

Pension Application for Elias VanBenschoten

This is listed as Illegible and was stuck at the end of the New York Pensions. It looks as if the pension number is S.11593. He was a private in the company commanded by Captain Dubois of the Regiment, commanded by Col. Van Gansevoort in the N. York Line for 18 months.

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress Passed June 7th 1832.

State of New York

City & County of New York SS

On the fifteenth day of June AD 1833 Personally appeared in open Court before me the Honorable the Justices of the Marine Court now sitting Elias VanBenschoten a resident of the City County & State of New York aged eighty two years and upward, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain he benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born in the Township of Poughkeepsie County of Dutchess on the fourteenth day of July AD 1751 but has no record of his age now in his possession & that he entered into the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as hereinafter stated. To wit—

Some time in the spring of the year 1775 (the particular day or month he does not now recollect). While residing at the place last mentioned he enlisted as a private in a company commanded by Captain Louis Dubois of the same place for the Term of six months. (Elias VanBenschoten also of the same place & deponents cousin) was the first Lieutenant & Henry Dubois Brother to the Captain as deponent thinks was Second Lieutenant, soon after his enlistment we went with the company to Albany in the same state where they encamped for a few days to place of encamping has called the [?] there were other companies encamped there at the same time, the particular officers he does not now distinctly recollect but thinks they were commanded by Colonel VanSchaick of the same state.

Deponent & his company went from that place to fort George & after two or three days crossed over to Ticonderoga al in the same State where the company went into Barracks for about six weeks there were other Troops at Ticonderoga and General Gansevoort was also stationed there but deponent does not recollect who was the commanding officer at that post this was in the fall. Deponent & his company under the command of the same colonel & other officers left Ticonderoga and went to St. Johns on Lake Champlain in Batteaux stopping on the way a few hours at isle Aux Noix, at St. John & General Montgomery commanded the American Army. Deponents Company was attached to Colonel VanCortland's Regiment, Colonel VanSchaick also commanded a Regiment at the same place. Deponent does not recollect the names of any other officers, the adjutant of his Regiment was a Frenchman.

Deponent was present at the whole siege of St. John's until the British Garrison surrendered to Montgomery & was constantly engaged in duty.

A few days after the Capture of the British the American Troops principally left the place and went to Leas Prairie on the river St. Lawrence on the American shore.

Deponent & his company under Colonel VanCortland were billeted upon the inhabitants at this place for a few days while here deponent was one of a party sent from the American Army to take possession of a place called Long Gate opposite to Montreal to army the British while there the British & Indians made an attack upon them but were repulsed with considerable loss.

The American party lost but a few men & immediately returned to La Prairie & next day the American Army took possession of Montreal without any loss. Montgomery commanded also at Montreal. After a few days the the [sic] army left Montreal for Quebec. Deponents officers .under whom he had served since his enlistment consisting of Montgomery Colonels VanCortland and Captain Dubois & Lieutenants VanBenschoten & Dubois & other officers left Montreal leaving deponent at that place to take care of Major Henry Livingston who was confined by sickness at Montreal. While at Montreal Deponents Term of enlistment expired which was a few days before the attack upon Quebec. Deponent received no written discharge & returned soon after to his native place.

Deponent some time in the spring or summer of 1776 the day or month he does not distinctly recollect while residing at his native place Poughkeepsie again enlisted as a private in a company raised at Poughkeepsie commanded by Captain Davis for the Term of five months. Peter VanBenschoten was the first of Abraham Hyatt the second Lieutenant, Captain Davis marched his company to Berran's Hill in the County of Westchester & within about fifteen miles of the city of New York, which was the first place where deponent& his company encamped after leaving Poughkeepsie. Captain Barnardus Swartwout also from Dutchess County with his company encamped at the same place continued at that place until the enemy [part missing] Deponent's duties were various during these duties deponent became acquainted with Major Nicholas Fish of the city of New York from Peekskill Captain Davis marched his company back to Poughkeepsie where deponents time of enlistment expired. Deponent rec'd no written discharge.

While residing at this last mentioned place the day month or year he cannot distinctly recollect but thinks it was in 1777 he again entered with the army by enlisting as aforesaid for the term of three months into a company commanded by Captain Hill, James Slight was first and Abraham Lent Second Lieutenant this company soon after deponents enlistment marched to the Highlands (so called) in the same county). Deponent & his company repaired a temporary Fortification called Fort Constitution continued at this place until the expiration of the time for which they enlisted (Captain Hill commanded at this Post) Captain Hill gave deponent a written discharge which is now lost. Deponent again returned to Poughkeepsie.

