

Pension Application for John VanAntwerp

S.14761

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

Form for State Troops, &c.

State of New York

County of Rensselaer, City of Troy SS.

On this seventh day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Judges of the Troy Mayors Court now sitting, John VanAntwerp, a resident of Schaghticoke County of Rensselaer and State of New York, aged seventy two 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 month of March 1776 he was enrolled as a corporal in a company of militia commanded by Captain Walter Groesbeck, John Bose Lieutenant & Jacob Yates Ensign at Schaghticoke then Albany bur now Rensselaer County N.Y., in a regiment commanded by Col. John Knickerbocker in which Derick VanVechten was major and continued to serve as a corporal & sergeant in said company during the war of the revolution from & after the time last aforesaid until the 4th of March 1780 that he this deponent during said time was employed by his commanding officer in watching & pursuing the hostile Indians at Schaghticoke & Stillwater, was marched several times with said company to Lake George, Fort Edward, Palmertown, Fort Ann, & Whitehall & other places.

That in 1777 about the 1st of October this deponent with a part of the company to which he was attached volunteered their services to gen. Gates then in camp at Stillwater & continued there until the surrender of Burgoyne—That in 1778 the company to which he belonged were called upon to Garrison & did guard the different forts and posts on the northern frontier.

That on the 4th March 1780 this deponent received from Gov. George Clinton a commission of Ensign in a company of Militia commanded by Capt. Jacob Yates in the regiment commanded by Col. Peter Yates & he this deponent from & after the date of said commission continued in the service of his country as such ensign until the close of the revolutionary war.

That after being commissioned this deponent with a part of the company to which he belonged were several times directed to march and did march to Palmertown, Saratoga, Whitehall, Fort Ann and once to Ticonderoga to discover where the British shiping [shipping] then lay.

This deponent was born in the year 1780 at the city of Albany in the State of New York according to a record of his age & still resides there.

That he is known to Solomon acker, Peter Acker, [?] VanAntwerp & many other aged persons all of whom can testify to deponent's character for truth and veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. That the only documentary evidence he has is his commission of ensign hereunto annexed.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. (Signed) John Vanantwerp.

Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid. Archibald Bull, Clerk.

Letter in folder dated July 21, 1934, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter of June 28, 1934 addressed to G.L. Clark, Acting Librarian, Historical Library, Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C., in which you request information in regard to Lt. John VanAntwerp, who served in the Fourth Line Regiment (New York State) under Colonel James Holmes, during the Revolution.

The Revolutionary War records of this office have been carefully searched and no claim for pension has been found, based upon the services of a John VanAntwerp, as described above.

The Revolutionary War record of John VanAntwerp, who served as corporal, sergeant and ensign in the New York troops, is furnished herein, as found in pension claim, S.14761, based upon his service in that war. This is the record of the only John VanAntwerp, who served as a an officer, that is found on file in the Revolutionary War records of this office.

John VanAntwerp was born in the year 1780 in Albany County, New York, when about three years of age moved to Schaghticoke, Rensselaer County, New York; the names of his parents are not given.

He enlisted in Schaghticoke, in March, 1776, served six months as corporal in captain Walter Groesbeck's company, Colonel John Knickerbocker's New York regiment, guarding the country from the hostile Indians and Tories. He enlisted in April, 1777, served four months as corporal under the same officers, marched to Lake George to oppose British, Tories, and Indians and retreated from Lake George to Stillwater. He marched in September 1777 as sergeant in Captain Walter Groesbeck's company to Stillwater and was there until the surrender of Burgoyne. He served from the spring of 1778, nine weeks as sergeant in Captain Jacob Yates' company, marched to Fort Edward thence to Palmertown, where he assisted in building a block house. He served from July 1779 as sergeant in Captain Jacob Yates' company, Colonel Peter Yates' New York Regiment, guarding the country around Fort Edward, Fort Mifflin, Lake George, Ticonderoga and Crown Point until in March 1780. He was commissioned, March 4, 1780, ensign and continued to serve in Captain Jacob Yates' company, Colonel Peter Yates' regiment at various times until the close of the war, went in pursuit of Sir John Johnson, also in many scouting parties against the Indians and Tories.

John VanAntwerp was allowed pension on his application executed August 7, 1832, still a resident of Schaghticoke, New York. He died at his residence in Schaghticoke, June 13, 1848.

He left no widow at his death, the following children survived him—Peter Y. VanAntwerp, Sarah Decker, Maria Anson, and John I. VanAntwerp. The only surviving children in 1852 were: Peter Y., who was then living in Schaghticoke, New York, and Sarah Decker.

John I. VanAntwerp at his death left no children, but it is shown that Maria Anson at her death left children; their names are not stated.

The name of the wife of the soldier, John VanAntwerp, is not given.

Reference was made in 1832 to Simon VanAntwerp, as an "aged person"; no relationship to the family is shown.