

Pension Application for John DeGraff or DeGroff

R.2846

Born Feb 7, 1756 in Kings Co. Long Island, in 1832 res. Of Florida Montgomery Co., NY died Mar 19, 1833.

State of New York

Montgomery County SS.

On this thirtieth day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared before John Hand Esquire one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Montgomery John DeGroff a resident of the town of Florida in the County of Montgomery and State of New York aged seventy six 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.

That he volunteered as a private soldier in a company of Militia which was raised on Long Island, as he believes in the County of Kings, and as he also in the year 1776 or 1777 but cannot recollect from his own memory in what month or at what season of the year, that the captain in said Company was named Rappilyea, that one of the Lieutenants in the said company was a brother to the Captain, that soon after said company was raised the said Captain deserted the said company and as this deponent understood, and as was generally understood & believed went into the British Service, that this deponent thinks he served in said company about a year, that after the captain deserted, the company was commanded by the Lieutenant, that he this deponent cannot recollect the names of any other of his officers except that he thinks the name of the Brigadier General was Furman, that during this year and as he thinks in the fall, he was in the Battle of Brooklyn that General Washington and the main body of the American Army were there, from Brooklyn the American Army moved over to New York, from New York the Company to which he belonged removed with a part of the Army to Kingsbridge he was also (in the same fall) as he thinks but cannot be positive, in the Battle of White Plains, that the American Army then crossed the Hudson river, that he cannot particularly recollect any farther movements or service that year.

The succeeding year he volunteered in a company at Monmouth, New Jersey commanded by Captain John Scheneck, that this was also a company of Militia and that he served in the company from that time till the end of the Revolutionary War as a private soldier. That he cannot recollect the names of his officers in Captain Scheneck's Company that he was engaged on various expeditions during this latter engagement to Brunswick Philadelphia & was in the Battle at Monmouth Court House that in consequence of the very feeble state of bodily health his memory has failed him to such a degree that he is unable to recollect with any more certainty or particularity the order of events which occurred during his service, or the particular times of their occurrence or even many of the events as he has reason to believe, that the whole

period of his service was about seven years. That he was dismissed at the close of the war and has no documentary evidence of his service.

That he was born in the month of February 1756 in the County of Kings Long Island New York and that he resided in that place until he entered the army. That he has a record of his age which he has kept in a Bible about forty years, which he took from a woman who was a neighbor to his mother when he was born and which he believes correct. That the only persons by whom he can prove any part of his services, who are living are John VanDerBeer, Henry Van Derveer, and Isaac Degroff of Florida and Teunis VanDerVeer of Glen all in this County, that after the war he resided seven or eight years new Monmouth New Jersey & from thence he removed to Florida aforesaid where he has resided ever since.

That he is unable to attend any Court of record in this county in person by reason of bodily infirmity and that he never received any written discharge from his officers when he was dismissed from the service at the close of the ar.

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) John Degroff.

Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid before me John Hand one of the Judges of the Montgomery County Courts.