

Pension Application for Peter Van Orden

S.23979

State of New York

Rockland County SS

On this twenty ninth day of November in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, now sitting, Peter Van Orden, a resident of the town of Clarkstown, in the County of Rockland and State of New York, aged seventy one years on the sixth day of September 1832, 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 he entered the services of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That in the month of September in the year 1777, he entered the service in a company Commanded by Capt. Hendrick Tenure, Walter Van Orden and Resolvert Vanhouten were Lieutenants in a Regiment then commanded by Coln A. Hawkes Hay afterward by Coln Gilbert Cooper, and served therein until the close of the Revolutionary War, that about the time that he entered the service, the militia belonging to the aforesaid Regiment was divided into four classes in order that one fourth part thereof should take their tower [tour] of duty every fourth week as it was necessary that a part of the militia should be continually on guard along the West Shore of the Hudson River to prevent the British from landin [Landing] from the shipping [shipping] (which then lay in the river) to plunder the inhabitants and as scouts to guard the inhabitants in the interior of the now county of Rockland and the county of Bergen in the State of New Jersey, from being plundered and taken prisoners by the British army aided by our own Citizens who were enemies to their contry [country] who almost continually were in the practice of coming from New York in large companies and taking horses cattle sheep and everything valuable that came in their way, and taking our aged and infirm citizens who remained at home, and in many instances murdered them, there being no standing army to oppose them and in that manner I served to the close of the war often taking the place of others who could not leave home and besides performing my part of duty as above, those that were at home had to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moments notice when ever there was an alarm, which was when ever the enemy would land in large bodies from the shipping or march out of New York when the whole of the militia was ordered out to oppose then and some of the expeditions would last more than a week as we often had to go many miles as our routs where form Hoboken to stony Point, the distance about forty miles, and during the years of 77-78 & 79. I was most continually out except in the severity of the winter when there was a little rest for the militia, but then there was guards, kept in the year 80-81 & 82, we had much more time to be at home, the time I was actually engaged in the service during the whole war I am not now (after the laps [lapse] of so many years) able positively to state but verily believe that it exceeded eighteen months.

I have no documentary evidence of my services and all the positive testimony I can offer of my services is some of my surviving partners in the war. I at the commencement of the war I resided in the town of Clarkstown where I ever since resided.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Peter Vanorder

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid in open court. David Pye Clerk.