

Pension Application for William Cooper

S.12567

Pension awarded \$32.86 per annum

State of New York

County of Schenectady SS.

On this twelfth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said county now sitting William Cooper a resident of the Town of Glenville in said County & State aged upwards of seventy 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.

He was born in the township of Schoharie in the county of Albany now of Schoharie in the State of New York on the thirteenth day of July 1762. He has no record of his age except that contained in the Register kept by the High Dutch Reformed Church of Schoharie.

When he was called into the service of the United States in the army of the revolution he was living in Greenbush in said County of Albany—and since the revolutionary war he has lived in Greenbush aforesaid from thence about six years ago he moved to Schaghticoke & from thence to Glenville & he now lives in the said town of Glenville & has lived in the aforesaid town of Glenville for the last two years—

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

On the first day of July 1777 he enlisted in Captain Jacob Defreest's (1) Company of Militia in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Henry Van Rensselaer.(2) His other company & Field officers whom he recollects were John Fonda (3), Lieutenant, _____Fonda Major (4) and Jacob Van Alstine (5) Quarter Master. From said first day of July until after the surrender of Burgoyne and his army, he was out in said Company with the northern American Army at Fort Edward, Saratoga & the other posts in that quarter occupied by the American troops during the northern campaign of that year being for the term of more than three months. Colonel Van Rensselaer (6) being wounded he thinks in said month of July Colonel Stephen Schuyler succeeded him & continued to have the command of said Regiment until the surrender of Burgoyne.

In the fall of the year 1778, he was drafted to go out in Captain George Sharp's (7) Company of Militia or State troops under a Colonel whose name he does not recollect and served in said engagement for the term of three months at Fort Paris in Stone Arabia. In the year last named he performed garrison duty at Saratoga for the term of two weeks but cannot now recollect the names of the officers under whom he then served, nor yet the particular period of the year. He also mounted guard at Schenectady for the term of two months and a half he thinks in the year 178_. In the fall of the year 1779, he served again in said Company of Captain George Sharp in an expedition to Schoharie and remained about two weeks in garrison at the lower fort of that place and for the like term of two weeks in the Schoharie Middle Fort.

A few months thereafter he served under the same Captain in an expedition to Beaver Dam in pursuit of about 150 Tories who rendezvoused at that place. He was from home in this expedition between three and four weeks—and thus the whole period of this services in said war was twelve months, not including several short tours, the particular periods, of which he cannot call distinctly to mind, and of which he makes no account.

He never during said service engaged in any battle except an encounter with a part of Tories when he the claimant was in a scouting party at Spirghtown (Now Lansingburgh), in New York State.

The following are the names of some of the regular officers whom he knew, or who were with the troops where he served, and such continental and militia regiment or companies with which he served, or as he can recollect, viz: Major Leonard Van Buren (8), General Gansvoort (9), Colonel Van Schaick (10), General Ten Broeck (11)& others.

He never received any written discharge from the service.

He has no _____documentary evidence, and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services except those whose depositions are hereto annexed.

The following are the names of persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, to wit: Daniel, C. Groot and Henry Baninger.

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) Wm. Cooper.

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year first aforesaid. John S. Vrooman Clerk.

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William Cooper the applicant before named being duly sworn saith that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot recollect all the tours in which he engaged, nor the number of days he

served in each other than those enumerated in the preceding declaration & herein again specified—tours as a private soldier for three months in the northern expedition against Burgoyne, and at least ten days at Stone Arabia, three months at Saratoga two weeks at Schenectady two months and a half under command of his Captain George Sharp at Schoharie two weeks, viz at the lower fort, and two weeks in the middle fort of Schoharie—at Beaver Dam four weeks—This Deponent served in a great many other expeditions the particular of which this Deponent cannot recollect and therefore he makes no account thereof but for the aforesaid terms amounting in all to ten months and a half this Deponent claims a pension. (Signed with his mark) William Cooper

Subscribed and Sworn this 21st June 1833 before Wm. Strong, Justice of the Peace.

End Notes—S.12567—William Cooper

1. Jacob DeFreest (DeFriest, DeForrest) was the Captain of the Sixth Company in Colonel Stephen J. Schuyler's Sixth Regiment of Albany County Militia.
2. Henry K. VanRensselaer was the Lieutenant-Colonel of Schuyler's Regiment.
3. John Fonda was the First Lieutenant in Captain George Sharp's company in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment.
4. John J. Fonda was the Second Major in 1775 in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment. He was Commissioned First Major on February 20, 1776 in Schuyler's Regiment.
5. Jacob VanAlstine was the QuarterMaster in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment in 1777. On May 28, 1778 he was commissioned Adjutant in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment.
6. Lieutenant-Colonel Henry K. VanRensselaer was wounded on July 7, 1777.
7. George Sharp was commissioned captain on May 28, 1778 in Colonel Schuyler's Regiment.
8. So far only a Private Leonard VanBuren has been found. He served in Captain Sharp's company. The Major title could be an after the war rank.
9. Peter Gansevoort Jr., was appointed Brigadier General on March 26, 1781 of the First Brigade of the Albany County Militia. He had previously served as the Colonel of the Third New York Continental Regiment.
10. Goose VanSchaick was the Colonel of the First New Your Continental Regiment.
11. Abraham TenBroeck had served as the Brigadier General of the Albany County Militia.