

### **Pension Application for Daniel Van Horn**

W.6346 (Widow: Hannah) Hannah said they were married during the war.

The voluntary examination of Daniel Van Horn, Explanatory of his original declaration on files of the United States Pension Office.

State of New Jersey

Essex County SS.

Personally appeared before me Abraham Reynolds one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Essex, Daniel Van Horn, who being duly sworn and did subscribe his name to an original declaration now on the files of the Pension Office. That he is now nearly seventy six years of age, a resident of Paterson in the County of Essex and State of New Jersey.

That he resided at the same place at the time of making the aforesaid declaration; and in explanation of which he further deposeth & saith, that he was actively engaged in the service of the United States during the Revolutionary War (in all) four full years and upwards, during all which he was doing duty as a soldier in the field, during the several periods, set forth in his original declaration.

That he performed one months service as a substitute for his brother James Van Horn at the first commencement of the war, and was then a member of Captain Hyler's Company stationed as a guard at Closter in the County of Bergen, New Jersey, where he continued to do duty the full period of one month and was discharged and thinks the above mentioned tour of service was not mentioned in his original declaration.

That the next tour of service which he now thinks he performed, was as follows. That he was drafted as a militia soldier, and was marched to Morris Town in the County of Morris, New Jersey, at which place, he continued to do active duty as a member of a company stationed there as a guard over British Prisoners, the company to which he then belonged was commanded by Captain John Vreeland or Freeland, Lieutenant Abm Allen & Ensign Isaac Vreeland or Freeland.

That he continued to do duty in said Company till the expiration of the time for which he had been drafted, after which he immediately volunteered and remained doing duty in said Company stationed at Morristown as aforesaid, until the whole company was relieved, when he was discharged and returned home, that he knows he was doing duty in the company stationed at Morristown as aforesaid the full period of three months, and thinks it was longer.

That after leaving Morristown he returned to his fathers house near Paramus in the County of Bergen, at which place the whole neighbourhood was very much alarmed in consequence of several of the inhabitants having been taken in their beds, some of whom had been barbourously murdered by the Refugees, and others made prisoners and conveyed to the British, then lying in the City of New York, that his brother was among the number of prisoners taken at that time.

That he lodged at his fathers house but one night and on the next day he set out for Hackensack, New Jersey, thinks it was in the year 1778. That on his arrival at Hackensack, which was the third or fourth day after he left Morristown as aforesaid,

he enrolled himself, as a soldier of Captain Peter Ward's Company, then on duty and stationed as a guard at the town of Hackensack. That the condition of his enrollment was that he engaged to continue in actual service for the period of one year unless sooner discharged. That on the next day after his discharge he again enrolled himself as a number of Capt Peter Ward's Company stationed at Hackensack as aforesaid at which time he subscribed his name to a similar engagement to remain in actual service for the period of one year unless sooner discharged.

That he continued to do active duty in actual service of the United States under the command of Captain Ward during the whole period of the second year of his enlistment and was discharged. That Captain Ward's Company was stationed at Hackensack during the whole term of the two years as aforesaid that they were marched from place to place and were frequently engaged with the British & Refugees during that period but their head quarters were at Hackensack as aforesaid that he was within the period of two years as aforesaid actively engaged with the enemy at the battle of Fort Lee on the Hudson River also in the Battle at a place called Munochie. That he was in the same period taken prisoner by the Refugees and confined in a Block House on Bergen Point opposite to Staten Island and in preference to being taken to the City of New York as a prisoner of war he accepted of a parole but returned immediately to the town of Hackensack and went to doing duty and in consequence of which a party of Refugees came with a flag to the town of Hackensack and demanded him, the deponent as a prisoner. Genl Dayton of Elizabethtown was sent for, who convinced several officers, held a consultation which resulted in a refusal to surrender him as a prisoner, alleging that the commander of the party of Refugees had no power to grant or accept of Paroll's from prisoners; that the commander of the Refugees then advertised & posted the deponent throughout the surrounding country, thereby authorizing any of their parties to apprehend shoot or hang him when or wheresoever he might be found, and this deponent further saith that a great portion of the two years service performed under Capt Ward as aforesaid he was taken from the ranks of the company and mounted on horseback doing duty as a vidett or mesinger [messenger] three other fellow soldiers were selected for the same purpose that he was frequently sent by order of Captain Ward as an express to various places around the country viz Belville, Newark, Elizabethtown, Morristown and other places in New Jersey to Dobbs' Ferry, Kingsbridge, Newburgh, and other places in the State of New York.

This deponent further saith that during the two last mentioned years he continued constantly in the service of the United States the same as a regular enlisted soldier. That he was not absent from duty within the period of two years as aforesaid, he exceed four days at any one time, either upon furlough or otherwise, that he performed several tours of monthly duty in the actual service of the United States under the command of Captain Hyler stationed as a guard at Closter in the County of Bergen New Jersey.

