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**Pension Application for William Dygert**

R.4179 (Widow: Anna)

William Dygert is my name and hand: my life lies in the hands of our Lord, and I am born in the year of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, 1750, on the 7th day of December.

In the year of our Lord Jesus Christ in 1763 on the 6th of December my wife Ann was born, and in the year of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ 1782 on the 19th May I entered with her in the holy State of Matrimony at Albany, we were joined by the Rev. Mr. Grose.

I got with her a daughter on the year A.D. 1783 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, she was named Elisabeth. The witnesses were Wm. Dygert and his wife Margaret.

In the year of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ 1784, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June a son was born unto me. His name was William. The witnesses were Andrew Clepsattel and his wife, Maria.

In 1786 on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January a daughter was born unto me her name was Dorothea, the witnesses were Pitter W. Dygert and Margaret Bomen.

In 1787 on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December a son was born unto me his name was Abraham, and the witnesses were Adam Staring and his wife Catherine.

In 1789, on the 6th of December a son was born unto me his name was Henry. The witnesses were Marx Crantz and his wife Catharine.

In 1792 on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January a son was born unto me his name was John. The witnesses were John Bohm and his wife Margaret.

1795 on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February a daughter was born unto me, her name was Ann. The witnesses were John Demuth and his wife Elison.

In 1797 on the 3d of March a son was born unto me, his name was George. The witnesses were George Dygert and his wife Catharine

May the Lord give you a good sense and conscience, and may his blessing be with you. The Lord may raise his Face to you and give you Peace. Amen. Jesus Christ. Amen.

State of New York

Herkimer County SS.

On this 19<sup>th</sup> day of December 1842 personally appeared before me John B. Dygert Esquire, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Herkimer aforesaid Anna Dygert aged seventy nine years on the Sixth day of December instant, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by an act of Congress & passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836 and the acts amending or in addition thereof for giving relief in such cases.

That she is the widow of William Dygert late of the town of Frankfort in said County of Herkimer deceased who was a part of the time a private and a part of the time a Sergeant and as she was informed & believes orderly Sergeant in the militia of the state of New York in the service of the United States from time to time during the Revolutionary war.

That she resided during said war at a place called Normanskill about two miles out of the city of Albany and within the County of Albany in said State.

That her husband as she was informed and believes true resided until between two & three years before the close of said war on the German Flatts near the Mohawk River and at the Easterly end of what is now the town of Frankfort in the County of Herkimer aforesaid.

That between two and three years before the close of said war her said husband and his father's family as she was informed and believes true in consequence of the common destruction of property including their buildings by fire and the burning off of horses: cattle & including theirs by the Tories & Indians (1) and the danger of their lives went into Fort Dayton

—at the present cite of Herkimer Village in the county of Herkimer aforesaid for protection—and remained there for a short time and until they were under the necessity of looking for provisions in some other quarter having lived by hunting, fishing & for a time and it being unsafe to work in the fields without a guard and expensive in addition they left said Fort and came to the residence of her father at Normanskill aforesaid when & where she first became acquainted with her said husband, that while he and his father's family resided at or near her father at Normanskill aforesaid and before she and her husband were married he was called upon [?] and went into the service of the United States against the Common Enemy and to protect the frontier on several occasions, but to what particular place or places he went she does not recollect though she thinks he went once to Saratoga and one or more times to Ticonderoga that his regular Captain was Tunis Slingerland (2) and he generally went out under him through not always, that she was personally acquainted with said Slingerland and knew Gen'l Philip P. Schuyler under whom she understood & believes Capt. Slingerland's company including her husband served, that said service was performed north & west of the City of Albany that she does not recollect the name of any other commissioned officer having command on the occasions aforesaid.

That after she was married to her said husband and in or about the month of September or October of that year she has a distinct recollection that her husband her father, Abraham Boom (3) and her husband's brother George Dygert were called out and went into the service for the United States under said Captain Slingerland that the service on this occasion was performed at or near Stillwater and was to meet and drive back the enemy, that they were absent on this occasion between a week and a fortnight that they took provisions with them but were detained longer than they expected to be and got out of provisions and came home much exhausted on that account and remarked that they had succeeded in getting some pudding & milk to Eat at a place but on attempting to eat it they found pollywogs in it and were therefore unable to Eat it or much of it and started on their way towards home after having a good round wine for their meal that they were unable to get anything Else to Eat except fruit until they got so near home that would travel on until they got home before making another attempt to obtain a meal that on this occasion they were warned out by a person by the name of Christian Ornhaut (4) in a great hurry that there were a great many other men went out at the same time she think Ornhaut was a non-commissioned officer and she is sure he was a Corporal that on this occasion Capt. Slingerland was feeble and was fearful that he had the consumption and wanted her husband to take his place and offered to resign so as to give it to him but he served and went out with a musket. That her recollection that her husband went into said Service on the occasion aforesaid after they were marched [?] there and fortified by the fact of her particular situation at the time in respect to her eldest daughter Elizabeth who was born on the third day of April 1783 and her consequent feeling, anxiety and apprehensions, on that occasion on account of her situation and the alarm of her husband in said service and that at the time when he was called into said service they were building a house to go into and that in consequence of luck & chance it became late in the season before they got into it.

