

Pension Application for John DeGraf, DeGraaf, DeGraff

S.15090

State of New York

County of Montgomery SS.

On this fourteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty tow personally appeared in Open Court before the Judges of the Court of common Pleas of the County of Montgomery in the State of New York aforesaid now sitting John DeGraff a resident of the Town of Johnstown of the County of Montgomery aforesaid aged seventy eight years and who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born within a mile and a half of the City of Schenectady in the State of New York in the then County of Albany where the place is now called Glenville on the nineteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty four the Record of his age is kept in the Records of the Prot. Ref. Dutch Church in the said City of Schenectady a transcript from said Records is hereto annexed as to the Baptism of this deponent and this deponent says he has ever since his birth until within about one year resided in the place now called the Town of Glenville near where he was born, for the last year he has resided in the Town of Johnstown in the County of Montgomery and State of New York.

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

That in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy five he aws enrolled in a company of Militia of the State of New York, commanded by Captain John Van Patten Lieutenant Tunis Swart in the Regiment whereof Abraham Wemple was Colonel, and Christopher Yates Lieutenant-Colonel and Abraham Swits Major.

That in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six in July he this deponent with the company to which he belonged was called out by draft to go to Fort Edward and continued there doing military duty as a private soldier for the term of one month on guard and fatigue at the expiration of said term he with the Company to which he belonged returned home by order of the Commander in Chief he had no written discharge.

And that in the same year 1776 he went with the said company of John VanPatten (he thinks the Regiment at this and the preceding period also went out) to Fort Ann in the month of October that he this deponent continued there doing duty as a military private soldier on guard and on fatigue one month he was called out by the Colonel on a draft at the expiration of which time he was ordered to return home he had no written discharge the Regiment was Commanded by Colonel Wemple.

And that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven he was marched with the company to which he belonged biz John VanPatten's to Beemis Heights he thinks it was on a draft that he was called out this time. This deponent with the company to which he belonged was marched to said Beemis Heights in the aforesaid Regiment to intercept the March of General Burgoine he was

there one month including the time he was on his march thither left home in September and returned in October after the Surrender of Burgoine, was on guard when the Battle of the taking of Burgoine was fought he had no written discharge was Honorably discharged.

And this deponent further says that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine this deponent was called out with the company of said John VanPatten on a draft and was marched to Stone Arabia at Fort Paris John Mynderse had the command of the Fort. Gellis A. Fonda was Major at the Fort. This deponent together with the said company continued doing duty as a private militia soldier at the said Company continued doing duty as a private militia soldier at the said Fort including the time spent in marching there one month and a half at the expiration whereof this deponent with the said company returned home having been discharged he had no written discharge this was in the fall of the year 1779.

And this deponent further says that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven he was drafted to go to West Point in the Spring of the year the company to which this deponent belonged was mustered at Schenectady and was commanded by Gellis A.Fonda and one Hermance was Lieutenant of the company does not recollect who commanded West Point at this time. The company as marched to West Point and continued there, the term of three months for which he was drafted doing duty as a militia soldier on guard and fatigue and faithfully served his time out at the expiration whereof he was discharged he had no written discharge.

And this deponent further says that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine this deponent was called out with said company of John VanPatten to go on a draft to Schoharie and marched from the said place now called Glenville to a place called the Middle Fort in Schoharie and thence to Vrooman's land and continued there doing duty at said last mentioned place as a private soldier one month and a half on guard and on fatigue. Walter Vrooman had the command of the company one month of this time Major Gellis A. Fonda commanded the Fort at the expiration of said term of one month and a half the company returned home this deponent was then discharged from actual duty he had no written discharge he was discharged in the month of October 1779.

And in the month of May A.D. 1779. This deponent was marched with a part of said company to Sacandaga to erect a Block House and continued there eight days only.

And this deponent further says that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty the company of said John VanPatten to which this deponent belonged was ordered to be equipped constantly ready for military duty and that the said company were in the month of May in the last mentioned year enrolled and continued doing duty until December of the same year as Militia men, that the company was stationed in said place now called Glenville and was called out on Scouts and to go in pursuit of Indians and Tories at different times during the whole time and this deponent with the said company was under arms there the whole time from May till December. The company consisted of about forty men and at a place

called Tinkers Hill erected a Picket fort that the company went out by turns of three four or five at a time to hunt for Tories they were thus employed to prevent the incursions of the enemy they had no skirmishes with the enemy this deponent did duty faithfully during the whole time as private in said company in manner aforesaid.

And this deponent further says that in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty one this deponent was called out with the said company of John VanPatten on an alarm and marched to Pallatine [sic] and continued out this time doing duty as a military soldier two weeks the regiment was commanded by Colonel Willet this was in the month of October he was then dismissed he had no discharge in writing.

And this deponent farther said that in the year of our lord one thousand and seven hundred and seventy six this deponent was called out by order of said Captain VanPatten and obedience to an order of said Colonels Wemple to go to Johnstown in the County of Montgomery to take Sir John Johnson and his party and that this deponent did go in said company. That Teunis Swart was Lieutenant & Daniel Toll Ensign that this deponent started the tenth day of January 1776 and was out ten days and was regularly discharged and had no written discharge.

And this deponent farther saith that in the month of October or beginning of November in the year of our lord 1776 he was again called out by the last mentioned Colonel & Captain and marched from Glenville aforesaid to Switzer Hill in Johnstown aforesaid and was out as a private and continued three weeks in said service & was then honorably discharged but no written document thereof given to him.

Your applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) John DeGraf

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the 14th Decr 1832. Geor. D. Ferguson, clerk