

Pension Application for Michael Venus

R.10928

State of New York

Montgomery County SS.

On the 21st Day of February one thousand eight hundred & thirty three personally [Personally] appeared before me John Hand one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Montgomery aforesaid Michael Venus, a resident of the Town of Canajoharie, in the County of Montgomery, and State of New York aforesaid. That he was born in the City and County of New York, on the tenth day of June in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty two, now aged eighty years, eight months & ten days, who being first duty 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 entered the service of the United States under the Following named officers, and served as herein stated. Vizt That he Entered the Service of the United States, in the Regiment of Militia Commanded by Col. Jacob Klock to Lieut Col. Peter Waggoner, Genl Nicholas Herkimer's Brigade, attached and Enrolled in the Company Commanded by Capt. John Breadbeg, in the year one thousand eleven hundred & Seventy Five.

That this claimant declares, that he finding it impracticable to describe or documinate the vareous [various] duty & services performed from the year 1775 to the year 1783 to the close of the Revolutionary War, all he can recollect of the first Season Vizt from Spring until in the fall. Occasionally have been ordered together by the commanding officers for the purpose being organized and trained by officers for the purpose being organized and trained calculated to comply with the requisitions of the Old Congress in conformity of a certain Resolution passed by them on the twenty seventh day of May in the same year 1775 Wheras it was Resolved by Congress That the Militia of New York be armed and Trained and in Constant readiness at a Moments Warning.

And that the Applicant declares that he also kept himself in constant readiness conformable to the foregoing Resolution on a Moments Warning, did turn out on each and every occurrence and Emergency, whenever thereunto required or warned.

That the applicant declares that his first Expedition he was ordered under Capt John Breadbeg with his Company of Militia he believes in January 1776 to March to [Cachalaisago? Caughnawaga?] and after their arival [arrival] joined Genl Schuyler with his Militia from Albany and Schenectady, there remained for several days all and the whole body of the Militia, organizing and were paraded on the Ice on the Mohawk river, and after several days were spent, all the militia under the command of Genl Schuyler Marching to Johnstown, there met Sr John Johnson as it was believed with 300 or 400 men all in arms. L Then Genl Schuyler causing a surrender of Sr John on Parole.

This applicant further declares that he as drafted to March to George Saltsman Situate or residing on the Indian road to Johnstown near the ege [edge] of the woods

there stationed for three weeks, watching and guarding against the incursions of the Incendiaries, and also Continually Scouting, Spying the enemy, northeasterly through the Woods, their [there] under the command of Capt. Breadbeg.

That the applicant further declare that same year 1776 he was drafted to march to Fort Stanwix in summer to perform labour at the Fort and other duty for six weeks.

Again the latter part of June or forepart of July 1777 drafted to March to Fort Stanwix, accordingly went for six weeks with others cutting and falling trees into Wood Creek calculated to Stop the Passage of Genl St. Leger, Sr John Johnson & the Battlion [Battalion], some British, Tories and a large number of Indians. L When all the Militia were discharged in returning to their respective places of Abode down the Mohawk, at a distance of about forty Miles the Claimant had to travel, some exceeding, others some less, and after their return, the Second day again warned to March to Fort Stanwix under Genl Herkimer ordered out with the company of Militia to which he belonged, Commanded by Capt. John Breadbeg, and when the Militia on their march to Fort Stanwix, Genl Herkimer discovered the Claimant riding on horseback, when the Genl personally [personally] approaching him, after Inquiring finding that the Applicant Count not travel on foot, in consequence of a Sereous [Serious] wound vizt, a cut [cut] on his leg which he had, when Genl discharging him allowing him of returning home to his place of residence.

The applicant further declares, he believes in the year 1776, under Capt. Breadbeg with the whole company Stationed at [Brownsces?] for three weeks, watching and guarding against the incursion of the daily expected enemy.

That the applicant declares that he hath been drafted with others and sent to Fort Dayton in Herkimer Continued, four weeks on duty, he believes in the year 1776.

That the applicant further declares that he was drafted twice to Fort Clyde, two weeks on duty each tour. What tours in what year doth not recollect.

That the applicant further declares, that he was ordered out under Capt. Zielly attached to his company he believes the whole Regt then under the command of Lieut Col. Peter Waggoner at the time of the incursions of the Incendiaries on the German Flats then County of Tryon, now Herkimer County on duty for 3 weeks, he believes in the year 1778. Also in 1780 Guarding Capt Gray with his boat men & boats with provisions to Fort Stanwix.

The applicant further declares that he hath been called out when the Town of Herkimer Vizt Chiefly all the buildings were burnt by the Incendiaries, said Brandt at the head, from Canada, particular year and the number of days the applicant doth not remember but believes in 1779.

The applicant further declares that he hath resided, about three Miles from the main Fort Vizt, Fort Paris in Stonearabia, in the same town of Palatine. L When he hath been frequently ordered out, watching and guarding against the incursions of the Common Enemy, but the number of days and tours an times your applicant cannot describe.

Your applicant further declares that he was ordered several times to Fort Plain and to Fort Blank watching & Guarding &c.

And your applicant further declares, that for the three last years previous to the Conclusion of the War, he removed from the Northside of the Mohawk river, on the South side of the said River, at a distance of about eight miles from the river near the head of Bowmans Creek more Contiguous and more dangerous on account of the Incursions of the Common Incendiaries, then situate and a resident in the Town of Manajoharie and he believes then yet in the County of Tryon now Montgomery County, there and to the close of the Revolutionary War attached to the company of militia commanded by Capt. Jacob Bowman, and Regt Commanded by Col Samuel Clyde—and that he the said applicant hath continued to reside in the said Town of Canajoharie during the remainder part of the war and subject to be obedient and under the command of Col Clyde and Capt Bowman, until the close of the war, and that he still remains to reside in the said Town of Canajoharie, but at present in the Village of Canajoharie.

That the applicant further declares that he often and frequently hath been called and warned on many occurrences, often to Cherry Valle [Valley] watching and Guarding against the incursions of the Common Enemy, often Scout on Scouts, Spying the Incendiaries in the woods, &c.

But to be regretted after such length of time, an Elapse of Exceeding Fifty years, not being enabled to describe the number of days and tours But satisfied, [satisfied] that much Services which hath been performed by him the said Applicant, is totally forgotten and omitted.

That the applicant further declares that he entered the Service of the United States from the Commencement to the close of the Revolution that he complied with the requisitions of the Old Congress as well those the laws of the State of New Yorke, [York] and s Superious [Superior] Officers during the war, and that he is Conscientiously satisfied and declares that he hath performed duty and Services, not only for himself & the Citizens of the then County of Tryon, but Calculated, in preserving the rights Liberties and Independence of then all the Citizans [Citizens] of the Colonies, now In these United States, and that he did not only risk his life and Treasure in Atchieving [achieving] the same but satisfied and sincerely declare that his Services and duty, so performed doth exceed two years from first to last of said war.

And that the said applicant declares that he is reduced to Indigent Circumstances, besides his age and Infirmities in consequence of which he cannot attend before Open Court at their next sitting.

And that the Applicant 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) Michael Venus

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me, in execution hereof John and one of the Judges of the Montgomery County Courts.