

**Pension Application for William VanBenthuyzen,  
or Bentheusen or Benthisen or VanBenthusen**

W.6356 (Widow: Mary) William died January 23, 1845.

B.L.Wat.27617-160-55

State of New York

Albany County SS

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Justices Court of the City of Albany in the County aforesaid now sitting William VanBentheysen a resident of the Town of Greenbush in the County of Rensselaer directly opposite to the City of Albany across the Hudson's River aged 73 years in May last, 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 eh entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He first entered the said service at the City of Albany in the County of Albany in the month of November 1776 and joined Capt Price's Company in Colonel Lansing's regiment of Militia, the Militia having been called out. He was immediately marched to Lake George in the State of New York and was there put under the command of Genl Schuyler and kept guard until in the month of December 1776, when he was marched back to Albany where he was stationed and kept guard at the Old Fort until the Battle of Stillwater in the month of September 1777. Immediately after that engagement, he was ordered, together with Capt Price's Company to go with some Prisoners to Hartford in the State of Connecticut, where he was gone about four weeks, and was then marched back to Albany where he arrived about the time of the [cut off] company as a private soldier for the term of one year.

He again entered the said service in the month of December 1777 a volunteer and joined Capt Prices Company of militia, and was sent back from Albany to a place called the Hieldeburgh in pursuit of Tories and served at this time six days and was then dismissed and he returned home.

He again entered the said service as a Artificer and joined Capt. Bradt's Company in the month of April 1778 for the term of five months and was stationed in the City of Albany and was engaged in making Tent Poles untill in the month of September 1778.

He again entered the said service at the City of Albany as an Artificer and joined Capt VanDuzer's Company for the term of Five months about the first of October 1778 and was sent to the above mentioned place called the Hieldeburgh, and was there engaged in making oars for Boats untill about the first of March 1779 and untill his term of five months expired and was then dismissed and returned back to Albany.

He again entered the said service as an Artificer in the month of May 1779 and immediately joined Capt VanDuzers Company for the term of Ten Months, and was marched down to Fishkill on the Hudson River, and was there first under the command of Colo Hay and was engaged in building boats and Batteaux untill towards

the fall of the year, when he was sent to Newburgh on the said river, where he was employed in building Barracks until they were completed, and then returned back to Fishkill, where he was engaged in building boats & Barracks until his term of ten months expired, and until the month of March 1780.

Immediately after his term expired he again entered the said service and joined Capt Sheafe's Company as an Artificer, for the term of Ten Months and was immediately sent to a place called Wappinger's Creek on the Hudson River and was there engaged in building boats and also in building a vessel called the "Peggy Hays", until his term of ten months expired, which was in the month of January 1781 having served at this time from March 1780 to January 1781.

He then got married and did not again enter the said Service.

He was in the actual service of the United States in the Revolutionary War in an embodied Corps in the Militia one year and six days, and as an Artificer two years and six months and for such service he claims a pension.

He this declarant further states that the reason why he makes this declaration in the City of Albany instead of in the County of Rensselaer is that he resides a number of miles from the Court of Record in Rensselaer County and that he is unable by reason of old age and having frozen his feet the preceding winter to travel that distance to attend the court, and that he has been brot [brought] across the river from Greenbush (but a short distance) as being more in his power, to attend the Court in Albany.

He was born in the City of Albany in the County of Albany in the State of New York on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1759 and a record of his age was made in his father's family Bible, and there is now a record of his age in the Records of the Dutch Church in the City of Albany.

He resided in the City of Albany at the time of entering the said service and continued to reside there until he went into the said service, then went to Fishkill as he has stated above and resided there after the close of the war and until about the year 1790 then removed back to Albany where he resided a number of years and then removed to Westchester County where he lived 8 or 9 years, then removed to New York and then back to Albany where he lived until he removed over the river to Greenbush where he has lived for the last 18 or 19 years.

He saw and knew Genl Schuyler; Genl Arnold, Genl McDougal, Genl Lafayette, Genl Washington, Genl Wayne, Colo Dubois and others who were with the troops where he served – but he does not particularly recollect what Continental & militia regiments he served with.

He never received a written discharge, nor has he any documentary evidence in relation to his services nor can he procure any witnesses except the persons who have made affidavits hereto annexed.

He is well known to Judge Abraham TenEyck Junr, Jacob Bogart, William Weaver, Abraham VanVechten, John VanZant, Gerret VanZandt of the City of Albany, James Lansing Esqr, John Burton Esqr, Garret Yates, John Yates and many other

who reside in his present neighbourhood, and who can testify to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

He is not at present acquainted with any clergyman that he can procure to testify to their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, that he has not latterly resided within the immediate vicinity of any clergyman, nor has he become acquainted with any one that he could call upon, and the Dutch Clergyman that he used formerly to know are dead or have removed from the Country.

This declarant further states that he made a declaration of his services before the court some time last fall, and that he now understands that "his claim is suspended and his papers placed on file" at the pension office. That his papers were performed by Mr. James VanIngen of the City of Albany who had the sole direction of them, and that instead of making out a precise and specific [specific] account of his services as is required by the War Department Mr. VanIngen put down only a general and partial account, which he this declarant signed and which as he was told by Mr. Van Ingen was sufficient—

That he has never been required by Mr. VanIngen to make a detailed statement, as he has now done, and which is in every respect true, but was told that what was written by Mr. VanIngen at that time was sufficient. And further that Mr. VanIngen is a very old man and did not take down the narrative of his services as he gave it to him at that time, and that he this declarant ought not to be prejudiced by the Course Mr. VanIngen has that proper to take in relation to his claim, which was not authorized or directed by him this declarant—This declarant further states that Mr. VanIngen also prepared the affidavits of his witnesses in such manner as he thought proper, without stating what all the witnesses could swear to. That this declarant is an old man and is much diseased and could not make out the papers himself and has therefore wholly depended on Mr. VanIngen to manage his case. He was in no battles. (Signed) Wil. VanBenthuisen.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. J. G. Wasson Clk