

Pension Application for John Bush

W.20822 (Widow: Jane) Married July 14, 1786 in the Town of Stillwater. Maiden name Jane Vosburgh, resident of Newton in Half Moon. John died December 17, 1843.

State of Vermont

Grand Isle County SS.

On this 4th day of May AD 18733, personally appeared before me, John M. Sowles a Judge of the County Court a Court of record within & for said County of Grand Isle, John Bush a resident of Alburg County and State af'd aged Seventy three years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath af'd make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th AD 1832.

That I entered the service of the United States under the following officers and served as herein stated. I first served six months I think in the year 1780, but it may be in the year 1781 at Fort Edward on the Hudson River in the State of New York & part of the time at Palmer Town a place so called there about 18 or 20 miles west of Fort Edward under the command of Capt. John Harris & my Major's name was John McKinster & while there was employed in building a block house after my time was out I rec'd my discharge & went home this was the first of winter the next spring I entered the service again as a substitute for a man who was drafted for nine months his name I do not recollect I being under age my father made the bargain for me and sent me off I served the first part of my time at Fort Edward & Palmer Town under the same officers (to wit) Capt Harris & Major McKinster I was then placed under the command of Capt. Isaac Bogot Major Hughes, & Col. Harper of Schenectady & started with about five hundred men for Fort Stanwix and the Mohawk River in the State of New York [?] in our passage conveyed a number of Batteaux loaded with provision & stores for Fort Stanwix the distance I think is upwards of one hundred miles it may be 150 miles in going we marched through Schenectady Schoharrie passed Fort Hunter, Fort Fox to Caghnewaga [Caughnawaga] then to Fort Herkimer then to a small picket fort called Fort Schuyler & then to Fort Stanwix on our passage we had a skirmish with the Indians who were preparing to ambush us & we routed them & killed & wounded seven of them we had no other engagement with them on our passage when we arrived at Fort Stanwix it was commanded I think by Col. Gansevort [Gansevoort] whose Regt we relieved while we were there we were employed keeping guard & strengthening the Fort Setting Pickets & digging [digging]what we called honey pots which were lage [large] holes in the ground about the size of a [?] with a wooden bottom drawn full of long sharp spikes & then the top slightly [?] over. I staid there till late in the fall or beginning of winter we were there removed back to Schenectady where we staid about [blot] discharged & I went home.

The next Spring my father made a bargain for me to take another mans place whose name I do not recollect we were stationed at [blot] six months under the command of Major now Col. John McKinster my captain's name was Silas Grey after my six months was out I volunteered for three months longer under the same officers I recollect the names of some of the officers of the regular troops one who I think was a Capt by the name of King & another by the name of Shadrack after I served my time out I was discharged & went home I received written discharges at the termination of each period of my service & also a land certificate to draw land but I being under age my Father sold them I therefore have no documentary evidence by which to substantiate my claim nor do I know of any person now living whose testimony I can procure to testify to my services except esqr Moses Parr who if living is same some where I believe in the western part of the State of New York.

I herby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State or territory.

I was born in a place then called Rensselaerwick in the State of New York in the year 1760 I have no record of my age when I was first called into service I lived in a place then called Cook's Bush in the State of New York after the war I moved to New Town or Half Moon & now called Waterford in the State of New York from there I moved to a place called Caldwell's Manor in the Province of Lower Canada

from there to Alburg County of Grand Isle and State of Vermont where I now live I went into the service every time as a substitute once for a man by the name of Recompence Smith the others names I do not recollect as my Father made the several bargains for me I being under age I Rec'd my regular discharges but who signed them I do not remember as my father sold them together with my land certificate imediately [immediately] after the war.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year afs'd before me, John M. Soles, Judge of G.I.C.C.

Letter in folder dated May 3, 1927, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim W.20822, it appears that John Bush was born in 1760 in Rensselaerwick, New York.

While residing at Cooks Bush, New York, he served as a private in the New York Troops, as follows—

In 1780, six months in Captain Joseph Harrison's Company, under Major John McKinstry; from the spring of 1781, nine months in Captains Joseph Harrison's Company, under Major John McKinstry; from the spring of 1781, nine months in Captains Joseph Harrison's, Colonel John Harper's Regiment, and had a skirmish with the Indians; from the spring of 1782, nine months in Captain Silas Gray's Company, Colonel John McKinstry's and Marinus Willett's Regiment.

He was allowed pension on his application executed May 4, 1833, while a resident of Alburg, Grand Isle County, Vermont. He died December 17, 1843.

Soldier married July 13, 1786 in Stillwater, New York, Jane Vosburgh, she was born in Newtown, HalfMoon District, New York. he was allowed pension on her application executed March 11, 1844, while a resident of Caldwell Manor, Canada, aged seven[ty]-seven years.

Their children—John, Peter, Gilbert, Elener, Abram, Daniel, Poly, Nancy, Hester, Semer.

Letter in folder dated January 26, 1916, written in reply to an inquiry.

In addition to the military history of John Bush, claim W. File No., 20822, Rev. War, you are furnished the following family data from the papers on file.

Children.

John born March 18, 1787.

Peter born November 25, 1789.

Gilbert born August 9, 1793.

Elener born August 9, 1795.

Abram born December 10, 1797.

Daniel born April 7, 1880.

Poly born February 7, 1803 (?)

Nancy born February 1, 1803 (?)

Hester born April 5, 1806.

Semer born February 8, 1808.

Note on the page: "These dates are so mixed up that I would not use them again, just send names of children."