

## **Pension Application for Henry Van Etten**

S.11630

State of New York

Cayuga County SS.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned first judge of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the said County Henry VanEtten who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services but according to his best recollection he served not less than the period mentioned below and in the following Grade.

For three years and one half month I served as a private soldier and for such service I claim a pension.

That from the Spring of the year 1779 until the fall of the year 1782, the militia Regiment to which he belonged commanded first by Col . . . Thurston & Major Decker and afterwards by Col. Moses Halfield lived immediately upon the frontiers of Orange County and was left on said frontiers to guard them against the Indians who were accustomed to come down from the north and alarm & destroy the inhabitants and their property.

That he was [a] soldier in the militia company commanded by Captain Moses Cortright in said Regiment and served under said Captain until Captain Wilhelmus Westfall took the command of said company under whom he continued to serve until he resigned the command of said company at the close of the war—that he served under Lieut Martin Decker & John VanTuyl, that his Ensigns name was Solomon Cuykendall—that said Regiment was constantly in said service on said frontiers during a term of eight months in each year from the spring of the year 1779 until the fall of the year 1782—that he served as a member of said company & Regiment during the whole of said term;—that parties from said Regiment were kept constantly out scouting and ranging the woods to give warning of the approach of the enemy—and as Indians Spyes—that he was frequently sent out in said parties and served when so out under other officers of said Regiment than those of his own company—and that when he was not so in service scouting and as an indian spy he was stationed on the frontier and served as a guard. That he was born in the town of Goshen in the County of Orange & State of New York AD 1760, and has a record of his age now in his possession—that during said four years when he served on the frontiers he was required to serve by competent authority as he understood that he never served in any Continental Regiment or under any Continental officer, and served but little with any other militia Regiment than the one to which he belonged. (Signed) Henry Van Etten

Sworn & Subscribed the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833 before me. J. L. Richardson,  
first Judge of Cayuga.