

Pension Application for Jacob I. or Jacob J. Clute

W.16534 (Widow: Mary) Married on our about the 10th of March 1778. Jacob died 22d November 1835.

In the matter of the application for Jacob I. Clute for a pension.

Supplemental affidavit.

And the said Jacob J. Clute being further duly sworn doth depose and say, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below in the following grades: to wit.

As a private pursuant to a regular enlistment in a company of artificers commanded by Captain Jacob VanDusen in a regiment where of Major Hale or Hay was commandant. This deponent enlisted & served in said company at Ticonderoga & Skanesborough for the early part of the year 1777 until the month of August then next following after General Burgoyne had invested the fortress at Ticonderoga aforesaid, to wit for a term of at least four months and an half.

He served as a private in Captain Henry Ostrom's Company of Militia in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Francis Nicholas in the month of January 1776 with a detachment of soldiers under command of General Schuyler, at Johnstown on the occasion of Sir John Johnson's surrendering himself & his dependants prisoners of war for a term not less than fourteen days under the same officers he marched to and performed garrison duty with the American forces stationed the year last named, at Lake George, for a term not less than one month.

Under the same officers he engaged in expedition to Saratoga where he remained discharging garrison duty for a term of at least half a month – thence he was ordered up the Mohawk River to Schenectady where he performed garrison duty for a short time & then marched to Rensselaer's manor the place of his residence having been under arms since he left Saratoga as aforesaid for a term exceeding twelve days.

As a private in the year 1778, this deponent under the same officers served with the drafted militia at the middle and upper forts of Schoharie, performed garrison duty at those forts—for a term of one month as a substitute for his brother John, and for a term not less than eighty days on his own account.

Under the same officers as a private in said militia company he performed garrison duty at Fort Hunter for at least ten days.

As a private in said militia company and under the same officers he performed garrison duty at Forts Paris & Herkimer for a term exceeding fifteen days.

In the expedition against the enemy under Sir Johnson in the year 1780, as a private in said militia company this deponent performed military duty in the garrison & in the field for a term no less than twenty five days.

This deponent also served as an Indian spy, on many occasions the particular periods of which he cannot recollect at the Hildebergh and other places, and also with scouting parties in pursuit of Tories for a period in the whole exceeding two months.

This deponent cannot recollect or specify any other services other than those before enumerated, and his memory does not serve him sufficiently well to give a more full account of the periods grades and terms of service by him rendered in said war than he has done in this affidavit.

And for the aforesaid period of more than fourteen months actual and active service as a private soldier in the garrison & in the field, this deponent claims a pension and this deponent further saith that for the time during which said service was performed he was not engaged in any civil pursuit. (Signed) Jacob K. Clute

Subscribed & sworn this 26th day of September 1833, before me. Jno. Cumming J. P.
[Montgomery County]

State of New York
County of Montgomery SS

On this nineteenth 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 & aforesaid County now sitting, Jacob J. Clute, a resident of the town of Glen in said County, aged eighty 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 7, 1832.

He was born on the fourteenth day of March in the year 1752 the record of his age is in the Register Rept by the Reformed Dutch Church in the City of Albany. The place of his birth is Rensselaer's Manor in the county of Albany in said State. He lived there when he entered service in the army of the revolution war in the town of Glen (formerly Charleston) in the County of Montgomery where he has resided more than forty years & now resides.

He was called into service in the spring of the year 1775. He was then enrolled in the company of Captain Peter Schuyler in the Regiment of Militia commanded by Colonel Francis Nichols. He served under said Captain Schuyler about one year, when said Captain being promoted to the rank of Major, the command of his company was given to Henry Ostrom. With the exception of the time he served in the company of Captain Jacob VanDusen, as herein after specified, he served in said company of Captain Henry Ostrom from the year 1776 till the end of the war. His other company and field officers whom he recollects were as follows, Jacob Weaver, Lieutenant Peter Schuyler Junr. Ensign. Colonel Francis Nicholas had the command of said Regiment no longer than the year 1777, when Philip Schuyler was appointed to that station & served as such till the end of the war.

In the month of January 1776, he served with the detachment of soldiers under General Schuyler on the occasion of Sir John Johnson surrendering himself and his tenants prisoners of war. He did military duty for one month with the American troops encamped this year at Lake George.

His next expedition was to Saratoga, where he remained more than half a month; thence he was ordered up the Mohawk River to Schenectady where he remained a short time and then returned home. In the early part of the year 1777, he enlisted in the Company of Captain Jacob VanDusen; which company with several others was under the command of Major Hay or Hale of the New York Line at Ticonderoga & Skeenesborough, and was employed at those fortresses with artificers in building boats & erecting fortifications. He was between four & five months at Ticonderoga aforesaid, to wit, until (he believes) in the month of July 1777 General Burgoyne invested that fortress and it was evacuated by the American Army. In the fall of the year 1777 when General Burgoyne & this army surrendered, he was ordered out, but was detained home by sickness.

In the years following he was with the drafted militia at Schoharie at both the middle & upper forts. He served nearly three months at these forts on his own account, and one month as a substitute for his brother John Clute. He was performed garrison duty at Fort Hunter about half a month. He has also been on duty at Fort Paris & Herkimer. He was in the expedition against the British forces under Sir John Johnson after they had devastated Caughnawaga and other settlements on the banks of the Mohawk. He marched in this expedition as far as Fort Herkimer and was out about one month. He was in the battle of Canajoharie when in pursuit of Sir Johnson he thinks in the year 1780. On several occasions he served on scouting parties, & as an Indian spy. He had command of a scouting party when stationed at Schoharie.

It is impossible for him to specify all the different terms of his service, as he was sometimes out only a few days at a time. He was sometimes called upon as often as twice a week to the Helderbergh, and other places infested by the tories. He was often out with small detachments of militia to guard places in the vicinity of the town where he lived, which were constantly exposed to attacks from the enemy. He honestly believes that the different tours of his service when added together will exceed a period of two years.

The following are such regiments as he recollects, and the names of some of the Regular Officers whom he knew or who were with the troops where he served, besides those herein before mentioned: Viz—General VanRensselaer & his Regiment, General Gansevoort, Colonel Willet & his regiment. Colonel Goosen VanSchaick, & the companies under his command &c.

He never received any written discharge from the service, and believes no such discharges were given to any of the members of his Regiment.

The following are the names of persons to whom he is known in his present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution: to wit, the Rev'd Abraham VanHorn, John Van D. Van Patten. [sic]

He has no documentary evidence but can produce the testimony of witnesses who can testify to his services.

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) Jacob K. Clute

Subscribed and sworn to the day & year first aforesaid. Geo D. Ferguson, Clerk