

Pension Application for Christopher Connell

S.22685

State of New York

Schoharie County SS.

On this fifth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty three personally appeared in open court before the Honorable William Beckman, William Mann & Thomas P. Dansforth the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Schoharie & State of New York, now setting, Christopher Connell, a resident of the town of Blenheim, in the County of Schoharie & State of New York, aged seventy two 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.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated, Colonel Jacobus VanSchoonhoven, Lieutenant Colonel Gordon, Major Mitchell, Captain John Connell, First Lieutenant Nicholas Vandecan, Second Lieutenant Samuel Tenbrook, Ensign William Waldron.

That he does not recollect the Christian names of the Lieutenant Colonel or Major. That he entered the service as a private the fore part of the month of October in the year 1776 the day of the month he does not recollect and left the service in the month of November in the year 1776 one month & a half from the time he entered it. That he resided in that part of the State of New York, now the town of Half-moon in the County of Saratoga when he entered the service. That he was not drafted, a volunteer or substitute to his knowledge. He belonged to a company of New York Militia; the whole Militia Company to which he belonged were ordered into the service by their commanding officers; that he entered the service in obedience to such order. That he immediately on entering the service; marched with his regiment to Fort Edward on the Hudson River & lay there about six weeks when he returned home & was dismissed. That he saw no continental Regiment, Company, or officer during this period to his knowledge.

And the said Connell further saith, that he again entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, & served as herein stated. Colonel Henry VanRensselaer, Major Ezekiel Taylor, Lieutenant Nicholas Vandercar acting as Captain, that he does not recollect the names of the other officers.

That he entered the service as a private in the month of July in the year 1777 at least one month from the time he entered it. That he resided in that part of the State of New York, now the town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga when he entered the service. That he was not drafted, a volunteer or substitute to his knowledge. That a company of New York Militia to which he belonged, were ordered into the service by their commanding officers. That he entered the service in obedience to such order.

That he joined a party of troops under Major Taylor at Half Moon, immediately on his entering the service & marched with them to Fort Ann where

they joined other militia. Colonel VanRensselaer took the command of the part at this place. That he lay at this place three or four days, when he marched with the Regiment to Hubbleton in Vermont where they joined the American Troops under Colonel Warner. That he was in an engagement at that place between the Americans under Colonel Warner & the British. The Americans were defeated. Colonel VanRensselaer was wounded in the engagement. That he then marched with the Regiment back to Fort Ann, staid there a short time & then marched to Fort Edward staid there a day or two & then marched to Saratoga & encamped near the residence of General Schuyler who then had the command of the American Army at this place. Staid there a few days when he was dismissed & returned home.

And the said Connell further saith that he again entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. Colonel Henry VanRensselaer, Major Ezekiel Taylor, Lieutenant Nicholas Vandercar. That he does not recollect the names of the other officers. That he entered the service as a private in the month of September in the year 1777, the day of the month he does not recollect, & left the service in the month of October in the year 1777 at least one month & one fourth from the time he entered it.

That he resided in that part of the State of New York, now the town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga, when he entered the service. That he entered the service as a volunteer. That he joined his regiment at the time he entered the service, a short time before the first battle at Stillwater. General Gates then had the command of the American Army. That he was in the first & second battle at Stillwater. That he continued with [the] American Army until a short time after the Surrender of the British Army under General Burgoyne at Saratoga, when he was dismissed & returned home. That he was present at the surrender of General Burgoyne.

And the said Connell further saith, that he again entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. Sergent [sic] Thomas Whiteside. That he entered the service as a private in the month of January in the year of our Lord 1778, the day of the month he does not recollect, & left the service in the month of May in the year 1778, at least four months from the time he entered it. That he resided in that part of the State of New York, now the town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga, when he entered the service. That he entered the service as a volunteer. That at the time he entered the service he joined a part of five men at Half Moon & marched with them to Albany & lay there engaged as a guard to the City under the Command of Serjeant [Sergeant] Thomas Whiteside about four months when he was dismissed & returned home. That he was in no battle and saw no Continental Regiment, Company or officer during this period to his knowledge.

And the said Connell further saith, that he again entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

Captain Joshua Taylor and Lieutenant Nicholas Vandercar, Ensign William Waldron. That he entered the service as a private, the fore part of the month of July in the 1778 [sic], the day of the month he does not recollect; and left the service in the Month of August in the year 1778, at least one month from the time he entered it. That he resided in that part of the State of New York, now the town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga, when he entered the service. That he was not drafted, a volunteer or substitute to his knowledge. That a company of New York Militia to which he belonged, were ordered into the service by their commanding officers. That he entered the service in obedience to such order. That he joined his company immediately on entering the service at Half Moon & marched with them to Cherry Valley. Colonel Willett commanded at that place. That he staid at Cherry Valley with his company a month when he marched home & was dismissed. That he was in no battle during this period.

And the said Connell further saith that he again entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Captain John Vanderburgh, Nicholas Vandercar, Lieutenant & Ensign William Waldron.

That he entered the service as a private in the fore part of November in the year 1778, the day of the month he does not recollect, and left the service in the month of December in the year 1778, at least one month & a half from the time he entered it. That eh resided in that part of the State of New York, now the Town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga when he entered the service. That he was not drafted, a volunteer or substitute to his knowledge.

