

Pension Application for Abraham Dean

R.2811 (Widow: Zilphia) Married 1780 or 1781. Abraham died about 1835.

State of New York

Allegany County SS.

On this 30th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before John Greffen, Asa S. Allen, & Josiah Utter, Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the said County of Allegany and State of New York now sitting Abraham Dean resident of the Town of Haight in the county & state aforesaid aged eighty 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 7th 1832.

That he was born in the town of Collobarrack in Westchester County and State of New York in the year 1752, has no record of his age.

In June '77 being then a resident with his father in the Town of NewPaltz County of Ulster and State of New York he volunteered in the Militia to drive back the Indians and Tories who had committed some depredation sand killed Mr. Socks and his family at Warsink—as Col. Cortland's Regiment was leaving the frontiers at that time he staid at Warsink 3 or 4 weeks till he was relieved by the 9 months troops.

Capt. Schoonwalker of Wallakill [sic] was also there and quartered at Daniel Hollenbecks.

He was under the command of Lietutenant Nathaniel Potter of New Paltz and quartered at a Mr. Kittles, William Dennison of New Paltz was his ensign. 1st time 1777—served 3 or 4 weeks.

About the first of January '78 volunteered in the militia under Capt Peleg Ransom of New Paltz for the purpose of guarding the lines between the British in New Jersey and the country—mustered at New Paltz and marched down the North River through Newburgh to Clarkstown in the Jerseys quartered there about two weeks then marched to Ramapo staid 7 or 8 days then march down towards a second river and in 8 or 10 days was discharged by his captain.

Hollenbeck of Rosendoll—kill was colonel, Hugh Coli[?] of New Paltz was his Lieut, gone from home more than one month. Wm Dennison was Ensign—Benjamin Hulit of New Paltz was orderly sergeant. 2nd tour 1778—1 month.

Succeeded in getting the cattle after having a short skirmish with the British regulars. Was one from home 10 or 12 days. After the cattle were secured his company made an attack from the land at Blue Point upon the British shipping in the North River and again upon one of their sloops at Cromi-elbow?. General Putnam also fired cannon at the sloop from the other side of the river at the same time—his since heard the British lost several men in the action. 3d Tour 1778—10 or 12 days.

In the month of January or February '79 he again volunteered in the Militia under Captain Charles Broadhead of the same county (Ulster) for the purpose of gualling [jailing?] the tories who were organizing into companies in Rhinebeck & Livingston Manor—Firt Quartered at Houts (John) Steenbarracks in Rhinebeck, then at Doctor Kiteman's and from there marched to Livingston's manor, then went down

to Dover where he was discharged by his captain. Was gone from home about 5 weeks, Chamberlain was his Lieutenant. 4th tour 1779—five weeks.

In July same year ('79) he volunteered in the militia at New Paltz under Captain John Hasbrook of Marbletown for one month to range along the frontiers of Ulster County and watch the motion of the Indians and Tories—Mustered at Shindaikin and quartered at the house of William Brown, went by turns two at a time into the back woods to spy out the Indians and scour the country of Tories &c.

Was discharged at Shindaikin by Colonel John Cantine of Marbletown after he had served one month. 5th tour 1779—1 month.

Nathaniel Potter of New Paltz was his Lieutenant—Ensign William Ailsworth's company took the place of his company.

In the fall of the same year ('79) he went out on an alarm for the purpose of destroying a company of Tories raised in Shangum by the Houts (John) Rose. Pursued and routed them near Smith's Cave in Orange County. Was gone from home this time probably 6 or 8 days, Ltue N. Potter commanded the expedition. 6th tour 1779—6 or 8 days.

In the fore part of the summer of '81 he enlisted with his horse at New Paltz for five months as a mounted ranger or "Indian Spy" under Col. John Cantine—Was ordered by him to ranger on the frontiers of Ulster County near Newtown and Warsink.—

First quartered at Ephraim Chambers' in Newtown under the immediate command of Sergeant Chrisporder Shantez till after the Indians and Tories burned Napennaugh and a part of Warsick, then went to Napennaught and was under Capt. John Pearsey a 9 months man—quartered at Billy DeWitts and was there discharged at the expiration of his 5 months service. During a part of this five months service he was employed in carrying letters and papers between Colonel Albert Spaulding who was also a ranger or Indians spy in Hurley & Governor George Clinton in Dutchess [Dutchess] County—Was in two battles during this tour with the Indians and Tories, one at Napennaugh and the other at Warsink. 7th tour 1781—5 months.

Jacobus Chambers was his companion and pilot most of the time when he acted as a ranger lived at New Paltz during the whole of the revolution.

For his services in the militia he don't recollect of receiving any pay, but for the last tour of 5 months service with the mounted rangers he drew pay and also land near Seneca Lake in N. York State and at that time his name was found on the list of rangers in New York—Has always lived in this state—thinks he never had but one written discharge which was long since destroyed.

He knows of no documentary evidence unless his name can be found on the list of rangers or Indian Spies nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure to prove he served in the war of the revolution.

He has however heard very lately that Judge Silas Boucker of Cayuga County N. York is still living is that be so he can testify to the 5 months service as he was also a ranger with him—Boucker's Father was taken and killed by the Indians.

The whole time he was in the service of the revolution was probably about 10 months but surely not less than nine months.

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. (Signed) [?] Abram Dean.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. JW Sherman Clk.