

Pension Application for John Lake

S.9924

State of New York

Dutchess County SS.

On this twenty fourth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County of Dutchess now sitting John Lake a resident of the Town of Pleasant Valley in the County of Dutchess and State of New York aforesaid aged seventy six years on the twenty sixth day of March last past 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States on or about the last of April or the first of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight as a substitute soldier for one Rowland Richerson in a company of the State Militia Soldiers under the command of Captain Joseph Reynolds that at the time of his so entering the army of the United States he resided in the then Precinct of Beekman in the county and state aforesaid and was marched from thence to West Point on the West side of the Hudson River and was there employed at laboring on the public fortifications until the expiration of his stipulated term of service which according to the best of his recollection was some five or six months.

That he again entered the said service in the spring of seventeen hundred and seventy nine, as a class substitute soldier in a company of State Militia then commanded by Captain Wood. That his residence was then the same as when he first entered the army and from thence he was marched with said Woods company to Fishkill on the East Side of the Hudson and from thence crossed the river into the county of orange and marched to the Minisink on the Delaware River crossing said river into the State of Pennsylvania and from thence marched to [Lepacton?] and from thence to Lackawaxan where they lay in temporary forts for a short time from which forts they were marched to Mamacating Hollow and from thence to a fort situate on the Lackawaxen river and from thence they were marched almost immediately to the Cayuga for Seneca Lake in pursuit of the Indians a few of whom they found and took a small number, the main body of them having crossed the Lake before their arrival there.

The object of the expedition appeared at the time to have been for the two regiments of which said Woods company were a part to proceed towards the said lakes and joined General Clinton's Army which was a division of General Sullivan's Army sent for the purpose of pursuing the Indians, but on their arrival at the Lake they found the whole body of men under the command of General Clinton had crossed over the Lake some time before their arrival whereupon they were immediately marched back by nearly the same route to Stony Point on the West Side of the Hudson and there remained [?] until late in the fall when they were marched to Poughkeepsie in said Dutchess County and then and there discharged after having been in service

about eight months, that the officers attached to said regiment were Major VanBenschoten and Colonel Dubois and the other officers he does not now recollect.

That he again entered the service in the spring of seventeen hundred and eighty as a class substitute soldier (so called) in Captain Woods company. That Major VanBenschoten and Colonel Bostwick were attached to the Regiment of which his company formed a part that they were rendezvous[ed] at Poughkeepsie aforesaid and conducted from thence to Albany in the State of New York by water and from thence were marched to [a] place called Stone Arabia commonly called Stone Robbie in said State where they were encamped until the British Army consisting of two regiments of white people and the remainder of Indians under the command of Sir John Butler and Brant came there and attacked the army. The result of the battle was unfavorable to the American Army and they were compelled to retire within the fort. During this engagement Colonel Brown was killed—after the close of the foregoing engagement the British Army retreated up the Mohawk River. The American Army were soon reinforced by the arrival of a body of Militia when pursuit of the retreating army was immediately made. They were followed for several days during which time some few Indians were made prisoners. The pursuit was overtaken as far as the Cayuga Lake when it was given up and the army returned back to stone Arabia commonly called Stone Robbie, where they attended the burial of Colonel Brown in the Horrors of war. They were then discharged after having completed their term of service and been on duty about five or six months—and after being so discharged entered no more the service of the United States as a soldier in the army.

That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. That he was born in the said county of Dutchess on the twenty sixth day of March one thousand seven hundred and fifty six. That there was a record of his age contained in his father's family Bible, but that at present he does not know where it is or what has become of it. That he has since the revolutionary war, and now does live in the Town of Pleasant Valley in the said County of Dutchess. That he does not know that he ever received a written discharge from the service, but thinks he was verbally discharge by the commanding officers at the expiration of each term of service.

That he is known in his neighborhood by Daniel J. Dean, Joshua Ward, Joshua Georg, Omen Ward, who can severally testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

That 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. (Signed with his mark) John Lake

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Henry Traver

Letter in folder dated June 30, 1924, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.9924, it appears that John Lake was born March 26, 1756 in Dutchess County, New York.

While residing at Beekman, Dutchess County, New York, he enlisted April or May 1778 and served five months as a private in Captain Joseph Reynolds' Company, Colonel Lee's New York Regiment.

He enlisted in the spring of 1779 and served eight months as a private in Captain Woods' Company, Colonel DuBois' New York Regiment.

He enlisted in the spring of 1780 and served five months as a private in Captain Woods' Company, Colonel Bostwick's New York Regiment and was in the battle of Stone Arabia.

He was allowed pension on his application executed September 24, 1832, while a resident of Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, New York.

There is no data on file as to his family.