That a company of New York Militia to which he belonged were ordered into the service by their commanding officers. That he entered the service in obedience to such order. That he joined his company at Half Moon immediately on entering the service and marched with them to Canajoharie in the now County of Montgomery where they were joined by another part of Militia on their way to Cherry Valley. That he then marched to Cherry Valley, that they arrived at Cherry Valley the day after it was burnt. That he remained at Cherry Valley about six weeks engaged in fortifying the Fort; when he marched back with his company to Half Moon, that he was in no battle & saw no Continental officer during this period to his knowledge.

And that the said Connell further saith, That he again entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers & served as herein stated. Major Ezekiel Taylor, Captain John Vanderburgh, Lieutenant Nicholas Vandercar & Ensign William Waldron. That he entered the service as a private in the month of September in the year 1779, the day of the month he does not recollect, and left the service in the month of October in the year 1779, at least one month & a half from the time he entered it. That e resided in that part of the State of New York now the Town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga when he entered the service. That eh was not drafted, a volunteer or substitute to his knowledge. That eh

belonged to a Company of New York Militia, that the Company was ordered into the Service by their Commanding Officers. That he entered the service in obedience to such order. That he joined his company at the time he entered the service & marched with them to the Lower Fort on the Schoharie Creek, lay there one night, then marched to Cobles-Kill in the now County of Schoharie, staid there a few days, then marched to Stone Arabia in the now County of Montgomery. Major Fonda had the command of the Fort at this place. That eh staid there about a fortnight & then marched to Fort Plain on the Mohawk River staid there about three weeks, when he was dismissed & returned home. Colonel Abraham Copeman had the command of Fort Plain. That he was in no battle & saw no Continental Regiment or Officer during this period to his knowledge.

And the said Connell further saith, that he again entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. Colonel Cornelius Doty, Lieutenant Colonel Fairbanks, Major David Tonkrey, Captain John Stillwell, Lieutenant Robert Armstrong, Ensign William Douglas. That he entered the service in the month of September in the year 1781, the day of the month he does not recollect and left the service the latter part of the month of November in the year 1781, at least one month & a half from the time he entered it. That he resided in that part of the State of New York now the town of Half Moon in the County of Saratoga when he entered the service. That he entered the service as a volunteer. That he joined his company at the time he entered the service at Bennington in Vermont and marched with them to Castleton in the State of Vermont; lay there about six weeks when he was dismissed & returned home. That he was in no battle & saw no Continental Regiment, Company or Officer during this period to his knowledge.

And the said Connell further saith that he resided in that part of the State of New York now the Town of Hal Moon in the County of Saratoga from the commencement to the close of the Revolutionary War. That he was enrolled in the Militia of the State of New York as early as the first day of August in the year 1776. That the Regiment & Company in which he was enrolled was Commanded at the time of his enrollment by the following named officers. Colonel Jacobus VanSchoonhoven, Lieutenant Colonel Gordon, Major Ezekiel Taylor, Captain John Connell. Lieutenant Nicholas Vandercar, Ensign William Waldron—that he belonged to the same Regiment & Company until the first day of January in the year 1783—that the Regiment & Company were commanded by the above named officers, except Lieutenant Colonel Gordon and Captain Connell, during this period. That Lieutenant Colonel Gordon was taken prisoner by the British the early part of the war & that no one was appointed to supply his place. That Captain Connell resigned his commission in the month of November in the year 1777, when John Vanderburgh was appointed Captain and took command of the Company & continued to command it during the war—That from the said first day of August in the year 1776, until the first day of January in the year 1783 he was very

frequently on duty in the Service of the United States for short periods, besides the periods above set forth. That he does not recollect the number of different periods, that he was during most of those periods under the immediate command of some one of the officers, above named but which officer had the command during each period he cannot tell that he does not recollect the time when he entered the service each or any of those periods, nor the time when he left the same. That eh at some of those periods, entered the service as a Volunteer & was at the others ordered into the service by some one of his militia officers & entered the service in obedience to such order. That he went frequently to Albany and very frequently was engaged in the vicinity of Half Moon. That he does not recollect where he went each time. That he was in no battle & saw no Continental Regiment, Company or officers during these periods. And the said Connell saith that he is sure to his knowledge, that he was engaged in the service of the United States as a private soldier from the said first day of August in the year 1776 until the first day of January in the year 1783 besides the large expeditions above set forth, at different periods, in the whole, amounting to at least one year. That he no documentary evidence of his services above set forth, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services.

And the said Connell further saith, that he was born in the Town of Fishkill in the County of Dutchess & State of New York on the thirteenth day of July in the year 1760—That he has a Record of his age in his family Bible in his possession. That he resided in that part of the State of New York now the town of Half Moon, in the County of Saratoga from the close of the Revolutionary War until the fall of the year 1788, when he moved to the County of Rensselaer in the State of New York remained there until the month of January 1794 when he removed back to the town of Half Moon, in the County of Saratoga. Staid there until the year 1798, when he removed to the town of Cambridge in the County of Washington in the State of New York staid there until the year 1811, when he moved to the Town of Scaticoke in the County of Rensselaer, staid there until the month of January in the year 1815, when he removed to the Town of Blenheim in the County of Schoharie & State of New York where he has since resided. That he never received a written discharge from the service. That there is no Clergyman residing in his vicinity.

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)

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court, John Gebhard, Jr. Clk.