

Pension Application for Garret Vandervoort

W.18214 (Widow: Leah) Married July 30, 1781. Garret died July 3, 1813.

State of New York

Yates County SS.

On this thirteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight personally appeared in open Court before the court of Common Pleas of the county of Yates aforesaid the same being a court of record Leah Van DerVoort a resident of the Town of Starkey in the said County of Yates & State of New York aged seventy four years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of Garret VanDerVoort late a private soldier in the War of the American revolution. That for several years before the commencement of the said revolutionary war she as well acquainted with a the said Garret VanDerVoort.

That soon after the commencement of the said war and about the year 1776 the said declarant recollects of seeing the said Garret VanDerVoort start to go into the service in the company with Garret Ackerson the Father of declarant which said Garret Ackerson was a Captain of Militia in the Town of New Hempstead in the now County of Rockland in the State of New York in a regiment of which a man by the name of Smith was Major, but the Christian name of said Major Smith declarant does not remember nor does she remember the names of any other of the field officers of said Regiment.

That when the said Garret VanDerVoort went into service as aforesaid it was under the said Garret Ackerson and as a private in his company. That the declarant cannot now recollect how long the said Garret VanDerVoort continued in said service at the time mentioned. That the said Garret VanDerVoort was in the service of the United States in the said revolutionary War nearly all the time form the commencement to the conclusion thereof in the said company commanded by the said Captain Garret Ackerson the father of the declarant as she was informed and believes.

That she recollects of seeing him set off to go into service as aforesaid a great many times during the period aforesaid and of his returning from service during the same period.

That said services were generally in and near the said Town of New Hempstead and near and on the lines between the American and British armies as the said declarant was informed and believes.

That the said Garret VanDerVoort was engaged in the Battle of Tappan in which Battle one Captain Crane was taken prisoner as she was informed at the time and believes and in which battle two of the men belonging to the company commanded by her Father the said Captain garret Ackerman were killed & one other man wounded & was brought home and afterwards died of his wounds.

That the sais Garnet VanDerVoort was in another Battle near the lines at or near Hackensack as she was informed and believes. And the said declarant further saith that she as lawfully married to the said Garret VanDerVoort on the thirtieth day

of July in the year 1781 by the Rev'd Mr. VanBryck a Dutch Reformed Clergyman of Tappan in Rockland County as the declarant believes. That said marriage took place at the house of one John Blauvelt in the Town of Clarkstown in the the [sic] said county of Rockland.

That after the marriage of the said declarant with the said Garret VanDerVoort as aforesaid he the said Garret VanDerVoort Continued in the said Service until some time in the year 1783 & until the close of the said war.

That this declarant recollects that in the season in which Lord Cornwallis was defeated at YorkTown in Virginia he the said Garret VanDerVoort was understood to be twenty one years of age and that when he first entered the service in 1776 as aforesaid he was understood to be sixteen years of age.

And this declarant further saith that the said Garret VanDerVoort died on the third day of July 1813 at the Town of Warwick in the County of Orange in the said State of New York, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period.

That the declarant after the death of her said husband as aforesaid resided with her mother in the said Town of Warwick until the death of her said Mother about nine years since when she went to live with her daughter in Warwick aforesaid and lived with her about two years, when she removed to the Town of Starkey aforesaid where she has resided ever since with another daughter with whom she now resides and who takes care of & supports her that the said declarant is now totally blind and unable to do anything towards supporting herself. (Signed with her Mark) Lean VanDerVoort.

Subscribed and sworn to before me the subscriber clerk of said County of Yates & of the County Courts thereof in open court. A. Woodworth, Clerk.

Letter in file, responding to a request for information.

It appears from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim W.18214, that Garret Vandervoort, while residing near Tappan in Orange County, New York, at the age of sixteen years, enlisted in 1776, and served at various times until the close of the Revolutionary War in 1783, over three years actual military service in all, as a private in Lieutenant Garret Ackerson or Eckerson's company (who on May 28 was commissioned Captain), Colonel A. Hawk Hay's New York Regiment. He was in the battles of Tappan and Hackensack and guarded prisoners at the battle of Stony Point.

He died July 3, 1812 or 1813 in Warwick, Orange County, New York.

Soldier married July 20, 1781 at the home of one John Blauvelt in Clarkstown, Orange (which was later Rockland) County, New York, Leah Ackerson or Eckerson, born February 25, 1764. She was the eldest child of Captain Garret Ackerson or Eckerson named above. The name of her mother is not shown.

After the death of her husband, Garret Vandervoort, she resided in Warwick, New York, with her mother until her death about 1829, then lived with her daughter in said Warwick about two years when she moved to Starkey, Yates County, New York, to live with another daughter. She did not give the names of her daughters.

She was allowed pension on her application executed February 18, 1841, at which time she was a resident of Starkey, New York.

Martha Lequier, the sister of soldier's widow Leah, was living in Monmouth County, New Jersey, in 1837. Their brother, John G. Ackerson, who was born in 1769 in Tappan, Orange County, New York, was living in Warwick, New York, in 1839.

There is no claim for pension or bounty land on file on account of the services of Captain Garret Ackerson named above.