Sometime in the winter of 1777 or early in the spring of 1778 the particular day month or year. He cannot distinctly recollect Deponent while residing at Fishkill in the County of Dutchess & State of New York again entered into the service of the United States by enlisting for nine months under Lieutenant Peter Van Benschoten who was also a Lieutenant under Capt. Hill Davis as before stated, Lieutenant Van Benschoten was authorized to raise recruits for our Army then lying at Valley Forge.

Lieutenant Peter VanBenschoten conducted deponent & other recruits to Valley Forge where General Washington commanded deponent was encamped at this place under the said VanBenschoten's command the Regiment to which deponent was attached was commanded at this by Colonel VanCortland or Colonel Weisenvelt & deponent does not now distinctly recollect which this Regiment made a part of General Poors Brigade while at Valley Forge & before the Battle of Monmouth deponent was selected to compose one of the advanced guard, after the organization of the advanced guard deponent left the encampment for Monmouth in the State of New Jersey. Deponent was constantly engaged in the action at Monmouth from morning until night being so much entrusted as to be unable to keep with his company who supposed his lost until he rejoined them the next morning. Lee commanded deponents detachment as he thinks is the early part of the action.

Deponent the next morning went with the army in pursuit of the enemy & continued the march until he arrived at New Brunswick from New Brunswick the army took a [?] North & crossed over into the State of New York at Verplanck's Point on the New York side of the river under Colonel VanCortlandt as deponent thinks.

Deponent & his company went next to a place called Frederick Town in Dutchess (now Putnam) County went next to Fishkill before spoken of & from there to Albany, then Schenectady, then to Johnson's Hal went to a place called Stone Robby & as deponent believes in the County of Herkimer from thence to Canajoharie where deponent & his company were billeted upon the inhabitants while at this last place deponent & his company were engaged in erecting a temporary Fort for the protection of the women & children from the Indians while at this last place deponents time of enlistment expired. Deponent obtained no written discharge and returned to his native place Poughkeepsie in the County of Dutchess & State of New York.

Deponent further saith that in addition to the Twenty Three months as before stated he or a variety of associates perhaps fifteen times was at different periods of the war when not employed as before stated engaged is what was then called Tory Hunting which was for a few persons to possible together & under the command of a Lieutenant so some other officer not then in regular duty to go in search of persons who were attached to the interest of the enemy & capture & make provisions of them these excursions lasted for months in all perhaps more.

Deponent says that the above periods of his service are correctly stated but that by reason of old age & loss of memory he cannot sear more positively to the dates & nature of his service than he has done but they are correctly stated according to the best of his present recollection which has been much impaired for a few years past.

Deponent says that the Troops with which he served in manner aforesaid (except the Tory Hunting Parties) were called State Troops or militia he does not distinctly recollect and that the officers in addition to those before mentioned with whom deponent knew were General Washington, Poor, Sullivan, Sterling, Montgomery, Lee, Arnold, Colonels Willett, Van Cortland, Weisenvelt, Major Fish, Colonel VanSchaick & others all or most of whom he believes belonged to the Regulars.

Deponent says that now the great lapse of time he is now unable to obtain any other evidence of his services than that hereto annexed, having no documentary evidence of any nature or kind whatever.

Deponent for the last fifteen years has resided constantly in the City & State of New York & 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 with his mark) Elias VanBenschoten

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this 15th day of July AD 1832. John Barberie, Clerk

Pension Application for Paul Seamon

This is listed as Illegible and was stuck at the end of the New York Pensions. It looks as if the pension number is S.22974. He was a private in the company commanded by Captain Cooper, of the Regiment commanded by Col. Drake in the N. York Line for 21 months.

