

Pension Application for Richard Drake

S.29127 Died Feb 2, 1836.

On this 9th day of October in the year 1832 personally appeared Richard Drake in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the County of Sullivan in said State now sitting, Richard Drake a resident of Mamakating in said County and State of New York, aged seventy three years who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated—that is to day he enlisted out of a company of Common Militia into a company of Minute Men commanded by Capt. Thomas Moffit, Lieutenant Seth Marvin, Second Lieut. James Little & Nathan Strong ensign at the town of Blooming Grove in Orange County & State of New York in the month of September AD 1775 to serve four months and continued to serve as such soldier for & during said four months and during said four months and during said service marched into the town of New Windsor now in said County but then a part of Ulster County to the Banks of the North River about four miles above above [sic] West Point where he continued until he was discharged but had no written discharge—

That afterwards in the month of March AD 1776 at NewBurgh in said County of Orange then he volunteered into a company commanded by William Alberson to serve as a guard to take & conduct by water upon the North River from NewBurgh to Albany two Sloop or Schooner loads of cannon & carriages for the use of the United States Army at the North and served in that character accordingly & & went during that service to Albany & at Albany received on board a number of prisoners of war & took some down the river to Dobbs Ferry below Peekskill & from thence went with said prisoners to Hackensack in New Jersey and that he served as a guard to said prisoners from Albany to Hakcensack under said Alberon & served under said Alberon as aforesaid for the space of one month at least according to the best of his recollection & belief—

That afterwards at NewBurgh in said County of Orange (ten Ulster County) in the month of June AD 1776 he enlisted into a company commanded by John Gillespie as Captain, Jacob Lawrence first Lieut, one Dubois (whose Christian name is not recollected) as second Lieutenant William Hall first Sargeant & James Stitt & Macob Roosa, second & third Sargeants—there being no ensign - in a regiment commanded by Colonel Hardenburgh (his Christian name not recollected) to serve five months & ten days commonly called five months men—and that he served as such soldier during said term of five months & ten days—and that during said term he marched to New York and thence to Long Island at Brooklin about the last of August and continued there about two or three days and retreated with the army to New York in the night time & was during this time in a Brigade commanded by Genl Scott & Nicholas Fish Brigade Major. There were other regiments in said Brigade commanded by Col. Lasher, Col. Malcolm & Col. Drake—That he knew Malcolm & Col. Drake—That he

knew Col. or General McDougle one Major Billings & a Capt Denton serving there at same time.

That he remained in New York until the same was taken or entered by the British on one Sunday, and then marched out of the City & was fired upon by the enemy while so marching near the head of the [?] and went to Kingsbridge and there remained w while and marched thence to White Plains & was there during the battle had with a portion of the troops –

From thence he marched to Peekskill and to Dobbs ferry where he was discharged & went from thence home by a sloop in company with Captain Gillespie.—

That afterwards in the month of April AD 1777 as a volunteer or by the order of his officers of the militia he entered the service of his country as a militia soldier in a company commanded by Capt. Samuel Clarke & Mott Waggon at Newburgh aforesaid and marched to Fort Constitution on the east side of the North River opposite West Point and continued in said service about ten days—

That afterwards in the summer of 1777 he with others of the militia was classed (as it was called) to serve in the Revolutionary War and during the months of June & July of that year he served at Fort Montgomery on the North River as long as one month & a half in a company of militia commanded by Capt. Samuel Clark in Col. Hasbrooks Regiment of Militia.

That in September of the same year he went as a volunteer in a company to guard a small craft up the North river loaded with hard bread for the use of the army to Albany and served therein about three weeks. That in or about the first of November of the year 1777 he was drafted to service at New Windsor as a guard at the place where was a chevaux de fries & served there under Captain Terpeny for the space of about one month.

That afterwards in the last of March or first of April 1780, he went & served by virtue of the orders of his superior officers, at West Point about two weeks to guard said place, Government then having for the first began to fortify the same.

That in or about the last of May or first of June of the same year 1778 he went as one of the classed militia in a company under Captain Johnson of Col. Hasbrooks regiment to West Point & from thence marched to Mamakating which was there considered the frontier and served as long as one month at least, and again in or about the month of October of 1778 was again ordered out & marched from Newburgh to Mamakating & thence to Peenpack (where the Indians had made an attack on the citizens) and was absent from home in said last service one half month according to the best of his recollection.

That in May 1780 he was again ordered out & went as a soldier of the militia from Newburgh to Nippenaugh (a place so called) in Wawarsing in Ulster County across Shawangunk mountain and was in said last service under Captain Johnson about half of a month.

That he never received any discharge in writing—That he was born in the town of Goshen in Orange County in June 1759. That he has a record of memorandum of his age in a family bible at home.

That since the Revolutionary War he lived first at Gloomng Grove in Orange County next in the town of Mamakating in Sullivan County – next at Minisink in Orange County & next in said Mamakating where he now lives – at some times he was drafted and at other times he volunteered to serve as above stated.

The he recollects that William Hall his first sergeant above named died with sickness, at the City of New York, during deponents service as aforesaid at New York City & its vicinity – and further that about the first day of May in the year 1779 under an enlistment under the command of Captain Jacob Reeder who commanded a company of Artificers serving for the American Army he commenced service as an artificer & continued to serve accordingly under said enlistment for three months in a Blacksmith shop containing five fires at NewBurgh in the State of New York and from thence he continued in said service until about the first of March 1780.

That he drew clothing during his service and that said company was paid by the government. That his service consisted principally in shoeing horses for the American Army.

That he has no documentary evidence & that he knows of no person (except one Thomas Oliver) who can testify to his services, whose testimony he can procure.

That he was born in the year 1759 at Goshen in Orange County in State of New York and that William Lockwood & Mahar W. Horton of the town of his residence & many others are acquainted with him & can testify to his character & reputation and their belief of his service

He hereby relinquishes 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) Richard Drake.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid before me John M. Foster Clk.

Letter in folder dated January 8, 1924, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.29127, it appears that Richard drake was born at Goshen, orange County, New York in June 1759.

He enlisted at Blooming Grove, Orange County, New York, and served in the New York troops as follows—

From September 1775, four months in Captain Thomas Moffet's Company.

From March 1776, one month in Captain William Alberson's Company, and from June 1776, five months and ten days in Captain John Gillespie's Company, Colonel Hardenburgh's Regiment.

In April 1777, ten days in Captain Samuel Clark's Company and in June and July 1777, one and one half months in Captain Samuel Clark's Company, Colonel Hasborok's Regiment.

In September 1777, three weeks, guarding a small craft on North River, and from November 1, 1777, one month in Captain Terpney's Company.

In March or April 1778, one month in Captain Johnson's Company, Colonel Hasborook's Regiment.

In October 1778, two weeks against the Indians, from May 1, 1779 to March 1, 1780, in Captain Jacob Reeder's Company, as an artificer, and in May 1780, two weeks in Captain Johnson's Company.

He was allowed pension on his application executed October 9, 1832, while a resident of Mamakating, Sullivan County, New York. He died February 2, 1836.

In 1854, Thomas Drake of Steuben County, New York, stated that he was one of the children of Richard Drake, no other names mentioned.