

Pension Application for Peter Decker

S.15091

State of New York

Ulster County SS.

On this 24th day of July 1832 personally appeared before me John Jansen one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for Ulster County aforesaid—Peter Decker Jun'r a resident Citizen of the Town of Shawangunk aged 73 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—viz—

That in the month of June 1776 this deponent was a volunteer in the company of John Gilesby, Capt, in the Regiment commanded by col. Hardenburgh. That he volunteered in Shawangunk and was marched to New York that I Layed in Fort (don't remember)—in the City of New York—That I layed in New York at the time of the Battle of Brooklin Heights that for some time after the said Battle & before the evacuation of the City the Canadians was kept up between the City & Brooklin that Major Fish was one of the officers in the Regular Service, that General Washington was there that we left the City of New York about the first of October & then lay at Kingsbridge about 1 month and from thence we crossed the river and marched to Haverstraw and was there dismissed after the said service of 5 months as aforesaid.

That in the year 1777 in April I was a volunteer for the term of 4 months in the company of Captain John Gilesby & was marched from Shawangunk to Fort Montgomery & was placed under the charge of Colonel Dubois who was a Colonel in the regular service—& was stationed at Fort Montgomery for the said term of four months & was then discharged. Next in the year 1778 in the spring I was [?] from the Regiment of col. Hardenburgh for the term of 1 month and was marched from Shawangunk to West Point & was there stationed for the said term & was discharged (During the said month service there was two deserters arrested that had deserted that they were sentenced to be shot that about the time of the expected execution Mrs. Washington was the bearer of a reprieve) that Washington was then at Newburgh don't remember who my Captain was.

That in the year 1779 I was ordered out from the Regiment of Colonel Janson in Shawangunk & was marched to Fort Constitution and there served 1 month in [sic] was then discharged after the expiration of said term of time—that (I was then stationed under Captain Matthew Hunter--) That there was some artillery troops there at that time besides the militia.—

Next in the year 1780 I was classed out of the said regiment & was placed in the company of Captain Dewitt & was ordered from Shawangunk to the Town of Shandaken & there lay for the term of 1 month on the Frontiers—

Next in the year 1780 I was ordered out of the said Regiment and marched under Capt. M. Jansen from Shawangunk to Napinoch on the Frontier for the term of

two month & was there on the Frontier & there discharged after having served the said term of 2 months.

Next & in addition to the above terms of service hereunto fore stated I was ordered out upon a great number of alarms under Captain Matthew Jansen from the Regiment of Col. Jansen & was at Fort Constitution & at NewBurgh & at the Frontier & was one of the prisoners of the celebrated Indian [?] & his company that attacked the house of Col. Jansen that I was over at Peenpack that I was not generally called across the Shawangunk Mountain along the Frontier that the number of the said alarms could not possibly be less than 15 times that the same would always at least 6 days each that the above term & time are less than the fact but so placed to be seen not to overrate the same in whole 15 times of 6 days each.

17 months in the whole.

That to the Interrogatories set forth by the Secretary of War this deponent answers to the—

1st. That he was born in Shawangunk Ulster County aforesaid in the year 1759 on the 3rd day of February.

2nd. That his age is recorded in the Family Bible & in the Shawangunk Church.

3rd. That he has always lived in Shawangunk aforesaid except only when in service.

4th. That I was sometime ordered out sometimes volunteered as above set forth.

5th. That I have set forth as far I can remember the exigencies to this.

6th. That I never received a written discharge.

7th. That I am acquainted with many inhabitants of the said town of Shawangunk that I can prove the said service in part by Benjamin Terwilliger.

8th. My general reputation by David Windfield & Peter Decker, that I am a member of Shawangunk Church & have been for 49 years, that I have frequently had an office in said church.

That 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.

That this deponent has no documentary evidence of his said service. (Signed) Peter Decker Jr.

Sworn to and subscribed this 26th day of July 1832 before me. John Jansen, one of the Judges & as aforesaid.

Letter in folder dated November 27, 1928, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.15091, it appears that Peter Decker was born February 3, 1759 in Shawangunk, New York.

While a resident of Shawangunk, Ulster County, New York he enlisted and served as a private in the New York troops as follows:

In June 1776, five months in Captain John Gillespy's Company, Colonel Hardenburgh's Regiment.

In April 1777, four months in Captain John Gillespy's Company, Colonel Dubois' Regiment.

In the spring of 1778, one month under Colonel Hardenbergh.

In 1779, one month in Captain Matthew Hunter's Company, Colonel Janson's Regiment.

In 1780, one month in Captain DeWitt's Company and two months in Captain M. Jansen's Company, Colonel Janson's Regiment, date not given.

Soldier was allowed pension on his application executed July 24, 1832, while residing in Shawangunk, Ulster County, New York.

A son was referred to in 1833, no name given.

There are no further family data.