

Pension Application for Ebenezer Dunning

W.21008 (Widow: Martha Danes) Married June 14, 1783, First Presbyterian Church, Goshen, Orange County, NY. Ebenezer died Dec 17, 1802.

State of New York

Orange County SS

On this nintenth [nineteenth] day of March eighteen hundred and forty two personally appeared before the undersigned a Judge of the Court of Common Please [Pleas] in and for the said County being a Court of Record Martha Dunning a resident of the town of Goshen in the County of Orange & State of New York aged seventy nine years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1838.

That she is the widow of Ebenezer Dunning who was a soldier in the war of the Revolution as a private in the Regiment of Militia in Orange County and State of New York commanded by Col. Allison, Lieut Cool. Thurston Jr., Majors Hatfield and decker and served as she has been informed and believes as hereinafter stated.

That in the beginning of the war he said husband belonged to the company of Militia commanded by Captain George Thompson and afterwards by Capt. Charles Swezy in the Regiment afore mentioned and that in the month of May 1776 the company of Capt. Thompson was ordered out to the Hudson river by the proper authority to guard along the shore of the said River and to assist in building Fort Montgomery and was out one month doing duty under Col. Allison and her said husband Ebenezer Dunning went as a private soldier in the said company and served with the said company one month and was discharged with the rest of the company at the end of the said term.

That as she has been informed and believes the company of Capt. Thompson was again called out immediately after New York was taken and by the proper authorities ordered down towards New York to a place called Paramus in New Jersey and was out one month and that her said husband Ebenezer Dunning went as a private in said company and served in the said company in the Regiment commanded by Col. Allison at Paramus and the English neighbourhood one month and was discharged at the expiration of said term.

That in the month of December of said year 1776 Col. Allison's Regiment was called out & rendezvoused at a place called New City in Orange County near the Hudson river and served at least six week[s] and was discharged sometime in the month of January 1777 and Capt. