

Pension Application for John DeWitt

W.16949 (Widow: Anna Mary or Maria) John died February 19, 1816. John J. DeWitt was married to Mary Breasted July 6th 1782.

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the third section of the act of Congress passed July 6th 1836.

State of New York

Ulster County SS.

On this twenty seventh day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty one at a court of Common Pleas held at the court house in the City of Hudson in and for the county aforesaid personally appeared in open court before the Judges thereof, Mary DeWitt a resident of the town of Germantown in said County aged Seventy five years who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of John Dewitt deceased who in the revolutionary war resided with his father John L. Dewitt in the town of Saugerties County of Ulster—and was a captain in a company of Militia in Colonel Johannes Snyder's Regiment—that this declarant resided in the same place.

That she has often heard her husband the said John Dewitt say that he had been engaged as a private soldier in the military service in defence of his country in several different campaigns under different officers during said war.—Sometimes with the whole Regiment for a short period—sometimes he was drafted for service months—sometimes he volunteered for a shorter or longer period and with an officer from his company attached to some other regiment, and she thinks that his services in all would amount to sixteen or eighteen months as a private soldier.

That owing to the lapse of time and loss of memory she cannot give all the particulars of her husband's services but according to the best of her present recollection he served in each tour not less than the following viz.

That late in the fall of the year of 1776 the militia of Ulster County were called out enmass into the State of New Jersey and the said John Dewitt was a private soldier at the same time in a company commanded by his father Captain John L. Dewitt and was from home and returned after an absence of not less than one month about the first of January 1777.

She further declares that in the spring of 1777 the said John Dewitt volunteered or was drafted as a private soldier either in Captain John L. Dewitt's or Captain Hendrick Schoonmaker company and was stated at a place called Fort Montgomery for the term of not less than four months and was discharged and returned home at the end of the full term of four months.

She further states that during the revolutionary war the said John Dewitt served in short tours under different officers in Colonel Johannis Snyder's Regiment for the defence of Ulster which she believes would in all amount to near two months as a private soldier.

She further declares that in the summer of 1778 or 1779 the said John Dewitt enlisted in a company of light horse—commanded by Captain Sylvester Salisbury of the town of Kingston that from said years of 1778 or 79 said John Dewitt was out in said corps in short tours until the fall of 1780. That she believes he was with a detachment of said company stationed on the Hudson River at a place called Fishkill—the first was in the summer of 1779 as she now believes for not less than one month.

The second was in the fall of the same year at the same place for about two months. The remainder of the services of the said John Dewitt in said corps she cannot remember any particulars but thinks they would in all amount to at least one month.

She further declares that in the spring or summer of 1781 the said John Dewitt volunteered as a private soldier in a company of Rangers commanded by Moses Yeomans who was the commandant of said company and was stationed at different places for the defence of the frontier of Ulster County for the term of not less than five or six months and was discharged late in the fall of said year of 1781—and that she well remembers one of her acquaintance Samuel Post was the orderly Sergeant (now deceased) and that Abraham Dewitt a brother of said John Dewitt was a private soldier in the same company at the time.

She further declares that she was married to said John Dewitt the sixth day of July in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty two that the ceremony was performed by the Reverend Mr. Devunden Clergyman of the Protestant Dutch Reformed Church in said town of Saugerties.—

That he maiden name previous to her marriage was Maria or Mary Breasted.

She further declares that her husband the said John Dewitt was called after they were married for a short tour for the defence of the frontier of Ulster County in the latter part of August or beginning of September of said year of 1782 under a Lieutenant in Colonel Snyder's Regiment—by the name of Martin Hommel with whom she was well acquainted and that she believes he was absent from home five or six days.

She further declares that the foregoing statement of her husband's services the said John Dewitt during the revolutionary war is all she can at present recollect—and she believes it is less than he has actually performed and although she may have erred in some particulars as to dates and other particulars—she believes it main correct.

She further declares that with her husband the said John Dewitt resided in said town of Saugerties for many years and had several children and that the annexed family record is a leaf taken out of a bible belonged in his lifetime to said John Dewitt deceased.

She further declares that her husband the said John Dewitt died the nineteenth day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixteen and that she has ever since that period remained and is still the widow of the said John Dewitt deceased as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

She further declares that her present residence is in the County of Columbia with her son William Henry Dewitt and that she has for three or four years made several attempts to go to court but in consequence of indisposition and other causes has not been able to reach the court house until now. (Signed) Mary Dewitt

Sworn before me this 27th day of Sept 1841. CE Van Valkenburgh, Dep'ty Clk Col. Co.

Births

Peter Breasted DeWitt was born 22 July 1783.

John Dewitt was born 15 Dec. 1788.

Andrew DeWitt was born Nov. 8th, 1793 and died in Dec. 1793.

William Henry DeWitt was born 27 May 1804.

Charles DeWitt was born 13 Jan. 1807.

Grandson of John J. DeWitt, Andrew DeWitt was born 8th November 1806.

Grandson of John J. DeWitt, Horrace DeWitt as born September 2d 1808.

Andrew DeWitt was born November 20th 1774.