

Pension Application for Lewis Duboys (DuBois, Duboys)

S.45340

BL. Wt.560_500 Col. Issued June 6, 1794, also recorded as above under B.L.Wt.2643.
No papers.

Lewis Duboys Colonel, New York line from July 1775 to 1780.

At a Court of Common Pleas held at the Court House in the Village of Poughkeepsie in and for the County of Dutchess in the State of New York on Monday the twenty-sixth day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty.

Present the Hon^l James E. Mott First Judge

Daniel C. Ver Planck

Abraham D. VanWyck

Thomas Sweet

Esquires Judges.

Dutchess County SS.

Be it remembered that on the 26th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty personally appeared in the Court of Common Pleas in open court the said Court being a Court of Record for the County of Dutchess in the State of New York Lewis DuBois aged about seventy six years resident in the town of Poughkeepsie in the said County of Dutchess who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary War as follows. In the month of July in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy five he entered the service as a captain in a Regiment commanded by James Clinton (1) and continued to serve therein as Captain until the month of November following when he was appointed a major (2) in the same Regiment and that he served as major as aforesaid until the month of May (3) thereafter that on the twenty-fifth day of June, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six he was appointed a Colonel under a resolution of Congress of that date with instruction to raise a regiment for three years or during the war that the said Regiment was raised and was commanded by this deponent and was called the fifth Regiment (4) of the New York line that this deponent continued to command the said Regiment until the army was reduced by resolution of Congress of the third of October one thousand seven hundred and eighty when the officers of this Regiment were disbanded (5) —And that his original declaration is dated according to the recollection and belief of this deponent the twenty eighth day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and that his pension certificate is No. 3022.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I haven't since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War—passed on the 18th day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any

property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed to wit—

Real Estate I have none.

Debts: I have none except a demand which I claim against the United States for services and advances during the Revolutionary War, which I have theretofore presented to the general government & which they refused to liquidate or admit—

Personal Property, necessary clothing and bedding excepted as follows.

One Small Tea Table	Two Small Candle Sticks
One Iron Pot	One Lamp
One Iron Spider (frying pan with legs.)	Six tea spoons
Six knives & forks	1 Candle Stand
Three spoons	1 Trunk
Twelve earthen plates	1 Skimmer
Three small earthen dishes	1 Bellows
Pepper Box & Salt seller	1 Razor
Six tea cups & saucers	2 Tumblers
Tea pot, milk pot & sugar cup	1 Testament
Six chairs two small jugs	1 Psalm Book
Two earthen pots, three bottles	1 umbrella
Two barrels, one axe	1 axe
One hoe, two earthen bowls	1 Hoe
Three wooden Dishes	One water pail
One small looking glass	

This deponent further saith that before the Revolutionary War he learned the trade of carpenter & worked at the trade some time and until he went into mercantile himself before the war; that since the said war this deponent has not pursued his said trade; and from his age and infirmity, I am now unable to work at the same—That the family of the deponent consists of the deponent, his wife aged about seventy three years who is infirm and bed ridden, and unable to assist herself and a grown daughter of deponents, aged about seventeen years who lives with deponent & does the domestic labour for the family. (Signed) Lewis DuBois

Sworn and Subscribed in open court this 26th day of June 1820. W. Henry Bulkey, Depy Clerk

Reply to a letter requesting information dated January 8, 1930

I advise you from papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.45340, it appears that Lewis Duboys or Dubois was commissioned Captain and entered the service in July, 1775, in Colonel James Clinton's New York Regiment; in November, 1776, was commissioned Colonel of the Fifth New York Regiment and continued to serve as Colonel until the Army was reduced by resolution of Congress of October 5, 1780.(6)

He stated that his Revolutionary War commissions were lost, having fallen into the hands of the enemy at the capture of Niagara during the War of 1812, but gave no details of that service.

He was allowed pension on his application executed March 28, 1818, while a resident of New York City.

In 1820, he resided at Poughkeepsie, New York, and stated that he was about seventy-six years of age and his wife, her name not given, was about seventy-three years of age. He also referred to a granddaughter, aged at that time about seventeen years but did not give her name and there are no further data as to family.

