

Pension Application for Philip Bortel or Bortle or Bartel

R.1034 (Patty or Martha)

State of New York

Saratoga County SS.

On this 7th day of August in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Saratoga State of New York now sitting at the Court House in the Village of Ballston Spa, Philip Bortell, resident of the Town of Stillwater in this County of Saratoga State of New York, aged seventy five years, in November next, 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, and served as herein stated, that he resided at the time in Claverack in the County of Columbia State of New York, and enlisted in the month of March 1775 into Captain Huse Company of Infantry, John Bortell Lieutenant. Applicant does not now recollect but believes that Captain Huse Company belonged to the New York State Troops.

That applicant went immediately after his enlistment into the service, was sent to the city of New York in a Sloop, was stationed then in Kings Street until July following the day on which the British shipping came up the Hudson River the applicant with the company to which he belonged was then ordered to Albany and came up the river in a sloop.

At Albany they were under the command of Cololonel [sic] Livingston. They remained in barracks at Albany until late in the Fall or winter; applicant was sick several months, in the winter applicants Father came to Albany and took him home on account of his sickness. Applicant remained sick until after his term of service expired. After the expiration of his term Cololonel Livingston gave applicant a written discharge which was lost many years ago.

This term of services was about nine months. That in the summer of 1776 applicant volunteered to go to Nine Partners in Dutchess County to take the Tories. Marched from Clavarack to Nine Partners, there took up about eight Tories, being about the same number which belonged to the company, marched the Tories to Exeter, New Hampshire was out on this expedition, about two months were under the command of Cololonel Van Rensselaer and Captain Miller. Received no written discharge.

In May or June 1777 the applicant still residing at Claverack, the militia of that part of the country were called upon to go into the service, one third at a time; each class were to be relieved at the end of three months; this applicant was called out the first three months, and was continued in the service until a month or two before Burgoyne was taken, and then the whole militia were called out so that the applicant was not relieved until after the surrender of Burgoyne which in Oct. 1777, during this term of service this applicant served as a fifer, his term of service was about five months.

The applicant was in Captain Peter Bortell's Company, Horton was his Lieutenant when applicant was first called out at this time he was marched to Fort Ann in Washington County New York. The American Army lay at Fort Ann Burgoyne was coming down, and the Americans retreated to Kingsbury from thence to Fort Edward then to Fort Miller and so from post to post to VanSchaicks Island opposite Lansingburgh nine miles above Albany remained on the Island about one month, the Americans were reinforced and they then moved to Stillwater at Bemus Heights and remained there entrenching themselves until the Battle and surrender of Burgoyne after the surrender of Burgoyne, applicant was discharged but received no written discharge.

Generals Gates & Putnam commanded in the summer of 1778 the applicant was called out with the other militia about Claverack in Captain Millers Company of Infantry Lieutenant Ten Broeck were sent to the west in pursuit of Captain Brant & Butler Indian Chiefs and the Tories who were then devastating the county about Schoharie with fire and sword.

They had a skirmish with the Indians and Tories at Foxes pursued the Indians as far as Lake Sege about thirty miles beyond Fort Herkimer; returned to Fort Herkimer from thence home. This term of service was about two months. The applicant was called in the militia and stationed at Johnstown Montgomery County State of New York in defending the Fort about three months.

The applicant was also at Cherry Valley at the time of the Battle was there, and was then in the service two months the precise time and the particulars of the tow last terms of service the applicant cannot now recollect.

This applicant has no written evidence of his service within the knowledge of the applicant other than that of John VanHusom whose affidavit is hereunto annexed.

That there is no clergyman residing in the vicinity of applicant who knows anything of his services, whose attendance in court can be proved.

The applicant resided in Claverack three or four years after the Revolution & then removed to the Town of Half Moon, Saratoga County and lived there until about a year since when he removed into Stillwater about half a mile from his former residence in Half Moon.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

To the Interrogatories put by the court, the applicant answers as follows.

1st That he was born in Livingston Mannor [sic] then Albany County now Columbia in the year 1758.

2d That he has a record of his age at home in his Bible.

3d That the place of his residence at the several times when called into the service is correctly stated in the foregoing declaration.

4th That the manner in which he was called into the service is also correctly stated in the foregoing declaration.

5th That he does not recollect any other regiments than those which he served in and the officers now recollected by him are before stated.

6th That he never received but one written discharge and that is lost.

7th That he is known to Seynot Bloodgood, William Versiam, John Valentine, and George Palmer who can testify to his character for truth and veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. (Signed) Philip Bortel

Sworn & subscribed in open court the 27th day of August 1833. A. Goodrich Clerk.