

Pension Application for Frederick Onderdirk, Onderkark, Onderkirk

S.28831

Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of June 7, 1832.

State of New York

County of Rensselaer

On this Sixth day of August personally appeared in open court, before Daniel Gardiner Recorder of the City of Troy in the Court of Common Pleas called the Mayors Court of the City of Troy now sitting, Frederick Onderkark a resident of Hoosick in the County of Rensselaer and State of New York, aged seventy three 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.

That in the fall of the year 1778 in the month of October he thinks but cannot be certain as to the month nor can he recollect the day of the month he (belonging to a company of Militia in the town of Hoosick) Was called together with said company to go to Fort Edward a post on the Northern frontiers, that he was a Corporal of said company & warned them out at this time by order of his Captain garret T. Bradt who turned & went with & had command of said company that they marched to Fort Edward aforesaid and was there stationed one month that while there said company was employed in standing guard that after serving one month he was dismissed by his Captain Gerrit T. Bradt & returned to his home with the rest of said company, that he does not recollect who had the command at Fort Edward while he was there at this time, that his colonels name at this time was Peter Yates what the names of his other officers were at this time he cannot recollect.

That there were no Continental Troops at said Fort while he was there at this time, that after this month's service and in the ensuing year that is to say in the year 1779, he (still belonging to said company of Militia) was again called out in the spring thinks in the month of May but cannot be certain as to the month or day of the month in the following manner said company was divided into two divisions or classes and each class was obliged to turn out alternately & where were called remain until relieved by the other class that he was called out for 15 days and always staid out the time sometimes more on account of his relief not arriving in time that from the 15th of May 1779 to the 25th of November in the same year he was frequently called out in the above manner & was at each time marched to Fort Edward & there employed in standing guard. That his captain name was Garret T. Bradt 1st Lieutenant Matthew Brewer, 2nd Lieutenant Henry or Harry Breese, Peter Yates was Colonel and was with them at Fort Edward having command a part of the time this season & John VanRensselaer Lt Colonel, Fort Edward was their head quarters but they were sometimes called for a few days at other places along the northern frontiers that no continental troops were there during that season that remained long at as time nor does he recollect of any whole regiments having there at all nor can he recollect of any Continental officers being stationed at the said Fort that season but that they were

commanded by his Colonel mostly while there & in his absence by some officer whose name he cannot now recollect.

That in the year following that is to say 1780 from the 15th of May to the 20th of November same year (he still belonging to the same company of militia being a corporal as before) was called out in the same manner to the aforesaid station at least six times and was engaged in service in said company of militia while out when so called or ordered at the said Fort and at other places in the vicinity on the northern frontier that is to say Fort George & Skenesborough now White Hall, three months at least, that while at Fort Edward this season Colonel Waner [Warner?] a regular officer but whose given name he cannot recollect had command at said Fort and was their commanding officer. That his Colonel Peter Yates did not remain at the Fort during this season according to the best of his recollection that his Lieutenant Colonels name was John VanRensselaer who was with them at the fort all the time this season.

That he thinks a few Continental Troops might have been at the Fort where he was stationed a short time this season but that he cannot recollect the names of any regular officers there except Warner above named.

That his company officers were the same as last above stated.

That in the following year from the 15th of May 1781 to the 15 of November in the same year he was again called out in the same manner with said company and served under the same officers except his captain who he thinks was Matthew Brewer succeeding Brant in that year at least three months.

That he was still a corporal in said company and that they were called out during this season to the place at which his services had been performed the year previous & that he was as before employed in guarding the Posts along the northern frontiers during this season at least three months, that while at fort this season. He thinks his Colonel was with them & commanded them.

That during the three years last above stated in which he served as by him stated, one half of the company to which he belonged was obliged to be at the said Fort Edward & its vicinity guarding & protecting the frontiers the whole summer whilst Lake George & Lake Champlain remained navigable & not enclosed with ice, that in the winter months said company was not called there but during each of the three years last above specified each half of said company was called out & went in pursuance of said call not less than six times each year and staid at least 15 days each time & sometimes to his recollection 17 when the other half of said company would arrive & then the class or division to which he belonged he dismissed & return[ed] home.

That other Regiments of Militia besides that to which he belonged were there at Fort Edward while he was there but who commanded them he cannot now recollect as they were continually going & coming, that there were but few Continental Troops kept there & no Regiment of them that he can now recollect of as the station was guarded entirely by the militia that he cannot recollect now to state particularly the precise times at which he was called out during the said Three years last above stated but from the length of time ach year which said company was there and from the services

which were required of them and the fact of their being so frequently ordered out during said years which he distinctly recollects on account of his being required at each time to notify or warn them he is confident that his services during each of those years amounted to at least the time of three months above stated making in whole including the months service first above stated 10 months and during which time he was not engaged in any civil pursuit, that in addition to the places along the northern frontiers at which he was at as by him before stated he recollects of being during the performance of his services either in the year 1779 or 1780 once or twice at a place called Palmertown in the County of Saratoga but during which year he cannot now distinctly recollect. That his Brigadier Generals name was Abraham TenBrock which he recollects in addition to the names of the officers by him before stated.

1. He was born in the year seventeen hundred and sixty at the City of Albany in the state of New York.
2. That he has no record of his age .
3. That he was living when he entered the service in the town of Hoosick In the County of Rensselaer and State of New York, that he has lived there ever since & still continued to reside there.
4. That he was called into service by being drafted & called out in manner above stated.
5. That he has in this his declaration herein before stated all the names of all the regular officer[s] which [he] can recollect of who was with the troop[s] where he served together with all that he recollect[s] of Continental of Militia regiments who were at any time with the troops where he served and also the general circumstances of his service as fully as he can recollect or state the same, that he was in no battle during his service.
6. That he never received a written discharge from the service at any time but had a mere verbal dismissal from his captain or colonel or the person who had command of them for the time being such being the usual way the militia were then discharged.
7. That the names of the person to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for truth and veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution are Jacob Bovee, Joseph Dorr.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name Is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state in the Union. (Signed with his mark) Frederick Onderkirk

Sworn to & subscribed in open court. Henry R. Bristol, Clerk