He died March 4, 1824. (7)

End Notes—S.45340—Lewis DuBois

1. Lewis was appointed Captain of the Fourth Company on June 28, 1775 in Colonel James Clinton's Third New York Continental Regiment.
2. Lewis was appointed major on November 25, 1775 while the Third New York was in Canada.
3. The American Troops in the spring of 1776 began a retreat from Canada and many were camped at Fort Ticonderoga. The New York Regiment enlistments had expired on December 31, 1775 but many re-enlisted like DuBois. In March several new New York Regiments were raised and James Clinton was appointed Colonel of the Second New York Continental Regiment and Rudolphus Ritzema was appointed Colonel of the Third New York. In the proceedings of the Provincial Congress on March 4th 1776 recorded in their minutes "*A List of Officers of the 4 Regiments raised by New York in 1775, now in Canada, as they rank, Febr 28th 1776*", DuBois is on the list as the third major in seniority. FROM: Documents Relating To The Colonial History of The State of New York, ed. Barthold Fernow, Vol XV, State Archives, Vol I, pp 76-78, Weed, Parsons and Company, Printers, 1887. DuBois was not appointed major in either regiment and when his time was up in May he returned home.
4. On pp 115-116 June 29th 1776 in the Proceedings of the Provincial Congress a letter from the "*Honble John Hancock Esqr. of the 26th Inst. Was read and filed and is in the words following to wit: I am there fore directed to inform you, that in Consequence of their being furnished with a list of the Officers, who had served in Canada, they have been enabled to appoint and in fact have enabled to appoint and in fact have only appointed, such as were originally recommended and appointed by the provincial Congress of your Colony, and have served faithfully both the last summer campaign and thor' the winter*". It should be noted that only an excerpt of the entire letter was used for this end note. Another excerpt of the same letter was written after Hancock's signature. "*To the Honble Convention New York (Lewis Dubois, Major in the Canada service was commissioned June 25, 1776 with instruction to raise a regiment for years or during the war.*" It should be also noted until this time most New York Continental Regiments were raised for not more than 1 year of service in 1775 and 1776.

5. Colonel DuBois is in error on this fact as he resigned on December 22, 1779 as Colonel of the Fifth New York. Jacobus S. Bruyn who was the lieutenant colonel of the regiment and was acting commander of said regiment until July 1, 1780. Marinus Willett who was serving as the Lieutenant Colonel of the Third New York Continental Regiment was appointed lieutenant colonel commandant in place of DuBois on July 1, 1780. Bryn on the same date transferred to the Third New York in place of Willett.
6. Lewis was actually appointed Colonel on July 1, 1780, for a three months regiment of New York State Levies. Colonel DuBois fought in the Battle of Klocksfield on October 19, 1780 in the afternoon under Brigadier General Robert VanRensselaer. Also DuBois had been appointed in 1775 as the second major of Colonel Jonathan Hasbrouck's Fourth Regiment of Ulster County Militia. as he was appointed captain in the Continental service on June 28, 1775 his majorship was vacant and it does not appear to have been filled. Colonel DuBois defended Fort Montgomery on October 6, 1777 under Generals James and George Clinton and put up a stubborn fight until overwhelmed by numbers and they were able to escape. Colonel DuBois with what was left of his regiment continued under General George Clinton's command. Colonel DuBois also was quartered in the Schoharie and Mohawk Valleys during the winter of 1778-1779. During that time they were employed in building a blockhouse in Cobleskill which was named Fort DuBois and one in Sacondaga which was called Castle Fisher on the muster rolls but on official records it was called the Sacondaga Blockhouse. Colonel DuBois and the Fifth New York were part of Brigadier General James Clinton's Army which joined Major General John Sullivan and his army and together they marched against the Iroquois Villages in Western New York. During that campaign only one major battle was fought. The Battle of Newtown was fought on August 29, 1779. Newtown is the present city of Elmira, N.Y.
7. On page 205 of the Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During The War of the Revolution April 1775, to December 1783, by Francis B. Heitman, reprint 1967, Genealogical Publishing Company gives DuBois' date of death as the 29th November 1802. This date is obviously wrong as the deposition was in 1820. On the same page, two other errors stand out in DuBois' biography. The first is noted that on 8 March 1776, Major of (Colonel John) Nicholson's New York Regiment (Additional Continental Regiment). Actually it was John Visscher in Nicholson's Regiment. Also Heitman states that DuBois was taken prisoner at Fort Montgomery, 6th October 1777. Colonel DuBois was not taken prisoner.