

Pension Application for Peter Simpson

S.28882

Private, Capt. Van Wyck, Col. Van Cortland
State of New York
County of Greene SS.

On this 20th day of August 1838 personally appeared before the undersigned Perkins King, First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the county of Greene at his residence in said county, Peter Simpson, a resident of the Town of Granville in said county of Greene and State of New York aged eighty 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 of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That in the year 1776 to the best recollection & belief of deponent in the month of June as near as he can recollect deponent at Beekman NY volunteered to serve in the militia for five months was put into Capt Cornelius Vanwyck's Company, Treadwell Lieutenant ensign does not recollect, company marched from Beekman to Peekskill staid a few days then marched to VerPlanck's point—staid there a few days on guard at both places as the British ships lay off in the river, then marched down to near Kingsbridge when they joined Col. Pierce or Philip VanCortland's regiment was stationed then recollects standing guard on Kingsbridge and on Sprytenduyvil Point the regiment was engaged in building Fort Independence and watching the motions of the British and guarding against them as they lay off in the river were there British ships of war lay off in sight—the Asia, Roebuck & the Phenix—no other regiment there, a Connecticut regiment lay off east of them but he knew nothing about them—deponent regularly served out his term of service five months and was discharged by parole by Col. VanCortlandt the whole regt discharged at once deponent served as a private & served five months can prove this service by Oliver Laurence as by his affidavit hereto annexed.

In the year 1777-(if the service previously stated was in the year '76), abut the first of June to the best of deponents recollection, a quantity of army stores having been deposited at Col. Vanderburgh's in Beekman, N.Y. under the charge of Capt. Lamb a Continental officer deponent with 25 or 30 others were drafted for three months to guard said stores—served under command of said Capt. Lamb in guarding these stores for three months as a private and till in in [sic] the month of September when he was discharged by Capt. Lamb by parole—built a store house during the term of service, were no other commissioned officers to deponents recollection except one McGarry who deponent believes was called Commissary of Stores—can also prove this service by said Laurence who served with him as per annexed affidavit.

In the year after the last mentioned service in the spring in May to deponents best recollection, deponent enlisted for six months into a company of Minute Men commanded by Capt. Francis West. (Walter Huron) Lieutenant Tabor Bentley Ensign or 2d Lieut, was attached to no regiment duties was to be ready at a moment's notice whenever called upon to scour and patrol the County in Search of Cowboys & Tories and prison them where depending were committed, was frequently called out on this service and engaged in two or more days at a time, cannot now recollect any particular service, actually served one half the time & consequently was actually engaged in service during this term of enlistment three months for which he claims a pension served out term of enlistment and was discharged by parole by Capt. West.

In 1779 to the best of deponents recollection as to year sometime in the fall deponent was drafted or rather volunteered to go rather than stand a draft to serve for three months in the militia was put into Capt. Israel Abeels company (Treadwell Lieut, Ensign forgotten) marched from Beekman to Fishkill town or village and joined Col. Graham's regiment (___Birdsall Lieut Col) regt encamped out in tents Col. Van Rensselaer's Regt lay at same place—a party of Continental troops were quartered in the

barracks near by, not more than a company or two or perhaps a battalion recollects none of their names, deponent served out his term of service three months and was discharged. Col. discharged the companies and the Captain's discharged their men by parole—served this last and all the previous terms of service as a private—can prove this last service by George Wait—by his affidavit hereto annexed & who served with him, deponent has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person living by whom he can prove his services only the persons whose affidavits are hereto annexed & which contain all their knowledge on the subject—That deponent by reason of bodily infirmity is unable to appear in open court to make his declaration.

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.

In answer to the Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department I the said deponent & declarant answer as follows.

1. I was born at Beekman Dutchess County N.Y. May 25th 1758.
2. I have no record of my age.
3. I was living at Beekman, when called into service lived there from the time of my birth till 26 years old (except when absent on service as hereinbefore stated, then removed to Claverack, Columbia County N.Y. lived there until 9 years before removing to Greenville then removed to Saghonnick Columbia Co., N.Y. lived there about 9 years then 14 to 16 years ago removed to Greenville Greene Col. N.Y. where I have since continued to and does now reside.
4. I was called into service by being drafted, volunteering and enlisting as particularly stated in the foregoing.
5. I cannot state the names of Regular officers, Continental & Militia regiments, and the general circumstances of my service more fully and particularly than hereinbefore stated by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory I am unable to state more particularly than as hereinbefore set forth.
6. I did never receive a written discharge from the service all my discharges were by parole.
7. I can state the names of a large number of persons to whom I am known in my present neighbourhood, who can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution, I will mention Daniel D. Jennings, Dr. Alanson King, Andrew Dodge, Rev. John Spore, Wm Campbell Esq. (Signed) Peter Simpson

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year first above written before me. Perkins King, Judge as aforesaid.