

Pension Application for John Van Huson

S.23983

State of New York

Saratoga County SS

On this 27th day of August in the year one thousand eight hundred & thirty three personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Saratoga State of New York now sitting at the Court House in the Village of Ballston Spa John Van Huson a resident of the Town of Stillwater County of Saratoga & State of New York aged eighty one years, 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 7th 1832.

That he the said John Van Huson was born in the year one thousand seven Hundred fifty two at Claverick in the county of Columbia & State of New York where he resided until April 1776—About this time the Fishkill Barracks were broken open & robed & the militia were called out for the purpose of Defending said Barracks, that applicant volunteered his services & marched under Lieut Osterhout & Ensign Delamater immediately to FishKill, Lieut Osterhout commanded a company of Infantry. The Captain of the Company did not go.

Was employed there in defense of the Barracks three months & one half; at this time other troops arrived & Lieut Osterhouts Company was put under the command of Capt Jasper Canine & marched to Albany where it was stationed about two months & one half; did duty constantly in said company Captain Canine was then taken sick, applicant was then with the company put under the command of Captain Jasper Hauck & marched to Fort Edward & continued there in the Picket Fort until January 1777 – while at Fort Edward was employed in guarding the Stores & in Scouting Parties, was then & there dismissed by Captain Hauck but received no written discharge—Term of service during this campaign was more than nine ;months.

In the month of April AD 1777 applicant volunteered again for nine months in a company of Infantry under the command of Captain Peter Bortell Joseph Philips was his Lieutenant & Tobias Van Dusen was his ensign; was marched to Albany & was there stationed in Cylus House who was then in Goal, being a Tory, remained there about three weeks & was then marched to Fort Edward under Captain Bortell.

At Fort Edward was selected from his company & placed under the command of Captain Brown whose company consisted of about ninety men & were employed in guarding the stores to be carried from Fort Edward to Fort George to Fort Ann & Schenesborough.

The second time applicant went to Fort George they were surprised or ambushed near Bloody Pond by a Party of Indians & Tories. There were there about Thirty or Forty Americans, were all taken & killed but five—this applicant was one of the five—the five were a little in rear of the wagons & discovered the enemy & made their escape—they were chased by an Indian, one of their party was like to be overtaken by an Indian. One of their party was like to be overtaken by an Indian, the

one who was forward of the other, stepped [stepped] aside turned & shot at the Indians, the Indian fell and they made their escape to Fort Edward.

The next day six or seven hundred men at Fort Edward commanded by Col. Abbott moved on to Fort George, fell in with no enemy that day; there were about two hundred men in the Fort at Lake George who had not been apprised of what had taken place the day before until the troops arrived from Fort Edward where the troops moved from fort Edward to Fort George the next day, applicant saw his companions who had been killed the day before, laying some in & others near Bloody Pond.

The Troops there all left Fort George & marched down to Fort Edward & General Schuyler came with his Troops from Fort Ann.

The American Army then retreated down to Van Schaick's Island opposite Lansingburgh nine miles above Albany—General Schuyler had the command & held it until General's Gates & Putnam came on, they then moved back to Bemus Heights. Entrenched themselves & remained there until Burgoyne surrendered after the Surrender of Burgoyne, applicant in Captain Browns Company was marched to Scheenesborough, where they took considerable Provisions & other stores which had been left by the British – came back to Fort Edward & from thence to Saratoga & was there dismissed by Captain Brown in January 1778. This Term of was [sic] rising of nine months.

In 1778 in May applicant then residing in Schaighticoke (now Renssellaer County) [Rensselaer County] again volunteered in Captain Jacob Yates Company—Peter Yates Regiment for nien months, John Groesbeck was Major. Abm Viele Lieutenant, Stephen Veile & John van Antwerp Ensigns, was then marched to Fort Edward stayed there in the Picket Fort & was employed in Schouting [scouting] Parties for about three months—was then marched over to a place called Palmerton (then County of Albany) now Saratoga County, were employed in getting & hueing timber & in building a Block House--& in Schouting Parties remained there until the last of November—was then dismissed & went home.

Term of service six months was discharged by order of Col Yates

Was called out again in the Spring of 1779 & was in service the greater part of that summer & fall & was commanded by Ensign Van Antwerp.

This last term of service did not amount to less than six months at a time.

Has no documentary evidence of his services & has no written discharge & no other evidence living to the knowledge of the applicant other than that of Ensign Van Antwerp & Philip Bortell, whose affidavits are hereunto annexed.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on any Pension Roll of the agency of any state.

That there is no Clergyman residing in the vicinity of applicant who knows any thing of his services, whose attendance in court can be procured.

To the Interrogatories put by the Court the applicants answers as follows.

Answer to Interrogatory 1st That he was Born in the year 1752 in the Town of Claverack County of Columbia State of New York.

Answer to Inter'y. 2d That there is a Record of his age in the Bible in the Possession of applicant.

Answer to Inter'y 3d That the place of his residence when called into service is as stated in the foregoing Declaration. Since the Revolution has lived in Plattsburgh Beekman Town, & Stillwater in the state of New York & a short time in Vermont State.

Answer to Inter'y 4th That the manner in which applicant was called into the service is correctly stated in the foregoing Declaration.

Answer to Inter'y 5th The officers under whom applicant served are before stated.

Answer to Interrogatory 6th Never ?Received a written discharge.

7th That applicant is known to John Bradshaw, John Nessele who reside in his neighbourhood & can testify to his veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier in the Revolution. (Signed) John Van Huson

Subscribed & Sworn in open Court the day & year aforesaid. A. Goodrich Clerk

Letter in folder dated September 19, 1928, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.23983, it appears that John Van Huson was born in 1752 at Claverack, Columbia County, New York.

While residing at said Claverack, he enlisted and served as a private with the New York Troops, as follows:

From April 1776, about nine months under Lieutenant Osterhoudt, captains Jasper Canine and Jasper Hauck; from April 1777, nine months in Captains Peter Bortell's and Brown's Companies, and was in an engagement with the Indians near Bloody Pond.

While residing at Schaghticoke, New York, he enlisted in May 1778 and served six months in Captain Jacob Yates' Company Colonel Peter Yates' New York Regiment; and from the spring 1779, served six months under Ensign Van Antwerp.

He was allowed pension on his application executed August 27, 1832, while living at Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York

There are no data as to family.