

### **Pension Application for Valentine Davis**

W.19135 (Widow: Sarah Hoffman) Married August 3, 1786 by Rev'd Mr. VanBenscoter, minister of the Dutch Reformed Church of Deerpark, Ulster County. Valentine died October 13, 1839.

Declaration

State of New York

Montgomery County SS

On the nineteenth day of September in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-two in open court, before the judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Montgomery in the State of New York now sitting, personally appeared, Valentine Davis, a resident of the town of Glen in the County and State aforesaid, aged sixty eight years the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February last, who being 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 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832—and in answer to the Interrogatories put by the Court says—

That he entered the service aforesaid to the best of his recollection in the month of March in the year seventeen hundred seventy nine or eight in Marbletown, Ulster County in the State of New York—in the company of militia, called levies, commanded by Captain Levi DeWitt in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Albert Paulding, Major Thomas Dewitt.

That he left the service under said officers, later in the month of December in the same year, having served nine months which completed his term of enlistment.

That his lieutenants in his company were William Nottingham & John Dubois.

That he laid during said term in Fort Lackaway in said county commanded by said Captain Dewitt.

There were some other troops called “Three months men” in the garrison about at same time. There was no action took place during said term in which he, the narrator, was engaged.

That in the year following, to wit in the year 1780 or 1781 (which your deponent cannot certainly recollect, this deponent and narrator entered the service in the same company then commanded by Captain's Piercy, (whose Christian name he cannot recollect) & Lieutenant John Hardenbergh in same regiment commanded by Col. A. Paulding, for nine months and served during said term of nine months, in three different stations—the one at the military stores at Esquire John Hardenburgh's which were burnt the same season, in August, about the 21<sup>st</sup> day by the enemy—

And at Depuy's Fort and at Van Noe's Fort in Wawarsing in the same County of Ulster—At the time said military stores were burned this deponent was with about twelve other soldiers & a number of inhabitants with their families, under the command of Lieutenans Hardenburgh at a stone house & located about two miles from the military stores—said stone house was attacked by about 360 of the enemy, but was successfully defended—though the neighboring houses & barn were burned and the battle killed or driven away. The next day, having received a strong reinforcement we pursued the enemy who were tories and Indians.

In the succeeding year this deponent entered the service again, in the month of March in the same town & county in a company of militia levies, commanded by Captain Gilbert Livingston, Lieutenant Cornelius Dubois & Lieut—Finch—in a regiment commanded by Colonel Frederick Weisenfelt, for nine months & served in the same county, along the frontiers, for said term of nine months.

During this term two boys in the neighborhood were taken off by the Indians & we had a long but unsuccessful pursuit of them & had several small skirmishes with the Indians & scouting parties out, as the enemy, Indians and Tories were very troublesome & committed much violence & injuries.

This was the last campaign in which this deponent served, as peace was proclaimed soon after.

So that this deponent served three successive campaigns or terms of nine months each in all twenty seven months—This deponent never had a written discharge but merely a verbal discharge each term, by the commanding officer.

And this deponent says that Jacobus Smith now of the County of Jefferson, State of New York has knowledge of the services of this deponent as herein before set forth, said Smith having been in service at the same time or a part of said time & resided in the same place with this deponent.

That this deponent was born on the twenty sixth day of February in the year 1764 at Marbletown in the County of Ulster, State of New York.

I have no record of my age but a copy in my Bible taken from the family record a record of the ages of the family kept in my father's Bible by him, which copy is in my possession.

This deponent thinks it possible that the record of his age is also to be found in the church books at Marbletown aforesaid.

This deponent declares that the reverend Abraham VanHorne of Johnstown County of Montgomery aforesaid, is a person in his neighbourhood who can testify as to his character for veracity & his belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution.

And this deponent says that he removed from the county of Ulster to the County of Montgomery where he now resides, about thirty years since, & has resided in said county ever since.

And the said Valentine Davis hereby relinquishes his every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Valentine Davis

Subscribed by the said Valentine Davis after having had read to him in open court the 19<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 1832. Geo D. Ferguson, Clerk