

Pension Application for John A. Dewitt

W.10730 (Widow: Elizabeth)

B.L.Wt.29737-160-55

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th June 1832.

State of New York

County of Ulster SS.

On this twelfth day of September 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 of the County of Ulster aforesaid, now sitting John A. DeWitt a resident of the town of Marbletown in said county, aged seventy-four 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.

In the fall of the year 1776, he was detached from the militia of Ulster and went in the company of Capt. Hendrick Schoonmaker to Fort Independence on the east bank of the Hudson River a little below the Highlands, and served there three weeks. He next served one month against the Indians and Tories on the Schoharie frontier, under the command of Majors Albert Pawling and Adian Wynkoop, driving the enemy before them as far as Harpersfield In the present county of Delaware. Then he served three months as a sentinel, appointed with others to guard the prison in the town of Kingston in the County of Ulster aforesaid and two brigs moored a the landing near the village, both being full of Tories.

Next he performed a tour of duty six weeks against the British Army under Burgoyne in 1777, under the command of Col. Jacob Hornbeck of Ulster, and acted during the period at quartermaster of the regiment. Being ordered back to Ulster from thence, to defend Kingston from an expected invasion of the enemy after the capture of Fort Montgomery in the Highlands, he served three weeks as quartermaster of the regiment of Col. Levi Pawling in and near the town, which was burnt.

He then went to Ramapo and Hackensack, in New Jersey, as a private in a detachment of militia, in the company commanded by Capt. Frederick Schoonmaker, and served there two months. Then he served as Light horseman on the frontier of Ulster in the town of Wawarsing, three months, under the command of Major John Cantine.

Next he served six weeks as one of seven light-horseman, appointed to guard the agent of the Treasurer of the State of New York, Gerard [Banket?] from the town of Kingston aforesaid to Philadelphia, where he went to fetch money or funds.

Then he served as a patrol two months on the frontier of Ulster, and afterwards two weeks against the Indians in the wilderness, about forty miles north west of Kingston aforesaid. Lastly, he served as one of certain detached militia on the frontier of Ulster, two weeks, at a place called Laghawack, west of Wawassing in the county of Uslter aforesaid.

Interrogatories put by the Court, with the applicant's answers to them.

1. When, and in what year were you born? Answer. On the 28th day of August in the year 1758.
2. Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it? Answer. I have in my family Bible, which is at my place of residence in Marbletown.
3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live? Answer. Always at Marbletown, my native town.
4. How were you called into service; where you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And, if a substitute, for whom? Answer. I was always called into service by being detached.
5. State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the troops, where you served; such continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service. Answer. Generals Gates and Arnold, Col. VanCortlandt and Col. Weisenfeldt, Major Fish, Captain Lounsberry, and several whom I cannot now remember. I remember well the regiments of Col. VanCortlandt, and Weisenfeldt, who was Lt. Colonel. The nature of my services was extremely hazardous and severe privations were endured—especially in acting against Indians and Tories in the remote settlements west of the Hudson.
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it? Answer. I never received any but verbal discharges.
7. State the names of person to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution. Answer. Abraham G. Hardenbergh, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Ulster, Matthew Olivet, late member of assembly from ulster, Col. John Lounsberry, Peter A. Cantine, Esqr, and Abraham Buyn Hasbbrouck and Charles G. DeWitt, late Representative in Congress & John Sudain Attorney and Counselor at Law.
8. The applicant further declares that having been very seldom, from home since the Revolutionary War and paid little attention to the fate of his comrades, he cannot now recollect any surviving witness who can state in detail his personal knowledge of the services of the applicant. He believes they are nearly all dead.

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 any agency in any state. (Signed) Jno. A. Dewitt

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court. A. G. Hardenburgh, Abm A. Deyo, John Jansen, Judges