That he performed several monthly tours of duty in actual service of the United States under the command of Captain Demarest stationed as a guard at what was

then called New Bridge on the Hackensack River, Bergen County, New Jersey as set forth in his original declaration but the length of time and loss of memory will not permit him to go into detail as to the years in which the service was rendered.

That a guard consisting generally of but one company and sometimes two companies were kept at the last mentioned places during the time the British had possession of the City of New York.

Col. Dey generally had the command of all the Militia Companies stationed as guards in the various places in that region of Country each of which was visited by Col. Dey as occasion required Majors Gentshing Dey and Kipp were the other Field officers in command.

This deponent further saith that he volunteered and performed two months service as a member [member] of Captn Staicks Company of Light Horse, thinks it was the early part of the summer of 1781 when he joined Captain Staick's Company at [Prakness?] and was marched to Pompton, in the County of Bergen New Jersey, at which place they joined General Washington's army, where they were encamped for a few days when this deponent together with the whole army was marched to Dobb's Ferry on the Hudson River, from thence to White Plains in the State of New York, and encamped for sometime at which place the French Army joined them, from the Eastward, thinks they came from Rhode Island or Boston. From White Plains they were marched in a company with the French Army To Smiths Clove, at which place they lay some short time, and from thence the whole army was marched to Pompton New Jersey. General Washington having the command, That he continued at Pompton till his engagement (two months) had fully expired when he was discharged.

That he was not absent from duty a single day during his last mentioned two months service. That on one occasion within the period of the two months service last mentioned his deponent was selected from the Ranks of Captain Staicks company and turned out in the night time, together with a man named Dudley also selected form a company of Light Hose from some of the Southern States (thinks Virginia). That Dudley and this deponent served as guides for a detachment under the command of General Wayne, and was marched from Pompton to attack the British, lying in and at a certain Block-House then situate on the bank of the Hudson River about three miles below Fort Lee at which place the Americans arrived about sunrise the next morning and was repulsed with considerable loss, and retreated to Pompton.

Soon after his discharge from captain Staicks Company knowing that he had been advertised by the Refugee Captain consequently deeming himself safer in clamp than elsewhere he therefore went to Hackensack and volunteered his services by the month and again became a member of Captain Ward's Company, and was one of a detachment of Militia who attacked the British stationed at the above mentioned Block house and succeeded in routing the British who set fire to the Block & retreated on board the Shipping Major Gutschins, Major Kipp are the only field officers he now recollects having the command on that expiration. That they returned to Hackensack at which place their head quarters were kept. This deponent saith he cannot state

positively how long he continued under the command of Captain Ward in what was then termed monthly service, that he knows he was there several months.

And this deponent further saith that he volunteered his service on another occasion for two months, and joined Captain Staicks Company of Light Horse at a place called the Pond Church and was marched to the Hudson River and from thence to the White Plains in the State of New York at which place they joined General Washington's army who marched them to Harlem near the City of New York, where the whole Army was encamped (as he thinks) for one month—when he was detailed as one, the party and was marched into the City of New York and was present then Col. Cunningham or some person of a similar name, then acting as the British Provost Marshall who delivered up the keys of the City Prisons to Col. Lamb of the American Army.

That the detachment to which he belonged was marched back to Harlem and he thinks it was on the following day when the Tents of the whole American Army.

That the detachment to which he belonged was marched back to Harlem and he thinks it was on the following day when the Tents of the whole American Army were struck and they were marched into the City of New York which was yielded by the British to the Americans. That this deponent was detailed for duty and continued to Patrole the City during the night; soon after which the company to which he belonged was marched by Captain Staicks to Pompton New Jersey, where they were soon after discharged. This deponent saith that the reason why he recollects so distinctly town two several tours of services performed under Capt Staicks that he was a member of a Company of Light House at the time and that his duty frequently placed him in a situation to see General Washington Commander in Chief and that he has frequently conversed upon the subject of the two last mentioned tours of service and thereby kept it more fresh in his recollection [recollection].

And this deponent further saith that his infirmities, old age, and the consequent loss of memory are such that he cannot state more specifically [specifically] the several years or months of the year in which the service was rendered otherwise then is contained in his original declaration together with the explanation herein below given.

That he solemnly charges the truth to be that four years and some months of his life was actively spent in the actual service of the United Sates during the Revolution.

And this deponent further saith that he cannot recollect names of any persons by whom he can prove his said service other than those whose affidavits are annexed to his original declaration and the explanation excepting a man by the name of Christopher Pope now residing in the Genesee Country in the State of New York at a distance of more than three hundred miles from the town of Paterson.

That the said Christopher Pope was a fellow soldier and belonged to the same company with this deponent for and during the period of two years and was also a private with him in the revolution.

That he thinks the testimony of Christopher Pope may be procured providing the same shall be hereafter required by the Pension Commissioner. (Signed) Daniel VanHorn

Sworn and subscribed the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833 before me. A. Reynolds