

Pension Application for Timothy Wood

S.23495

State of New York

County of Putnam SS

On this 15 day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open court before the court of Oyer & Terminer now sitting at the Court house in the town of Carmel in Putnam County, Timothy Wood a resident of the town of Philipstown in the said County aged seventy three 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers served as herein after stated.

That in the fall of the year 1776, he resided in the town of Cornwall in the County of Orange & State of New York, & was enrolled in a company of militia in that town commanded by Capt VanDuzer, the regiment was commanded by Col. Woodhull, Capt VanDuzers company was ordered to furnish a certain number of men to serve as a guard. The company was called together and a draft was made from it of a number of men, this declarant was with others drafted for a term of three months, that very soon after the draft the soldiers who were drafted marched under or was after the crossing the river placed under the Command of Lieut Crosby & marched to Fishkill & the company lay near that place for the period of three months for which the declarant was drafted at the expiration of the term they were all discharged who were drafted from Capt VandDuzers company & declarant returned to his place of residence in Cornwell.

The declarant lived about 3 or 4 miles from Fort Montgomery & within the hearing of the guns at that place, that whenever an alarm was given, the militia of that vicinity were allways [always] ordered out in defense of the Country.

That in the year 1777 in this summer, that section of the country was alarmed by the firing of these guns at Fort Montgomery. The [that?] these guns were the signal of alarm. The declarant & others immediately assembled to the number of about thirty & chose Cornwall Sands for their captain and [blank] Langdon for their lieutenant, preferring to have officers of their own choosing, and went directly to the Fort after they had so chosen their officers whenever the [?] guns were fired each soldier by himself immediately repaired to the fort, there remained until the cause of the alarm ceased when they returned to their homes. This declarant believes that during this year 1777 he was engaged in the service of his country in such alarm as much as two months. Governor Clinton had the command of Fort Montgomery on several if not all occasions when declarant was there in 1777.

It was this year that this fort was taken by this enemy, they approached it from the woods or mountains in the rear, & on that side there was little or no security to defend from attack. The fort was taken early in the month of October, and immediately the whole of Capt VanDuzens company of militia including the declarant were ordered out and continued under arms until some time after the enemy

abandoned said fort. It was not abandoned until after news had been rec'd of the taking of Genl Burgoyne & his army, but the precise time the declarant cannot tell.

Early in the year of 1778 or perhaps in Dec'r 1777 a draft was again made & a great part of Capt Vanduzers company were drafted & Capt Vanduzer himself took charge of this company, made up of this drafted men, and marched to Ramapo & remained there encamped for about one month, when Capt Vanduzer left the company & Capt Marvin took the command & remained for sometime longer, when Capt Marvin left the company and Cap [Pierson?] took the command & continued until the terms for which they were drafted expired when they were discharged & returned home this service was for three months or more. They were employed during this time in guarding the roads;, protecting property & detecting horse thieves, sometimes they went below the English neighborhood & as far as the town of Bergen.

That in the spring or summer of 1779 this declarant was on a visit to his uncle, Isaac Wood in Poughkeepsie & whilst there was enrolled in Capt Badgers company of militia and a draft was these made & the declarant was drafted & well others who were drafted repaired to Fishkill, where he remained performing such duty as was required until the fall of that year, from thence declarant went to West Point and remained there through the winter & until the next summer which was 1780, he was engaged on West Point through the winter in little actual service, during the forepart of the summer which declarant was at West Point, and Gen. Arnold in command the guns were all brought out of the fort & placed near the river on the north side of the plains, after the guns were placed in this situation & was announced that Gen. DiLaFayettes [de LaFayette] forces were to be removed & that a draft was to be made for that purpose unless volunteers could be obtained, some volunteered & this declarant either volunteered or was detached for the service at West Point & ordered in the company commanded by Capt Daniel Delavan, the company of Capt Delavan as soon as organized crossed the river & marched this first day to Peekskill, the next day marched to Verplanks point & then crossed over to Stoney Point, & from there pursued their course to New Jersey &c was soon after this arrival in New Jersey that the treason of Arnold was made known & Andrew apprehended.

The company of Capt Delavan it was said lay but about two miles from the place where Andre was executed some of the company went to see the execution. The company of Delavan was moving back & forth from place to place until late in the fall or winter when the captain refused to discharge them although their terms were out;, & some had been out for a long time, the company being composed of volunteers or drafted men who were in the service for different periods Sergeant Isaac Swartwout on the captains refusing to ;discharge them, marched the company to the tent of Gen. DeLaFayette & he saw them coming out and & engaged what was the matter—the sergeant answered nothing, only their times were out & they wanted to be discharged, he then looked at the certificates which several of the company had with them, which showed that there [their] terms of service had expired, he deserted them back to their tents & said he would see that they were discharged, that day or the next day they were discharged or rather the Capt marched his company to Po keepsie [Poughkeepsie]

& they were there discharged. This period from which this declarant was drafted at Poughkeepsie until his discharge at the same place was about eighteen months during all which time the declarant was in the military service of the country.

The declarant has no documentary evidence of his service & knows of no person who can testify to his services other than whose deposition are hereto annexed.

The declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

The declarant was born in the town of Cornwall in the County of Orange in the state of New York in the year 1759. That he has a record of his age in his family bible. That he was living in Cornwall when called into the service before the year 1779 & that year he was called into the service from Poughkeepsie.

He was generally drafted, but cannot now say whether he did not on some occasions volunteer, when the company all were out & he with them it was by order of Capt VanDuzer. The declarant has lived since the revolutionary war in the town town [sic] of Philipstown, now in the county of Putnam, Gen DeLaFayette, Col VanCortland, Major Galvin, Capt Delavan, General Hand were some of the officers under service with this declarant in N. Jersey. Gen G. Clinton, & Gen. J Clinton were at Fort Montgomery when declarant was in the mountains, General Arnold & Col Malcom were in command at West Point whilst declarant was there in the service.

Declarant never received any discharge in writing from the service. Declarant is known to Henry Haight of Philipstown, who resides in his neighborhood, also with David Knapp Esquire a justice of the peace living in the same neighborhood both of whom he believes can testify as to his character for veracity & good behavior & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. (Signed) Timothy Wood

Sworn & subscribed the day an year aforesaid J. Morehouse Clerk of Court.

Letter in folder dated October 29, 1931, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter of October 8, 1931, requesting information in regard to Timothy Wood, a soldier of the Revolution.

The data furnished herein are obtained from papers on file in pension claim, S.23495, based upon the service of Timothy Wood during the Revolution.

He was born in 1759 at Cornwall, New York.

While living there he enlisted in the fall of 1776, and served until late in 1780 or early in 1781, at various times amounting to eighteen months in all, as private with the New York troops under Captains VanDuzer, Cornwall Sands, Marvin, Pierson, Badge, and Daniel Delavan, and Colonel Woodhull. He was in the capture of Fort Montgomery.

He was allowed pension on his application executed October 15, 1832, at which time he was living in Philipstown, Putnam County, New York, where he had lived since the Revolution.

In 1832, John Wood stated that he was the brother of Timothy, Isaac Wood, uncle of the soldier, was living in Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1779. There are no further data relative to the soldier's family found in the papers of this pension claim.