

Pension Application for John Brink

W.15759 (Widow: Diana)

State of New York

Ontario County SS.

On this 23rd day of May one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine, personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County, said Court being a Court of record in said County and now in session—Mrs. Dianna Brink a resident of the town of Phelps in the county of Ontario, aged seventy eight years, who first being duly sworn according to Law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the Act of Congress passed July the 4th 1836, entitled, “an Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows or orphans where their husbands and fathers have died of wounds received in the Military Service of United States in certain cases, and for other purposes”—

That she is the widow of John Brink (whose service is proved by Henry VanEtten and others, and their affidavits of such service is herewith transmitted) who was a private in the Revolutionary War and served in a company commanded at different times by captains Jones, Moses Cortright, and Lieut. Vantyle in the regiment commanded by Col. Thurson, Major John Decker and others.

She does not recollect said regiment was called the Goshen and Minisink Regiment tfo the New York State Militia, that her husband the said John Brink lived at the time he entered the service above mentioned in Minisink in the County of Orange in the State of New York, that in or about the month of June 1777 the said John Brink was draughted into and went out in the aforesaid Company under the command of Capt. Moses Cortright and marched on to the North River in the State of New York at some point she thinks New Windsor or Newburgh and was on duty as a soldier about 20 or 30 days. Was [was] discharged and returned home to Minisink and soon after he was ordered out as well as the whole company to which he belonged and marched under the command of Capt Moses Cortright in the Regiment commanded by Col. Thurston aforesaid and Major Decker onto the North River soon after the Storming of Fort Montgomery from some point on said River he marched in said Regiment up the river towards Kingston on said River but before arriving there, news came that the British had burnt that place and retired. He was then discharged and marched back to Minisink under Major Decker in said Regiment – said Major Decker then had orders to keep that part of said Regiment belonging to Minisink aforesaid upon the Frontiers as it was then called and in the neighbourhood of the Delaware and Neversink Rivers in said County of Orange to watch the movements of the Indians who began to commit depredations on said rivers—

That in the spring of the year 1778, her husband John Brink together with a part or all of the company to which he belonged under the command of Lieut. VanTyle was stationed at Caprenter’s Point and other points on the Delaware River and also upon the Neversink River to guard the Indians who then infested that part of the country. Said Regiment was then commanded (or the Minisink part of said Regiment) by Major Decker, Col. Thurston, them being on the North River with the rest of said Regiment—was the greatest part of that year viz (1778) under arms, stationed at points on said Delaware River or marching against the Indians and Torys. Who where [were] continually hurrassing [harassing] & plundering the inhabitants burning their houses, stealing their cattle and otherwise destroying their property at one time said brink (and at that time her husband) was in a skirmish with the Indians & Torys at what was called VanAuken’s Picket Fort on the Delaware River—That in Spring of the year (1779) her husband the said John Brink was called out as well as the whole company and commanded by Lieut Vantyle and Major Decker and marched against the Indians who made made [sic] their appearance in large numbers upon the Delaware and Neversink Rivers, that he husband aforesaid was in the action at Beaver Brook (as it was called) on the 21st day of July 1779—that her served on that day under Col. Thurston, Major Decker, Wood & others. That her husband was after that battle during the remainder of that year, stationed at different points or fighting small parties of Indians and Tory’s

also during the year 1780 her husband was the greatest part of the year in actual duty as a soldier in the remnant of the company before mentioned—and in fact until the close of the War her husband was continually engaged in fighting and driving the Indians and Tory's or guarding the frontiers inhabitants—their property & from depredation by the Indians, that she has made enquiries if any of the officers under whom her husband served is living and can find none, and that she has no documentary evidence in proof of her claim and that no other evidence that she at present able to find except the affidavits herewith transmitted.

She further declares positively that she was married to the said John Brink on the seventeenth day of February seventeen hundred and seventy eight by Solomon Cuykendall a Justice of the Peace Legally authorized to perform marriage ceremony.

That her husband the aforesaid John Brink died at Phelps in the County of Ontario and State of New York on the seventh day of February eighteen hundred and twenty one. That the whole time of the service of her husband in said war was about four years.

That she was married to him previous to the last period of his service viz at the time above stated. That she is the widow of the said Brink and has remained his widow ever since the death of her husband the said John Brink. (Signed with her mark) Dianna Brink

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before, John L. Upham, Judge of Ontario County Courts.