

Pension Application for Wyant (Wynant) Lepper, Lepard, Lepperd, Lepart, Lappeer, etc.

S.10980

State of New York

County of Montgomery, Formerly Tryon

On this sixth day of September one thousand eight hundred & thirty two personally appeared in open court before Henry I. Diefendorf one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting Wyant Lepper, a resident of the Town of Ephratah in the County of Montgomery & State of New York aged eighty six 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 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. I was a private in a company of Militia commanded by Captain Christian House (1) and was attached to a Regiment Commanded by Colonel Jacob Clock. I was enrolled as a private in Captain House's Company before the commencement of the War of the Revolution & at its commencement was immediately called out. In the year 1775 sometime in July I was first called out by Captain House & remained in & done duty in his company until the fall 1780. While I belonged to said company & under the command & in the service of the United States we were marched to Oriskany a distance of about sixty miles along the banks of the Mohawk River west & on the sixth day of August 1777. I was in that battle (2)—And in the fall of 1780 I was attached to another company of Militia commanded by Captain Henry Miller (3) & belonged to the aforesaid Regiment & while I belonged to this company I among others were marched to a village by the name of Johnstown in said County & put under the command of Colonel Maurinus Willet. (4) While under his command the battle was—I was in that battle which was if I recollect right on the twenty second [25th] of October 1781. (5)

I was in the service of the United States from the commencement of the War of the Revolution to its close stationed principally at Fort Paris in Stone Arabia and guarding the frontier settlement from Fort Hunter on the Mohawk to Oriskany a distance of sixty miles or more. That while in the service I furnished my own clothing & a principle part of my provision & ammunition. (6) The times that I was in the service of the United States was from the month of July 1775 to 1783, being nearly eight years skirmishing & fighting the Indians & Tories on the Frontier Settlements.—I was well equipped having a good gun & other equipage & was called out many times at a moments warning—

I was born in the Town of German Flatts County of Herkimer and State of New York on the fourteenth day of OS [Old Style] 1746. That I lived at the German Flatts when I was called into service and that I afterwards moved & lived at Stone Arabia. I still live in the Northern section of that patent of Stone Arabia in the Town of Ephratah & Montgomery County. The manner that I was called into service was by being warned by non commissioned officers to appear at the various places designated & that I frequently volunteer as a soldier in cases of immediate attacks & further this deponent saith that he was in an engagement with a part of Indians & Tories & which the Indian chief was killed the name by which this battle was distinguished was Lampmans Battle. (7)

And that 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 the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Wyant Lepper

Sworn to and subscribed this day & year aforesaid. Henry I. Dievendorff a judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County.

State of New York, Montgomery County Clerks office SS.

I, George D. Ferguson, clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County do hereby certify that Henry I. Dievendorff before whom the foregoing affidavit [purports?] to have been serving was on the date thereof a judge of the Court of Common Pleas of said county. That I am well acquainted with the handwriting of said Judge & verily believe that his name subscribed to the said affidavit is Genuine.

On testimony whereof I have herewith set my hand and seal this 22d May 1833.

Letter included in the pension folder which is dated November 14, 1927, written in reply to an inquiry.

I have to advise you from the paper in the Revolutionary War pension Claim S.10980, it appears that Wyant or Wynant Lepper was born May 14, 1746 at German Flats, Herkimer County, New York.

While residing there he served from in July 1776 as a private in Captain Christian House's and Captain Henry Miller's Companies (8), Colonel Jacob Klock's New York Regiment, he was in the battle of Oriskany, and in the battle of Johnstown under Colonel Marinus Willett, was in many skirmishes with the Indians and Tories, and served until in 1783.

He was allowed pension on his application executed September 6, 1832, while a resident of Ephratah, Montgomery County, New York.

Died Jan 10, 1839.

End Notes—S.10980—Wyant Lepper

1. Wyant's name does not appear on the Receipt Roll for Captain Christian House's Seventh Company in Colonel Jacob Klock's Second Regiment of Tryon County Militia. So far a muster for this company has not been discovered.
2. Captain House's company marched with Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer's relief column for Fort Schuyler and were in the Oriskany Battle on August 6, 1777.
3. On September 29, 1780 Captain Christopher W. Fox of the Third Company in Colonel Klock's Regiment and was commissioned major while First Lieutenant Henry Miller was commissioned captain in place of Fox. Why Wyant did not serve in Captain Fox's Company is unknown. There is a muster Roll and payroll for Captain Fox's Company for 1776 but Wyant's name does not appear on them. It is possible the company "beat" or boundaries changed or Wyant had moved even though he doesn't mentioned that he had moved.
4. Marinus Willett was appointed Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of a regiment of New York State Levies on April 27, 1781. Willett with his regiment were to reinforce the Tryon County Militia in the Mohawk Valley and served most of the time as the overall commander of the levies and the militia.
5. The Battle of Johnstown was actually fought on October 25, 1781.
6. When a male reached the age of 16 he was supposed to automatically enroll in the militia company beat where he resided. When he was called to duty, he was to clothe and arm himself appropriately. If he appeared at the muster meeting place improperly armed and equipped according to New York's militia law, he could be fined, and if he did this repeatedly, he could be imprisoned.
7. The Battle of Lampman's was fought on July 29, 1781.
8. On Captain Miller's Receipt Roll, Wyant's certificate no. 19070 was paid £2. . 2. . 8 FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 75 and Folder 121, National Archives, Washington, D.C.