State of New York

Rockland County SS

On this [blank] day of [blank] 1833 personally appeared before me tis subscriber, a Justice of the peace in and for the county and state aforesaid, Paul Seaman, a Pauper of the town of Clarkstown, in said County, aged eighty years, and personally well known in said county and to the subscriber as a man of truth and good standing; and being duly sworn saith, that he is the same Paul Seaman, who on the 30th day of November 1832, made a declaration under oath of his Revolutionary services, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of June 7, 1832, made a declaration under oath of his Revolutionary services, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of congress of June 7, 1832, which was done in open Court, then sitting in and for the county;, aforesaid, when his original declaration was made out, the pressure of business was such as to prevent him from detailing minutely each tower [tour] of duty he performed and specifying as accurately as he he [sic] has since learned is necessary, the officers who commanded on each occasion, and the time and nature of the duty. He has endeavored to refresh his memory, by bestowing more thought and reflection on the subject, and desirous that the Secretary of War and commissioner of Pensions will receive this as his amended declaration, in which he will endeavor to set forth more specifically and in as much detail as his memory will allow, the Revolutionary services he performed.

That to the first interrogatory prescribed by the war department and put to him by the Court on the thirtieth day of November, 1832, he did answer that he was born in the City of New York, on the 11th day of December, 1752, and to the second, that he has no record of his age, but the information he received of his mother which he when young entered in his Bible which he yet has in his possession.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That in the month of March 1776. He enlisted for three months in a company commanded by Capt. Gilbert Cooper, land the Regiment of Col'n A. Hawkes Hay, then

stationed at New City in Clarkstown, in the now county of Rockland aforesaid, and was marched from thence to Nyack, a landing place on the west side of the Hudson river, from which place we were conveyed with boats to the City of New York, at which place we were landed, from thence we were marched to a place called Bunkers hill, on York Island at which place the deponent with the rest of the company ere employed in making a fort, in which employment, as near as he can recollect they were engaged for more than two months, from which place they were marched to Clarkstown, where they remained a few days when their time of enlistment expired, having served the full period and there dismissed.

In the year 1776, the last of June or the first of July, he enlisted for five months (ona more mature reflection he is now led to believe it be five months and not six as is by him set forth in his annexed declaration) under Capt. John Blauvelt, at Clarkstown in the now county of Rockland, aforesaid, from which place the deponent with the company was marched to Nyack, a landing place on the Bank of the Hudson river, from which place they were conveyed to the City of New York and there joined the Regiment commanded by Col'n Drake from New York, there remained some time, then the army crossed over to Long Island and was stationed near the village of Brooklin [Brooklyn] where we were employed for some time in building fortifications, sometime in the month of August the Battle on Long Island was fought, the American Army was forced to retreat, and the deponent with his company also retreated in the night, across the east river to the City of New York, they then was marched about three miles above the City to oppose the crossing of the British army, but being overpowered by numbers and the firing from the war vessels they was compelled to retreat, and marched to Kings Bridge, where he on or about the first of October, was taken sick and by the advice of the Surgeon was sent home when he believing it to be his duty, hired William Pool (long since deceased) as a substitute in his place, and he was confined to his bed for nine weeks, and was not fully restored to his usual strength until the troops returned home.

Fin the month of April 1777, he enlisted for three months, in a company commanded by Capt. John Garner, in Col'n A. Hawks [Hays] regiment then stationed along the Hudson River, from Haverstraw to Sneedens ferry, near the Jersey line, marching from place to place as necessity required guarding the shores and Landing places—The British Vessels were then moving up and down the river, and would often send out their flat bottom boars with men, land on the shores, and plunder the inhabitants, served the time and was discharged.

As soon as the above term of service was expired on or about the later part of July 1777 he enlisted for three months in a company commanded by Capt Garret Onderdonk, called Rangers who was attached to Col Hay's Regiment being in a company by him raised and served that time principally, in marching from place to place through the now County of Rockland and the county of Bergen; in the State of New Jersey, where they from time to time received information that the Refugees, Tories, and British Army were making depredations on the Inhabitants, they were at Haverstraw, at Clarkstown at Tappan Town, at different places along the Hudson river

from Haverstraw to Sneedens Landing at the Blockhouse near Judge Sufferns, at Closter, at the Liberty pole, at the English neighbourhood, at Schralenburgh, and at Old Tappan they seldom staid many days at one place and were almost continually on the march from place to place on different routs, [routes] and was in company with Col'n VanCortland's continental troops at the Block house at Suffern, served his time faithfully and was honorably discharg'd in the last mentioned services he was personally engaged in doing guard duty.

That on or about the first of May 1778, he entered the service in a company commanded by Capt. Jacob Onderdonk, in a Regiment commanded by Col'n A. Hawkes Hay, and was stationed at Haverstraw, along the Hudson river, doing guard duty and served one month, and was dismissed that then about the middle of June, he again entered the service under his aforesaid Capt. And was stationed at the short clove in the town of Haverstraw, doing guard duty and served one month; and was dismiss'd.

