

Pension Application for Leonard Gansevoort

R.3898

State of New York

City & County of Albany

On the twenty fifth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, before the Justices of the Justices Court of the City of Albany, in open Court , now sitting, personally appeared Leonard Gansevoort Junr of the City, County, and State aforesaid aged seventy eight years on the third day of June last past, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration; in order obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832.

That he was born in the City of Albany, on the 3d June 1754; that at the commencement of the Revolutionary War in the year 1775, he the Declarant was a resident in the City of Albany and there continued to reside during the whole of the said war; that in the year 1796, he became a resident of the Town of Greenbush in the County of Rensselaer, land that he at present again resides in the City of Albany.

That shortly after the commencement of hostilities between Great Britain and America, to wit, in the year 1775, during the general excitement at that time prevailing in America, he the Declarer, feeling a strong attachment to the cause of freedom and of his country associated himself with a number of Young men, Citizens of the City of Albany and formed an independent Company of volunteers, which took the name of "the Association Company", and chose Rutger Bleecker of the City of Albany as their Captain; that the said company met very frequently, for instruction and improvement in military exercise, and remained so embodied until the fall of that year, when they separated, and the company was thereupon dissolved.

That he the Declarer was then enrolled as a private in a militia company commanded by Isaac Defreest as captain, in the Albany regiment then commanded by Jacob Lansing Junior as Colonel.

That in the fallof the year 1776, he the Declarer was ordered on a tour of duty to Lake George, Fort George being then commanded by Col. Peter Gansevoort, and there did duty as a private, until regularly discharged; that this tour of duty, according to the declarers best recollection, exceeded a month.

That on the 20th day of March 1777, he the Declarer was appointed by the convention of the State of New York, (no Constitutional or permanent form of government having at that time been determined by the people) and Ensign in a Company of foot in the City of Albany whereof Isaac DeFreest was then captain, in a regiment, of militia commanded by Jacob Lansing Junr. as Colonel, which commission is to this Declaration annexed.

That this declarer in the month of August in the year 1777 was detached as an Ensign with Capt. Jacob Bleecker Junr's Company of Col. Lansing's Regt to join another Regt of Militia in the same brigade under the command of Col. Abraham Wemple of Schenectady, then encamped at VanSchaick's Island, as part of the northern army commanded by General Gates; that immediately on receiving his

orders, he this Declarer obeyed them, and reported himself to Col. Wemple, and on entering upon the duties of his office, was requested by him to do the duties of Adjutant to his regiment, which he accordingly did, that when General Gates removed his army, and advanced to Bemus's heights he this Declarer marched with the regiment to which he belonged, & which was attached to General Glover's brigade of Continental troops, and continued to do duty until after the first engagement between General Gate's and General Burgoyne's armies, when an officer of equal grade with himself came to relieve him, when he returned to Albany.

That subsequent to this event, to wit, on the 11th December 1777 he the Declarer did furnish an able bodied man, named Hendrick Heifner to serve in a company commanded by Capt. Swartwout in Col. Peter Gansevoort's Regt for during the war.

That notwithstanding his having furnished such soldier, he the Declarer when required and ordered to do military duty, performed the same.

That at the time when Schoharie was destroyed (which he thinks was in 1780) he marched with the Albany regiment for Fort Hunter then in Tryon (now Montgomery) County, and lay there encamped until discharged; and that subsequently to that tour of duty, he marched to Stone Arabia, when that settlement was destroyed by the enemy, and lay there encamped until discharged—how long he was out on those two last tours of duty, he cannot at this late day, ascertain with any degree of accuracy or precision.

That from the time of commencement of the revolutionary war to its termination, this declarer did military duty in the City of Albany, by turning out, when ordered on guard, for the protection of the lives and property of the citizens, and guarding the public military stores, which were from time to time, during the whole of the American War, deposited in the City of Albany.

That the said city in not being a fortified place, was greatly exposed to the incursions of the enemy, and the machinations and depredations of those then denominated Tories, and that as his services were from time to time called for, he rendered them; recollecting, that during one part of that time he did duty every third night, but for how a long time those duties continued, he cannot ascertain from any memorandums in his own, or in the hands of any other person—and it ought also to be borne in mind, that inasmuch as there were not generally any regular troops stationed in that City, by reason of General Washington's repeatedly urging and pressing the Continental and regular troops to join his Head Quarters to the South, the duties and service of the militia in the City of Albany and its vicinity, must have been very frequent, and often times severe.

The declarer doth verily believe, and so declares, that his military services in the Court of the revolutionary war, exceed in point of duration, the time expressed in the act of Congress herein referred to.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to any pension or annuity whatever, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state. (Signed) Leonard Gansevoort Jr.

Subscribed and sworn to on the day & year aforesaid J. G. Wasson Clk