then sent by the command of General Washington to Ticonderoga to attend to the getting down some cannon that lay at West Point Ticonderoga from there to Albany & from Albany to West Point.

He went to Ticonderoga and was engaged al that winter in getting the cannon down in Albany at March Point a year from the time of his enlistment he returned to West Point Col. Arnold & Gen. Greene were there at West Point he lay at West Point sick nearly two months and remained at West Point till the month of June. He then went down on a picket guard about two miles below West Point under Captain Johnson remained there two or three days & returned to West Point.

He remained principally at West Point till September of that year 1778 frequently during the summer going out from West Point on scouting parties with seventeen or eighteen men sometimes at a time under his command.

About the middle of September took from the Tories eleven or thirteen head of cattle and three horses one a white stud that the Tories were driving to the British in the State of New Jersey. Just after the taking of the horses and cattle and bringing them within the pickets he got wounded by a cut across the right hip joint by a British light horseman with his cutlass.

He was carried up to West point where he lay about four weeks when he got liberty to go up to Albany and was carried up to Albany in a sloop and there he remained about four weeks. When he started from West Point on board the sloop for Albany. Gen. Washington gave him fifty dollars as a present.

From Albany he went home to the Hallenbush in the County of Albany and lay sick there for more than a year reached the Hallen some time in November 1779 making about eighteen months from the time he enlisted to the time he was wounded and about twenty months to the time he reached home. Remained sick about one year after he reached home.

He never had any other commission than the letter of recommendation from Col. Gainsvourt to Genl Washington which letter is lost & he has not seen it within thirty years last past nor does he know how it came lost. He never had any written discharge nor ever returned to the army again. He was not able to do any more duty or service during the war of the revolution. He never received any pay for his services but the fifty dollars present from General Washington.

He was born in England in the town of Reading & County of Berkshire in the year seventeen hundred and forty seven and came to this country in the seventeenth year of his age. He resided at

Hallenback in the County of Albany & State of New York until he came to reside in Delaware County about thirty years ago and resided in the town to Delhi in said county until about a year ago when he removed to Bovina to live with his son where he now resides. There are no persons living within his knowledge by whom he can prove his services in the Revolutionary War that he has made inquiries to ascertain if any of his acquaintances of that day were living and he cannot find out that any of them are living except Seth Whitney & Francis Connan who are knowing to his being absent a part or all of the time during his services above set forth.

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 with his mark)
William Bramblee

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

Letter in file dated April 10, 1912, written in response to an inquiry.

In response to your letter dated the 2nd and received the 3rd instant, you are advised that William Bramblee was allowed pension as William Bramble. Sur. File No. 23,550, Rev. War on his application executed October 9, 1832, at which time he had been a resident of Revina, Delaware County, New York, about one years.

He stated that he was born in the year 1747 at Reading, County of Berkshire, England, came to American in the seventeenth year of his age, resided at Hallenbeck, Albany County, New York, until about 1802 when he removed to Delhi, Delaware County, New York.

Enlisted in February or March 1777 as a private incaptain Jacob VanDoosen's company of Carpenters, marched to Lake George, Ticonderoga, Fort Edward, exe. and engaged in building barracks, cannon platforms, bateaus, and wagons at Stillwater they put up their tools, joined the main army, and while engaging the enemy in the forenoon of October 7, 1777, he was wounded in the right leg and carried off the field; served 9 months.

Entered the service in March 1778 as Lieut. And served under Captains Johnson, Fowler, and McCracken; he was engaged in transporting cannon from Ticonderoga to Albany until June, after which he was stationed in the vicinity of West Point, and in September he was wounded across his right hip with a cutlass, by a British Light Horseman, which disabled him for further service 18 months.

There is no family data on file.