That in the month of August of the same year he gain entered the service under his aforesaid Capt. And guarded along the North river at Nyack, at the State and at Sneedens Landing and was marched to Serbralenbergh to Closter and to the Liberty Pole, at which several places the company remained sometime he cannot say how long at each, and while at the Liberty pole they were informed that the British army was gone up the North river and intended to Land at the slote to cut off their retreat when the militia companies then in Bergen County—marched to ClasLand in the town of Orange in the now County of Rockland, and while there he was sent with others to see—where the enemy was when he with his company was pursued by some of the British Light Horse, and only made their escape by getting [getting] into the mountain and then they went to Clarkstown where they joined their company who had in his absence retreated to Clarkstown where they lay until some time in the month of October, he not being relieved—did in his last recited services serve two months, and was dismiss'd at Clarkstown.

That about the last of May 1779 The British army having taken Stony Point, the Militia was called out to Defend the inhabitantns, from the Sallies of the enemy, when he entered—entered [sic] the service under his aforesaid Capt Onderdonk, and was stationed at Haverstraw at different places, at the short clove along the Hudson river and near Stony Point, that he served doing guard duty until sometime in July, when Stony Point was taken by Gen'n Wayne, when he was dismis'd, having served one month and a half, that then about the first of August of the same year, the british having again taken possession of Stony Point, he was again called out, to guard at Haverstraw aforesaid, and continued doing guard duty until the first of December following, except being relieved three or four times for one week at a time (he does not now recollect [recollect] wither) in which tower (not including the time he was relieved) he served not less than three months.

That in the year 1780, he entered the service under the said Capt Onderdonk, about the first of April, and served regularly every fourth week until the first of December of the same year, that during the said services he was stationed doing

guard duty along the Hudson river from Stoney point to Sneedons Landing as the British men of war moved up and down the said river, and also at Tappan Town, and at Clarkstown, that during said year he served in the said different periods not less than two months.

That he the said deponent served several tours of duty during the year 1781, and some in the year 1782, and several towers on different alarms during the time he served under the said Capt Onderdonk which he at this late period and after the lapse of so many years, being now very aged and infirm, he is unable to fix the prewise period thereof, which he does hereby relinquish. He has stated none but such as the conscientiously knows he has performed. He in his original declaration has stated, that his services under the said Capt Onderdonk was by the week, two weeks and a month at the time, it had then escaped his memory of his services during the year 1779 while the British was in possession of Stony Point, and of much of his arduous duty by him performed, and it was not until after the sitting of the said Court, in conversation with men younger than himself and of better memory that his memory has been refreshed and prays that the Secretary at War and commissioner of pensions will make due allowance for his old age and the frailty of his memory, and will overlook the difference that does exist, and [blot] his pension agreeable to this his amended declaration. He has narrated the events of his services and the different periods thereof as he, having a consentious regard to truth, at this late period is able to do, and if any error should exist he feels confident it is an error of the head and not of the Heart, and verily believes that he has faithfully served his country by his enlistment of 3 months, 15 months, (excepting the time he was sick which was the will of God) 3 months 3 months, [sic] and his various tours of ;Militia duty for the full term of twenty four months and a half, as a rivet [private] being in actuals service in the field for each term alledged and was not employed in any civil pursuit during the time the above mentioned services was performed and for such service he prays a pension—

He will endeavor as far as is in his power to prove his above recited services by a few of the survivors of the revolution for almost all who have served with him have been removed to the silent Tomb, and some have lost all recollection of him and his services, and not willing to testify for him, and prays that the war department will rest satisfied of his having served his country and he has stated by the testimony he does not herewith send. (Signed with his mark) Paul Seamon

Sworn and subscribed this 7th day of December 1833. Before me. John T. Blanch, Justice.

Pension Application for Elisha Pomeroy

W.26335 (Widow: Lucy) This women was also pensioned as the former widow of William Rice (her last husband) 13th W.S. Inf, War of 1812. W.10918

B.L.Wt.36552-160-55

State of New York

Erie County SS

On this 6th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting at Buffalo in said County, Elisha Pomeroy a resident of Gardinier in the County of Erie aforesaid aged 69 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He was born in the Town of Suffield, County of Hartford in Connecticut in the year 1763, the 7th day of April. He has no record of his age and knows of none unless his name is on the Town books where he was born, he has been told it was but never saw it.

