

Pension Application for David Demaray (Demoray, Demoree)

R.2,859

Declaration: In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

State of New York

Orleans County SS.

Personally appeared in open court, the Honourable the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County now sitting David Demaray aged seventy three years, a resident of the Town of Shelby in said County of Orleans and State of New York, 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service in the month of April 1778 on the 25th of April 1778. That he volunteered to service his County for the period of one month and a half of a month. That he joined a company of troops under the command of Captain Henry Vanderhoof (1) of old Albany County in the State of New York (now Rensselaer County), or in that part now in Rensselaer Co.

That he joined said company in Pittstown in said County of Albany and was ordered to march up to StillWater in said state where this applicant and his fellow soldiers were encamped for a few days to recruit and reconnoiter. It was reported that the hostile Indians were committing murders and depredations on the Frontier settlements and this applicant with the corps to which he was attached were ordered to their relief. That he marched from thence to Fort Edward and from thence to White Hall on Lake Champlain at that time called Skeensborough, where he was encamped and took his turn in standing sentry days and nights. That the British Indians were as he was informed afterwards apprised of his approach and pursuit of them and they fled. The Frontier inhabitants had principally left their habitations for places of Safety. That this applicant at the expiration of his tour of one month and one half of month was ordered home to Pittstown this period of service as a volunteer commenced on the 25th of April and ended 12 of June 1778, making out a tour of one month and one half of a month as a soldier of the Albany County Militia.

And the said applicant again volunteered into the service. That he joined a detachment of drafted militia of said Albany Co., commanded by Capt. Vanderhoof on the 20 of June and served as a volunteer soldier until the 21 of September 1778. That he was marched from Pittstown aforesaid to Fort Edward on the Hudson River—another report was brought by Express for the militia to turn out and drive off the enemy. The Lieutenant of the company was Vandercook (2). Nathan Ford was the Ensign. The Drummer's name was John Ford son of the Esign [Ensign]. This applicant's mess soldiers were John Ford, Michael Francisco, Wm. Golden, and Conrad Bush. That the said applicant with his companions in arms were ordered on to Fort Edward and there stationed to watch and protect the people from massacre. That at said Fort he performed duty as a sentry and other garrison duties—that he served in this tour a part of June, all July, August and part of September 1778, making a term of three months.

That he was marched back to Albany Co. aforesaid and verbally discharged from the service by his commanding officer, Capt. Vanderhoof.

And again the said applicant turned out as volunteer and joined a body of militia under the Command of Lieut. Vandercook and Ensign Ford for a tour of two months. That he commenced this 3rd tour on the 4th October 1778 and served as a volunteer soldier during the remainder of October, all November and until the 6th of December following 1778.

That he was ordered to repair to Fort Ann, & Fort Edward where he performed Garrison duty for two months as above and was then discharged from the service by the officer who commanded at Fort Edward (not recollected) making a tour of two months service as a volunteer in the Malitia [militia] from Albany Co. NY.

And this applicant afterwards volunteered to serve in a Regiment of Albany Col. Militia that he fell in and joined a company of Militia under the command of Captain Vanderhoof in an expedition against the Indians. That this term of duty began on the 3rd of May 1779 and ended on the 4th of June following 1779 making a period of one months duty. That he was ordered on an expedition against the Indians who were collecting as it was reported at Crown Point. That the forces sent against them were some hundreds strong and were principally under the command of General George Clinton then Governor of the State of New York. It was called the Governor's alarm. That he was ordered on to Fort George at the south part of Lake George where this applicant with a detachment embarked in boats for Crown Point—first stopping at the garrison at Ticonderoga and from thence he went over to Crown Point. That the enemy had left Crown Point about three hours as he was informed before this applicant arrived there and thus the expedition failed. That this applicant was then ordered back on home where he was verbally released from his military engagement of one month as above by his commanding officer.

And this applicant was out again to serve his country as a volunteer against the savage foes. That he joined a corps of drafted men of his regiment under the command of Peter Yates. That he commenced this tour as

near as his memory served on the 19th of June 1779 and served for two months and one half a month. Served from 19th June to 4th of September 1779.

That this applicant was marched from Albany Co. on to the Forts along the Hudson River above Saratoga and performed duty as occasion required at said Forts as a guard.

That he was at the end of his tour discharged from the service verbally. That he was so often called out on sudden alarms that he cannot tell now how much longer he did serve than the periods above stated. But he is sure of having served in the ensuing year 1780. 3 three months of different tours against the enemy making in all his revolutionary services a full period of thirteen months. The Major of the regiment in which this applicant served was Major VanVechten (3) who was killed by the Indians nearly at the close of the Revolutionary War. The three months service in 1780 was served during Jun, July & August under Capt. Vandercook of the Albany Co. Militia under Col. Yates at Albany. And the said applicant further says that no living witness can be procured by whom he can prove the above services of thirteen months or any part thereof and that he was not engaged at any time during his revolutionary services in any civil employment—but was faithfully and cheerfully devoted to the Army. (Signed with his mark) David Demaray.(4)

Sworn before me in open court June 15th 1835.

A.B. Mills Clerk of Orleans County

Interrogatories

1st When and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in the year 1762 on the 29th of April of said year.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have a record of my age recorded in my family Bible at home from which I know my age to be seventy three years & rising—

3rd Where were you living when you were called into the service. Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. When I was called into the service I lived in Pittstown in Old Albany Co. now it is in Rensselaer Co. NY. and since the Revolutionary War I have lived in the County of Rensselaer in the said State of N. York and in the County of Schenectady in said State and in the County of Orleans in the state of New York where I now live and have lived for the space of twenty four years.

4th How were you called into the service & were you drafted? Did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

Answ. I was not drafted neither was I a substitute but I volunteered to service the United States for the periods above mentioned of thirteen months.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the Troops when you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services.

Ans. General George Clinton (5), Capt. Vanderhoof, Ensign Ford, Lieut. Vandercook, Genl Schuyler (6), Major Van Vechten, Col. Peter Yates.

6th Did you ever receive a written discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

Answer. I never did receive a written discharge from the services above specified, but I was always verbally discharged by my commanding officer.

7th Did you ever receive a commission?

Answ. I never did receive a commission but served as a private soldier for the different tour of Thirteen Months. (7)

8th State the names of persons in your present neighborhood to whom you are a known and who can testify as to your character for truth and veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Ansr. I will name the following: viz, David Wetherwax, Jacob Wetherwax, Henry Wetherwax, Col. Ellicott, S.A.G.B. Grant, Samuel Bidleman, L. J. Griswold.

End Notes—R.2859—David Demaray

1. Henry Vanderhoof, Captain of the First Company in Colonel John Knickerbocker's Fourteenth Regiment of Albany County Militia. On June 22, 1778, Peter Yates was commissioned Colonel and John VanRensselaer was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel both in the Fourteenth Regiment.
2. On June 22, 1778 the following were commissioned officers in Captain Vanderhoof's Company. Nathaniel Ford (Fort) as the First Lieutenant, Jacob Hallenbeck as the Second Lieutenant and Simon VanderCreek as the Ensign.
3. Major Dirck VanVeghten of the Fourteenth Albany was killed on August 8, 1777.

4. On April 6, 1855 another application was made on David's behalf at which time he was ninety three years of age. It was also stated his father actually spelled the name Demarest and he (David) answered to both names.
5. Governor of New York and General George Clinton.
6. Major General Philip Schuyler of the Continental Army.
7. It also appears that David had served at least one tour under Captain James Hadlock in the Fourteenth Albany.