That in the spring following where he said daughter was but nine weeks old they removed to the former residence of her husband and all the buildings on the farm & other building in that neighborhood except Tory houses and an old log house on said farm which had been used for a stable having been burned the [?] to said old log house and found a fire in it and the floor covered for nearly or quite so at think with mud & manure which probably had [??] and as being to the feeble state of her health they made up a bed in the orchard and laid her on it where she remained until they had cleared out said log house when they removed her

into it, that said house was near a landing place on the Mohawk River and when General Washington (5) was afterwards proceeding down the said river, he landed [?] She saw him, that she has no documentary evidence of said service of her said husband, though during her lifetime she frequently heard him relate the particulars of said service and [????] after of his service [????] with which she was acquainted otherwise than from information that she frequently, during the lifetime of her said husband heard him give the reason why his and his father's buildings were the first that were burnt by the enemy in the neighborhood it was that at the commencement of the Revolutionary War his father was living near the same place & held a Captains Commission under [?] and being called upon by Sir Wm Johnson (6) to enter the King's Service he believed and sent to Sir Wm his resignation which rendered him particularly obnoxious to the Tory party and they therefore seemed to have aimed to destroy his father's and his [?] property in [?] for his disloyalty to the King and aid to the Whig cause.

She further declares that she was married to her said husband the said William Dygert (7) on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 1782 at the City of Albany by the Revd Mr. Grose, that her husband the aforesaid William Dygert died on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 1818 and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof annexed, that her said marriage was solemnized in the presence of her father and mother and sisters Elizabeth & Catharine and her husband's father and mother and his brothers George and sister Elizabeth but they are all dead and there is no evidence of her said marriage in existence within her knowledge or belief. From the leaf from the record thereof and also her mother's [?] by her said husband in his own handwriting which page is hereto annexed marked (A) and further she saith not. (Signed with her mark) Anna Dygert (8)

Subscribed & Sworn the 19<sup>th</sup> day of December 1842 before me. John Dygert, Judge Herkimer County Courts.

End Notes—R.3179—William Dygert

1. On September 17, 1778, Captains William Caldwell and Joseph Brant attacked and burned the German Flatts settlement and attempted to capture Fort Dayton.
2. Captain Teunis W. Slingerlandt of Colonel Stephen Schuyler's Fifth Regiment of Albany County Militia. In February of 1776, Garret G. Vandenburg replaced Schuyler as colonel and by April 4, 1778 Henry Quackenboss (Quackenbush) to replace Vandenburg who begs leave to resign. In the pension application file there is a letter from W. H. Tredway, Dep. Comptroller, dated October 18, 1841 stating that two certificates were found for William. The first listed was for 1781 Novr 7, no. 29242 £1. .5. .7 1/3 and the second was for 1781 October 28, No 29257 £1. . 5. . 7. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 76, folder 141, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. Abraham Boom and George Dygert did serve in the same company. Boom had one certificate no.29267 for £1. . 5. . 7. By his wife Dorthy Boom (Signed with her mark) FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-245, Roll 76, folder 141, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
4. Corporal Christian Arnhout had one certificate, No. 29254 for £1. . 7. . 11 and had made his mark next to his name. Same source as end note 3.
5. Commander-in-Chief General George Washington. He toured the Mohawk Valley In July of 1783.
6. Sir William Johnson died on July 11, 1774. She is referring to Sir William's son Sir John Johnson.
7. Andrew Piper gave testimony on September 9, 1840 stating that William was the orderly sergeant in Captain Frederick Getman's Company and that he fought at the Battle of

Oriskany on August 6, 1777. Captain Getman's company was in Colonel Peter Bellinger's Fourth Regiment of Tryon County Militia.

8. Widow Anna Dygert's Pension Application was rejected for the following reasons: Pension Office, March 1<sup>st</sup> 1843. *"The certificate of the comptroller transmitted with the Declaration, which seem to have been performed by two different individuals, William Dygert and William Dygert Jur., the first a private and the second a Sergeant, the entire time is not sufficient to bring the case with in the provisions of the law which requires six months, at least, to entitle the claimant to a pension. For the above reasons the claim is rejected."* (Signed) Judd Holmes