

Pension Application for William Dewitt

S.12763

State of New York

Ulster County SS.

On this 10th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County aforesaid (being a Court of Record) now sitting William Dewitt a resident of the Town of Shawangunk in the County aforesaid aged 75 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 7th, 1832.

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

That on the [blank] day of December 1775 he was ordered from the regiment of Colonel Paulding and placed under the company of Captain Bevin and Lieutenant Richard Brodhead that he was ordered from the regiment in the Town of Rochester and was sent to Pennsylvania [sic] with prisoners,—that I was out on that expedition 7 months and was also sent to Minisink during the said service, that I was dismissed in the Town of Rochester ins aid County of Ulster.

That next in September 1776, I was classed from said Regiment. [blank] months and marched from Rochester to Fort Montgomery in the Company of Captain Frederick Schoonmaker in the Regiment of Colonel Snider & served for said term at Fort Montgomery—that a Regiment of regular troops lay there at that time under the command of Colonel Dubois that Captain Moodeys Company of Artillery lay there at [the] same time.

That next in December 1776 he was again classed out of the said Regiment in Rochester and was ordered & marched from Rochester under the command of Capt A. Bevier, Lieutenant Brodhead, Maj. Johannes Cantine & Col. Jacob Hornbeck (to New Jersey) to Haverstraw & Hackensack for the term of 1 month. Next in April 1777 he was classed from the same regiment and company and placed under the command of Isaac Tefford and marched from Rochester to Fort Montgomery and was in the Regiment of Colonel McClaghery—for the term of 1 months. Next on our about the 1st day of September 1777 he was ordered out from the said Regiment & Company at Rochester and marched (under the command of Captain Joachim Schoonmaker in the Regiment commanded by Col. Jacob Hornbeck & Maj Cor's Wynkoop to Stillwater in Saratoga County—that after being there about 2 weeks we were called in the field under the commandant Col. of the militia brigade named Schemerhorn and was ordered by General Gates to attack the right wing of the British Army—that on that day the British retreated to their Breast Works & the American Army took 350 prisoners that night.

That General Gates then ordered Col. Hornbeck, my commander to escort the prisoners to Albany & deliver the prisoners to the Commander of that place and that after so doing we were there dismissed that he was out in that 1 ½ months.

That on the 16 or 17th day of October the next day after the burning of Kingston he was ordered out from Rochester—under the command of Captain Bevier & Col. Hornbeck aforesaid & marched from Rochester to the vicinity of Kingston Landing to Guard the store house along the river 1 month & were there dismissed.

Next, on or about the 1st day of July 1778 I was classed from the said company & regiment in Rochester, under the command of Capt Bevier and Col. Cantine (the former Colonel Hornbeck having deceased) for 5 months to serve the 2/5 of the said term along the frontier on the western side of Shawangunk Mountain at and near the said Town of Rochester—that I did serve for 2 months during said term.

Next, on or about the 1st day of April 1779 the regiment of Col. Cantine at Rochester, was called together and classed that I was in the company of Capt. Bevier that I volunteered from the class in which I as placed and received (somewhat) the same being an inducement for me to volunteer having a wish to do so and was placed under the command of Captain Pierce & Lieutenant Nottingham & Col. Albert Paulding & was stationed on the frontier or the western side of Shawangunk Mountain along between & at Minisink and Rochester and was discharged after the said term of service of 8 months by Colonel Paulding at Rochester.

Next on or about the 1st of September 1780 I volunteered for 2 months under Captain Levi Dewitt at a Tavern in Napinock in Rochester and served on the said Frontier for the full term of 2 months in the regiment of Col. Cantine for said Term & was discharged at Napinock. (The said last 2 months service should have been inserted before the said proceeding 8 months service.

Next in 1782 I again volunteered for the term of 2 months under Captain Levi Dewitt in the Town of Rochester aforesaid and served for said term of time on the said frontier in the Spring and was discharge in Warwassing.

Next in the year 1781 & 1782 & 1783 I was called & ordered out under Capt Bevier from the Regiment of Col. Cantine for at least 15 times at which several times I was at least out in an average of 2 days at a time making in the whole the the [sic] full sum of 1 ½ months that in said alarms I was generally upon Indian excursions and along the river making 1 ½ months in the whole 24 ½ months.

That to the Interrogatories as per the Instructions of the Secretary of War this deponent answers to the -----

1st That he was born in the Town of Rochester in Ulster County in the year 1757 on the 16th day of September.

2nd That his age is recorded in the Family Bible & his age is recorded in Warwassing Church.

3rd That I was a resident in Rochester from the time of my birth except when in the service until I became 41 years of age which was in the year 1798. I then removed to Shawangunk where I have since resided & now reside—that

4th & 5th This deponent cannot as he now recollects answer any other material fact embraced in the said Interrogatories than those set forth in the above declaration.

6th That he never received a written discharge.

7th That he is acquainted with most of the Inhabitants of the Town of Shawangunk (many of which would freely testify to his good character & that Jacobus Dewitt & Andries A. Dewitt—Conrad Bevier Esqr—and Cor's Depuy—can testify to the fact of my services.

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) William Dewitt

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year afore said before A. Soper, First Judge. A. G. Hardenbergh, Abm A. Deyo, John Jansen