

Pension Application for Anthony VanSurdam or VanSuydam

R.10892

State of New York

County of Rensselaer SS

On this 30th day of April personally appeared Anthony Van Surdam before me L. Chandler Ball a judge of the Court of Common Pleas, in and for the County of Rensselaer a resident of Hoosick in the County of Rensselaer and State of New York, aged eighty five years, 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 the 7th 1832.

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

That he entered the service as a volunteer about the year 1778 under Lieutenant Joseph Gifford & marched to a place called Palmertown near Saratoga Springs, encamped there and remained on duty two weeks at which time the company was relieved by another company and he came home.

This was a militia company commanded by Thomas Brown cannot recollect certainly whether he was there or not. That he was at that time a resident of Hoosick, State of New York. Their duty at this time was as a guard or [blot] to watch the movements in the county. This was all the summer season. Was out at [?] other times during the years 1778, '79, or 80. At Fort Edward and at Granville, also at Lake George on Scouting parties around Lake George, went to Crown Point, laid out in the woods. From Crown Point, went down the Lake discovered where the enemy had laid, and discovered their place of encampment. This [?] and found an old horse supposed to have been left by them. There was a number of boat loads of us. Was under the command of a general officer that they called Clinton, from there he returned to Fort Edward and remained there some time and then returned home to Hoosick aforesaid. After that went often to Fort Edward, served twice, don't recollect how many times guarding the place and country watching the country to see what movements might be made. Was there a number of days and weeks each time can't say how many precisely. At other times stood as guard at Cambridge and stopped enemy march that passed and the officers would then examine them to find out their business.

Some of the last times as ordered out to Ford Edward, also to Cambridge a number of times with provisions. We were obliged at Cambridge to find our [?]-was out to Lake George with a span of horses and wagons; carried boats form Lake George to Lake Edward, had Adam Yeomans horses & wagons, was out at this time about a week. He cannot recollect exactly from his advanced age and infirmity the exact number of times that he was out in the service, nor the names of the officers as they were strangers to him, nor the exact aggregate of those times would be over a fortnight each time and that he aggregate would amount to more than six months service and at this time had no private or other business except to served his country.

That he knows of no witnesses now living to his service except one Jonathan Chase and Joshua Hodges, and he is not certain as they are living as they reside some distance from him in Western Army.

That he was born in Salisbury in the state of Connecticut in 1756. Has a record in his family bible, lived in Hoosick when he first entered the service and has lived there ever since was not drafted but volunteered—never went as a substitute, never rec'd a discharge except a verbal one and has no documentary evidence of his service.

That John March also Samuel Sherwood can testify to his character for truth & veracity and that they believe in my having performed revolutionary service. The first is a [?] in the Presbyterian Church and the Second the Neighborhood Physician.

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, and that he has not made application before, not having witness consent and not understanding that the same entitled him to receive a pension. (Signed with his mark) Anthony Van Surdam

Page 8

Subscribed & sworn this 30 of April 1841 L. Chandler Ball, Judge of the Co. Courts

Letter in folder dated January 22, 1914, written in response to an inquiry.

In reply to your letter dated the 15th instant, you are advised that in the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim of Anthony Van Surdam, R. File No, 10,892, it is alleged that soldier was born at Salisbury, Connecticut, in 1756, and while a resident of Hoosick, Rensselaer County, New York, volunteered in the New York militia and served at various times in 1778, 1779, and 1780, on guard duty and on scouting parties.

His claim was rejected for want of specific proof of service as required by the Act of June 7, 1832, under which he applied for pension.

The Revolutionary War records of this Bureau fail to afford information in regard to any other Anthony or in regard to any other Anthony or in regard to any Tunis or Samuel VanSurdam, Sordan, Serdam, Suydam or any other spelling of the name.

A letter from a family member states that he was born Dec 18 1754 or 1756. He died Dec 1841.