

Pension Application for John Becker

W.16837 (Widow: Sarah) Married June 22, 1766. John died April 15, 1804.

State of New York

Rensselaer County SS.

On thirteenth day of July eighteen hundred and forty one, personally appeared before Andrew Follet Justice of the Peace for the town of Lansingburgh County aforesaid, John VanAntwerp of the town of Scaticook in the county and state aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law—testifies and says that he is well acquainted with Sarah Becker now applying for a pension and whose maiden name was Sarah VanHoesen. That she is the widow of John Becker decas'd [deceased] who served in the war of the Revolution, as a private in the New York Militia under different officers viz, Captain Walter Groesbeck, Degarmo, Hadlock, Brown, Wilsey, and Jacob Yates and others in Colonel Knickerbockers and Yates Regiments. But by lapse of time and loss of memory, cannot recollect all the different tours and length of time that I was out with the said John Becker. But can bring to mind from history some of them. I was out with the said Becker in the year 1777 to the north under Captain Walter Groesbeck in Colonel John Knickerbocker's Regiment and were laying at Lake George at the surrender of Ticonderoga on the fifth of July—and that then had orders to retreat and did retreat to Stillwater where we lay at the time Burgoyne crossed the Hudson River, which according to History was the 14th of September shortly after which we were permitted to return and take care of our families, on account of the Indians.

Further testifies that in 1776 in the summer myself the said Becker with others of the said Groesbeck's Company went out under Captain Garmo to Palmertown in Saratoga County to watch the Tories and was gone two weeks used a log house for a guard house. Again in the fall of the same year myself the said Becker with others went out under Captain Hadlock of Knickerbockers Regiment—again to Palmertown and built a Block House near the log House [part cut off] this time three weeks—

I further testifies that the said Sarah has remained the widow of the said John Becker decea'd ever since the death of the said Becker—We always went from the town of Scaticook then Albany now Rensselaer County. (Signed with his mark) John VanAntwerp

Subscribed, sworn the day and year above written before me. Andrew Follet Justices Peace.