

Pension Application for Godfrey Vought

S.23051

Declaration for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832 granting Pensions to the Soldiers of the Revolution.

State of Pennsylvania

County of Bradford SS.

On this tenth day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Bradford and State of Pennsylvania aged seventy 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 Provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he enlisted for the term of one year in the army of the United States about the last of April as near as he can recollect in the year 1780, at Peekskill Westchester County in the State of New York.

That he was enlisted by a recruiting officer or agent by the name of Thomas VanPeldt into the company commanded by Cap Bond who shortly after left the command of the company which was in his stead placed under the command of Cap Jonathan Knapp who continued in the command during the year.

This company was attached to the Regiment under the command of Col. Hews or Hughs, Major Kears, commanded in the same Regiment, John Occoman was his Lieutenant in his company. Shortly after his enlistment this declarant was ordered into service on board of the Boats as Kings Ferry so called at Stony and Verplanks Points on Hudson River called "Continental Boats" and the service was that of transporting the Troops, cavalry and Infantry and public property of various kinds such as cattle, provisions and military stores &c. and he continued in this service during the year for which he enlisted and at the end of the year was regularly dismissed but don't recollect whether he had a written discharge or not, at this time there was a considerable portion of his pay in arrears and due for his services and so with his other soldiers and there were some persons who purchased from the soldiers their arrears of pay.

This declarant states that for his services he received but very little and that in "Continental money", that it was so depreciated that he gave six dollars for a gill of rum, at one time.

That the service rendered by him and others attached to and manning the "Continental Boats" was exceeding [exceedingly] arduous & fatiguing. He was subject to be called into service and often times great exertion at any & all times, night and day, when the weather was good or bad. He was required not only to transport persons and property, expresses and troops across the river at the ferry, but also provisions and stores up and down the River to any distance necessary. He saw Genl Arnold on board his barge as he passed down the River by where he was then stationed on Van Plank's Point to a vessel by about three miles below. He saw Major Andre a number of times and he assisted in ferrying him a number of time across the river at Kings Ferry. After he had got dismissed from his first years service he

immediately enlisted again for nine months service at Peekskill State of N. York, he went before Col Saml Drake to be qualified.

That he would perform faithfully in the service of the United States (in he thinks they were called) the "New York Levies. That he served the nine months tour on the lines as rangers or scouting parties in WestChester County , Bradford &c as occasion required. Richard Sacket was his Captain, Lieut Moshier or Moyer was first Lieutenant of the company, second Lieutenant's name Tucker, Col. Dubois commanded the Regiment, was discharged he thinks by the Major but don't recollect his name, at the expiration of the said nine months, during this time the money had become so depreciated that he paid on hundred and ten dollars for one gill of Rum, to (old Mother Trow) Middle Patten. [Patent?]

During this term we had an engagement with Col. Holmes at "King Street" (thinks New Rochell County, in which Cap Sackett was taken and Lieut Mosher (as above) had a desperate engagement, we killed one man dead and it was reported that forty four were wounded. That this declarant with others guarded the French artillery up to Fort called "Valentines Hill" and while there an express came and ordered as back to the army under the hill and carried the wounded and dead back, after a hard engagement with the Hessians which (he thinks was in the latter part of June.) That another engagement took place at "Dobbs Ferry" on the North River as the British shipping went down the river after having been up the river and while they were up the River we built a fort a little below TerryTown at Dobbs Ferry. After the nine months service ended, this declarant was frequently called out to guard the lines by the militia officers and had frequent tours or scouting sometimes ten or fifteen days at a time and exposed to hardship and toil and found themselves without any pay.

This declarant further states the wages he drew for the first year while he was in the Ferry Service of his enlistment was a dollar per day;. But received his pay or all he did receive in Continental bills as before stated.

This declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. (Signed with his mark) Godfrey Vought.

Sworn and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. J. P. Bull, Prot per E.S. Goodrich Dep.

Letter in folder dated July 8, 1938, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your request for information relative to Godfrey Voght, a Revolutionary War soldier who was born about 1762, and lived in Westchester County, New York, and Bradford County, Pennsylvania.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim, S.23051, based on the military service of Godfrey Vought.

The date and place of his birth and the names of his parents were not given.

He enlisted at Peekskill, New York, about April 10, 1780, and served one year as private in a company commanded first by Captain Bond and later by Captain Jonathan Knapp in Colonel Hughes' New York regiment, and was employed on the

boas at King's Ferry, Stony Point and Verplanck's Point, transporting troops and military stores. Immediately afterwards he enlisted and served nine months in Captain Richard Sackett's company in Colonel Dubois' New York regiment was in an engagement with Colonel Holmes at "King Street thinks New Rochell county" in which engagement Captain Sackett was taken prisoner, and was in other engagements one of which was Dobb's Ferry. He afterwards was called out frequently on short tours, details not given.

Godfrey Vought was allowed pension on his application executed September 10, 1832, at which time he was seventy years of age and was living in Rome Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania.

The papers in this claim contain no data relative to soldier's family.