

Pension Application for Aaron VanBenschoter or Vanbenschoten

R.10831 (Widow: Margaret)

State of Ohio

Huron County SS.

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

On this twenty third day of July 1832 personally appeared before me Frederick W. Fowler a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the county of Huron in said State Aaron VanBenschoten who being too Infirm from age to attend Court I attended him at his house in the Township of Berlin in this County [? Eight years] who being duly sworn by me according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That I Aaron VanBenschoten was born in the Township of Poughkeepsie in Dutchess County in the State of New York in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & forty six, and entered the service in the first year of the War under Captain VanBenschoten—was Drafted at the Nine Partners in the State of New York in Dutchess County—hired a substitute Elias VanBenschoten to go in my place—at the next draft I stood my Draft & was drafted and hired James Fowler to go in my place.

I volunteered near the same year I think under some officer whose name I do not now recollect—to hunt out the Tories we drove them into a yard near Fishkill where General Clinton addressed them in a verry [very] feeling manner with tears in his eyes – I was pressed into the service with my Team, service for which I received no pay. I volunteered and Joined the main Army at FishKill under the command of General George Washington, there I obtained a furlow from Washington himself to go home to my family he said he had no objection to give me a furlow but said “You must be sure to be back at the time which I did—

I turned out & went to the East Bank of the Hudson River when the British went up the River and lay at West Point under the command of Gen Washington & obtained another furlow from him to go home how long I was there—do not remember—toward the close of the war I removed from Dutchess County across the River into Ulster County at a place called PlatterKill and there volunteered under Captain Concklin and marched across Shongum [Shawangunk] Mountain to Warsink in pursuit of the Indians we found men, women & cattle killed, houses & barns burnt & destroyed—how long I served at this time or at the others I do not exactly know but all together must have been more than two years. [can't read insert]

The last mentioned term ended y service in the war.

I never received any compensation for any service I performed. I removed from Ulster County into Sullivan County on the Navesink River N. York State—from thence I moved to the township of Vermillion—in Huron County Ohio—I now live in the township of Berlin(formerly Elderidge) in the County of Huron state of Ohio. I am now eighty six years old—

I have no Documentary evidence of my enlistments, furlows or discharge. Where I was at—I heard Gen. Washington give orders to some of his Col to send Major Dubois and Captain VanBenschoten on an expedition against the enemy for they feared nothing. That was the Capt VanBenschoten who was after the war a Major in the Continental service. I think he became a col. He was the same under whom I first served he was my cousin.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension and annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Aaron VanBenschoten.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and eya aforesaid. Frederick W. Fowler, Judge of Common Pleas.