

Pension Application for Nathaniel Dickerson or Dickison

W.20986 (Widow: Sarah) Sarah Terry and Nathaniel Dickerson married December 1783. Nathaniel died Dec 31, 1832.

State of New York

Orange County SS.

On this tenth day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared before me Gilbert Ogden Fowler one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Orange aforesaid at the office of Waller Cuse Psanira in the Village of Newburgh in said County it being the Court of Record Nathaniel Dickison aged seventy three years resident of the Town of Newburgh and County aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration 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 hereinafter stated.

In the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy five in the month of March deponent enlisted at the Town of Southhold [Southold] in the County of Suffolk and State aforesaid in a company of Militia commanded by Captain Jonathan Bailey one Horton was first and one Norton second Lieutenants in said company at that time and during the Revolutionary War the British Sloops hovered about that coast and frequently landed for the purpose of taking cattle and provender and committing other depredations said company was raised for the purpose of checking these depredations.

Deponent volunteered as a private in said company and served therein fourteen months and was then Honorably discharged, said company were minute men bound to hold themselves in readiness to march with provisions & ammunition at one minute's warning.

The enemy once landed during the service of Deponent as aforesaid at a place called Oyster Pond Point from where we expelled them. This took place in the month of May or June in the year last aforesaid General Wooster who was afterwards killed at Danbury Connecticut commanded a Regiment of men for a short time at Southhold during the said term of service of this Deponent aforesaid he belonged to Connecticut and was sent over to assist the militia of Southhold to repel the invasions of the enemy. He remained there about three weeks one Drake was Colonel of our Regiment which was ordered to Oystersponds to prevent the enemy from landing once during said term of service which it effected Immediately after the termination of this period of service.

Deponent entered in a Regiment of State Troops under the same officers for six months, and was ordered Immediately to New York to join General Washington's Army we were transported there way watter [water] and served at our own expense. We provided furs Bayonets and Cartouch Boxes ammunition provisions and clothing. We arrived in New York on the ninth or tenth day of June 1776 according to deponents recollection and belief Colonel Drake continued to command said regiment one Hallbert was Lieutenant Colonel Hatfield from WestChester County in the State

aforesaid was the Major and one King was the Adjutant General Marinus Scott commanded the Brigade. The Regiment was first encamped at the East River in the City of New York but soon grew sickly and were ordered to Greenwich Village where they encamped.

There a draft took place and deponent was drafted to go to Fort Washington about [blank] miles from New York on the East side of the North River said fort was commanded by General Mifflin at the time our regiment lay at Fort Washington there was upwards of one thousand troops there, Colonel Malcolm's Regiment of New York Troops Colonel Paulding's and Colonel Thomas Regiment of Militia one Oakley was the Lieutenant of the company to which deponent was attached in Fort Washington. Deponent cannot recollect the other officers of said company as they were all strangers Deponent staid at Fort Washington 12 days whilst we were there as aforesaid the British armed vessels the Phoenix Box and Vulture passed by the fort up the river we attacked them as they passed and they returned the fire but did no damage immediately afterwards we were ordered to Greenwich where we rejoined our company and Regiment before mentioned we were next ordered on Long Island and encamped at Brooklyn.

Lord Sterling was taken prisoner deponent was in that battle under Sterling having volunteered for that service after that battle deponent joined his company and regiment at Brooklyn heights on the twenty ninth of August deponent was in the battle on Brookly[n] Heights together with the Regiment to which he belonged as aforesaid on the night after the battle deponent retreated with the troops to New York and from thence to Kings Bridge here we had marched for a short time and then proceeded to White Plains before the battle of White Plains those persons in our Regiment who were armed and equipped were selected for the Engagement many of us had fowling pieces and there were but few guns that carried the same distance.

I was selected for one and was in the battle which took place the thirtyeth [sic] day of November 1776 according to deponents Recollection and belief the Americans were defeated and retreated to Peak Kill and from thence to Verplank's Point from that our Regiment crossed over to Stoney Point where we remained until we were discharged in December next thereafter Deponent was taken sick on his return home and did not recover until Spring and Deponent further saith that General McDougal commanded the American Troops at that battle that Paulding's Regiment of Militia and Simmonds Regiment of Massachusetts were present. Thomas Regiment & Swartwout's Regiments of Militia were present at the battle.

Sometime in the month of October in the year 1777 deponent again volunteered under one Peter Griffen of Guilford in the State of Connecticut to which place my father had removed having been expelled by the enemy from Long Island to go against Burgoyne. We marched to Albany and there heard Burgoyne was taken and then returned.

At the time New Haven was burnt by the enemy Deponent again Volunteered under the said Peter Griffin, General Wardsworth commanded the American Army and engaged with the British General Lieutenant [blank] one Pardee were killed the

Americans had no regular troops there & deponent does not recollect any other officers than General Wardsworth and ward. Deponent was gone one week and returned. Deponent also saith that he has no written discharge nor any other documentary evidence of his said services nor had he ever hand any written evidence other than an affidavit of Colonel Horton a Lieutenant in said company which he procured about two years ago to send to Congress with a petition in order to obtain remuneration for his services and relief on account of almost total deafness which he got by sleeping in the open air on the ground at Fort Washington and which has continued ever since to that degree that when after the expiration of his term of six months before mentioned he offered to enlist in a volunteer corps ordered to be raised by General Washington deponent was rejected on account of his deafness which still continues.

The prayer of petitioner was not presented because Congress then had in contemplation the Law of the e7th June 1832 under which it was thought he could obtain relief. Deponent also saith that there is no person living who served with him according to his knowledge.

And in answer to the Interrogatories specially put to this deponent by said Court he saith that he was born at the Town of South Hold in the County of Suffolk and State aforesaid in the year 1759 that he has no record of his age.

When called into the service he lived at Southhold aforesaid. In the year 1776 I was driven from Southhold by the enemy and moved to Guilford in the State of Connecticut where I resided six years.

In the year 1780 I moved to Newburgh in the County of Orange aforesaid and have lived there ever since and now lives there.

That he always volunteered.

That he has already stated the names of the Regular officers who were with the Troops where he served and such Continental and Militia Regiments as he recollects and also the general circumstances of his service.

That he never received a written discharge.

That he is known to General Leonard Smith, Gilbert Ogden Fowler Esquire, Doctor David Fowler & Walter Case Esquire – General Isaac Belknap who can testify to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as [a] soldier of the Revolution.

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) Nathaniel Dickerson

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid before me. Gilbert Ogden Fowler one of the Judges of the County Common Pleas in & for Orange County.