

Pension Application for Jellis John Baptist Van Vorst

W.26614 (Widow: Catharine) John died Dec 16, 1813.

State of New York

County of Schenectada &c.

On this 28th day of October 1837, personally appeared before me the undersigned, First Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Schenectada in said State, Caty or Catrine [Catherine], a resident of the town of Johnstown in the County of Montgomery in said State aged seventy-six years and upwards, 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 4th July 1836, and the act explanatory of said act, passed March 3d, 1837.

That she was married to Jellis Jno. BT VanVorst, who was a private in the company of Batteauxmen, fatigue men and labourer commanded by captain Jacobus Peek in the Department of the QuarterMaster general of the United States in the army of the Revolution and after serving therein for the year 1778 he performed service in the militia in the Regiment of Colonel Abraham Wemple in the District of Schenectada where said Jellis then resided and some time in the beginning of the year 1779 said Jellis moved to the town of Florida, then called Warrensbush by some called if she remembers right, "Schenectada Patent", the part of the Country where he resided being probably a part of said patent. Here he was enrolled in the Company of Militia commanded by Captain McMasters, but how long he served in each company or during what particular portions of the years 1779, 1780, 1781, & 1782, she this declarant cannot specify.

She remembers in particular, that after her marriage to said Jellis he was warned by said Captain McMasters and ordered out with a detachment of militia to join the troops then on duty at Schoharie, when the Schoharie Settlements were threatened with an attack, she thinks in the fall of the year 1780—and was away from home on this occasion for at least eight days, said Jellis on two occasions after her marriage performed garrison or patrol duty at Warrensbush aforesaid for the term of two weeks each time under command of said McMaster, she believes in the year 1780 for the reason that she believes in the year 1780, for the reason that she at that time had no children born to her, her first daughter Catharine being born afterwards, the said Jellis was always ready to engage in any expedition required of him & whenever required and this deponent knows that he served in many scouting parties & in several expeditions in pursuit of Tories to Sacandoga and elsewhere, but she this Declarant cannot specify these tours.

She further declares, that she was married to said Jellis Jno Bt Van Vorst on the eighteenth day of February (1780) in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty in the (then town now) City of Schenectada, at the house of the Rev Barent Vrooman, then pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church in said City and that the following named individuals besides said Vrooman & this Declarant & said Jellis were present, & were the only persons present during the performance of the marriage

ceremony; viz—Maria Putman (sister of said Jellis) Walter Swart & Josias Swart the father of this Declarant John Lewis & her sister Rachel Lewis and that every one of the aforesaid individuals have long since departed this life.

That the only record of her marriage of which she has any knowledge is contained in the subjoined paper which has been cut out of her family bible, and which record was made at least forty years ago by or under the direction of her said husband the aforesaid Jellis Jno BT VanVorst.

That her said husband, the aforesaid Jellis Jno Bt Van Vorst died on the sixteenth day of December one thousand eight hundred and thirteen.

That she was afterwards married to John VanVleet who died in the fourteenth day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two and that she was a widow on the fourth day of July one thousand eight hundred and thirty six and still remains a widow as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

From the subjoined paper it appears, and this declarant testifies the fact so to be, that her first daughter Catharine was born on the sixteenth day of January 1781 and that her second daughter named Annatie was born on the 11th September 1782 and that her said daughter Catharine was baptized on the 12th February 1781. (Signed with her mark) Catharine Van Vorst.

Subscribed and Sworn by S.W. Jones, First Judge of Sctdy County.