

Pension Application for Elias Doty or Doughty

R.3030

State of New York

Rensselaer County SS.

On this 7th day of September 1837 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the City Court of the city of Troy in the County aforesaid now sitting Elias Doty of Nassau in said County of Rensselaer aged seventy seven years who first being 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 officer and served as herein stated.

In 1777 about the first of June he volunteered on an alarm (made from the anticipation of the British Troops making a descent from New York) under Captain Reuben Spencer and Lieutenant Diddemus Kinney the Ensign was a stranger and not recollected in Colonel Elias VanDenSchotens Regiment marched through Fishkill to Peekskill and remained there a short time thence to a place called Stephentown now Somers and remained there about three weeks and then returned to Peekskill and remained till dismissed serving in all two months.

In the same year 1777 about the twentieth of September he volunteered on an alarm when the British fleet under General Vaughn sailed up the North River and burned Kingston under the same Colonel and Captain Lieutenant Service and Ensign VanFleet marched to Red Hook was there when Kingston was burned saw the smoke and served at and near Red Hook about one month then marched to Albany Schenectady Fort Hunter and Fort Schuyler was there about one week then returned by Johnstown Ballston Schenectady and Albany when he was dismissed about the 20th of November serving two months.

In 1780 about the first of May he volunteered in a company of Rangers commanded by Captain Joshua Ward Lieutenant James VanBenSuschoten and Ensign Boughton in the same Colonel VanBenschoten's Regiment served in Poughkeepsie, Fishkill, Smago, Hackensack in Dutchess County and Stephentown Peekskill and White Plains and various other places in WestChester County guarding the lines apprehending Tories, carry thence before committees &c and was dismissed at Peekskill about the first of February 1781, serving nine months he was not in any battle through in several skirmishes during this tour.

When he left the service at the last mentioned tour he was out of health and did not recover for a number of months so as to be able to labor and a cough and difficulty in brathing has attended him sever since.

He would have made his declaration for a pension long ago but in 1831 he had a severe fit of sickness accompanied by an inflammation in the head which so impaired by a inflation in the head which so impaired his memory that for several years he could not recollect with sufficient distinctness the fact in which his claim is founded but has been gradually improving till he feels confident that in his declaration now there is no [malinal?] error though cannot not be certain as to the Continental officers he may [have] seen in service of other troops with whom he may have served

as the 9 months tour he recollects that his company served much above and others being short does not undertake to say much about this.

Interrogatories Answered.

1. He was born in the town of Washington in the County of Dutchess and State of New York on the 13th day of May 1760.
2. He has no record of his age except that taken from his father's family Bible.
3. He lived in Clinton at a place called Hyde Park in Dutchess County aforesaid at all times when he went into the service and continued to reside at MiddleTown in Delaware County, Cairo in Green County, Amsterdam in Montgomery County Preston Hollow in Schoharie County and Charlton in Saratoga County and within the last year has resided at Nassau in Rensselaer County where he now resides all of which places are in the State of New York, in short he has no permanent residence but lives with his [?] who more or less of them reside in almost all the aforesaid places he being infirm and unable to work.
4. He went into the service at all times voluntarily.
5. From loss of memory as aforesaid cannot confidently state the names of Continental troops & officers who may have served at the same places with him.
6. He does not recollect receiving but one discharge and that was at the close of the second described tour which was with his pocket book on board a steam boat about a year ago.
7. Where he now resides his acquaintance is but small and of recent date except that formed from frequently visiting his children in that neighborhood having now there and till recently four residing in Nassau & Stephentown and one in New Lebanon an adjoining town though in Columbia County but if those with home he is thus acquainted he would refer to Morgan Harris, Jerard Root, William R. Sanford, & John H. Haynes in Nassau near to East Nassau Post office who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services in Dutchess County and Stephentown, White Plains, Peekskill.

There is no clergyman residing in his neighborhood with whom he has an acquaintance sufficient to enable him to make an affidavit of his acquaintance and a belief of his service and that Nathaniel M. Weeks residing in New Lebanon Columbia County but adjoining to Nassau the residence of this declarant is used as a traditionary witness because he was acquainted with him in Dutchess County who from being lived in the same town when Doty lived before he left there and can testify to the belief of that neighborhood as to his services, and character for veracity and that said Nathaniel M. Weeks and Morgan Harris who are here employed as traditionary witnesses reside so remote from Troy the site of the [?] Court of Record in the county of Rensselaer the difficulty and expense of procuring their personal appearance before the Court is more than he is able to accomplish and pay and consequently their affidavit is taken by a commissioner of the said County of Rensselaer.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.
(Signed) Elias Doty

Subscribed and sworn the e7th day of September 1837 in open court. George Wheeler Clerk of said Court.