He was living in Suffield, in Connecticut aforesaid at the commencement of the Revolutionary War and continued to live there during the War. After the war was over he removed from Suffield aforesaid into the Town of Lime [Lyme?] and County of Grafton in Newhampshire [New Hampshire] and from the town of Lime aforesaid into the Town of Ballston in Saratoga County in the State of New York and from Ballston aforesaid to the Town of Minden County of Montgomery, and from Minden to the Town of Blainfield Otsego County and from there to Holland Erie County and from there to the Town of Sardinia in the said County of Erie where he now resides.

And this deponent further states that he volunteered into the service of the United States on the Fourteenth day of September in the year 1778, at Suffield aforesaid where he resided in Captain John Harmons Company of Militia he thinks for one month and served the time out and enlisted in October following at New London for three months in John Raymonds, and he further states that in May in the year 1779 he was a substitute at Suffield, aforesaid for Gideon King a drummer for six months in Captain Benjamin Allen's Company in Winsor, in the County of Hartford in Connecticut and served his time out and was verbally dismissed by his Captain at Old Milord ion the first day of January in the year 1780 and he further states that he entered as last afore mentioned the last of June and served the full term of six months as above stated, that during these terms of service aforesaid they acted as [?] guards and that he cannot recollect any regt or Reg offices in or under which he served.

And this deponent further says that he enlisted at Springfield in Massachusetts about the middle of April in the year 1780 in Captain Benjamin Elys Company belonging to Colonel Moselely's regiment (he thinks Militia) of Westfield for six months and marched from Westfield through Pittsfield Massachusetts to Albany and joined the regiment at Saratoga. That he was detached fromtaht rigeмент under Col Brown of Pittsfield viz; three other companys viz. Capt Elys, Capt Clarks, Capt Spurrs, and Captain Maisher and went to Stone Arabia and then marched for the purpose of joining General Rensalaer, but fell into an ambushade of the Enemy at Stone Arabia two and a half miles from the fort and retreated with the loss of Col. Brown and Captain Ely. He served his time out & was verbally dismissed.

And he further states that he relisted again in March in the year 1781 for six months in the Militia at Westfield under Captain Samuel Thrall and Lieutenants, John

Smith and Thomas Day in Colonels Moseleys Regiments and immediately went to Albany and from Albany to Schoharrie [Schoharie] and from Schoharrie to Schenectady and from Schenectady to Fort Plain on the Mohawk river under the command of Col. Edward [Marinus] Willett, and met the Enemy at Johnstown and defeated them and followed them to West Canada Creek when they had a battle and Killed Captain Butler of the Rangers or Tories. And he further states that he served the full term of six months as above stated and was dismissed verbally at Fort Herkimer on the Mohawk River by Captain Thrall he first of November 1781.

And he further states that he never received any written discharge from the service. And he further states that all the services above stated except for the last term under Capt Thrall was rendered as a Drummer and that he served for the full period of sixteen months as a drummer as above stated.

And he further states that during the last mentioned term of service under Capt. Samuel Thrall he served for the full period of six months as a first or orderly Sergeant. That he entered the service under Thrall as such Sergeant but did not receive his Sergeants Warrant until he got to Fort Plain. It was then & there given him signed by Col. Mills.

That about 30 years since he lent this Warrant to Frederick Young a Capt of Ballston, Saratoga Co., & [?] years afterwards he saw him at auburn & Milford he thought it among his old papers & would try to look it up but he did not get it & Capt Young is since Dead.

Always volunteered except when he was a substitute for Gideon King as aforesaid. Can't recollect any Regular officers also were with; the troops where he served nor Continental Regt they the Continental troops were generally south.

Don't recollect so as to designate particularly and State of militia Regts at present.

Has no documentary or other Evidence to prove his services and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to testify to his services.

That there is no clergyman whose attendance he can procure to make the [?] required by the War Department.

That he resides now near the Town line of Holland in the Town of Sardinia that he has until about 3 years ago resided in the Town of Holland & Samuel Conner a resident of said Town reside near his present and are intimately acquainted with him & know his character for with & veracity & the common [?] & belief that he was a soldier of the Revolution.

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) Elisha Pomeroy

Sworn and Subscribed this 6th day of December 1882. Noah P. Sprague Clerk of Erie Common Pleas.

