

Pension Application for Abraham VanAtten or VanEtten

R.10,863

State of New York

County of Schenectady SS.

On this seventeenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County now sitting Abraham VanEtten a resident of the town of Glenville in said county & state, aged sixty-eight 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.

He was born in the town of Rhinebeck in the County of Dutchess in the state aforesaid on the eighteenth day of October, 1764. He has no record of his age except that made by his father which is now in the possession of the claimant.

When he was called into the service of the United States in the army of the revolution, he was living in the town of Fishkill, County of Dutchess in said state, and since the revolutionary war he has lived in Albany County & in Montgomery in said state. He now lives in the town of Glenville aforesaid.

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

In the summer of the year 1779 when he was only 15 years of age, he went out as a scout on several occasions under command of Major Benschoten (1) to places in the neighbourhood where he lived.

When he arrived at the age of sixteen he was enrolled in the company of Militia in his beat viz, the company commanded by Captain Tunis Benschoten in the Regiment whereof Alias Benschoten was Colonel. The other company and field officers whom he recollects, were John Everson Lieutenant.

He continued to serve in said company until the end of said war, and the service he was engaged in during said period was, as a scout as aforesaid, and in patrolling and reconnoitering parties the particular time he served thus he cannot possibly specify as alarms were very frequent, and his tours were sometimes not longer than two or three days each—If he should be required to state how long in the whole he was actually from his residence in these expeditions he can state conscientiously that they exceeded six months.

The following are the names of some of the regular officers whom he knew, or who were with the troops where he served, and such continental and militia regiments or companies with which he served, or as he can recollect, viz: Colonel Dubois (2) & others whose names are herein before given.

He never received any written discharge from the service.

He has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

The following are the names of persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution to wit: Matthias Barhydt & John Van Eps, Henry G. [?]

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) Abraham VanAtten.

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year first aforesaid. John S. Vrooman, Clerk

End Notes—R.10863—Abraham Van Atten

1. Elias VanBenschoten was appointed Major on April 22, 1779 in Lieutenant-Colonel Albert Pawling's Regiment of New York State Levies. Abraham was too young to have enlisted and on searching the known muster rolls for this regiment his name was not found nor was Lieutenant John Everson. So far no record has been found on Abraham for service in the Dutchess County Militia.
2. Lewis DuBois was Colonel of the Fifth New York Continental Regiment until he resigned on December 22, 1779. On July 1, 1780, he was appointed Colonel of a regiment of New York State Levies. Major VanBenSchoten was also appointed on the same date to this regiment. A check of this regiment's known Muster Rolls did not list Abraham or Lieutenant Everson.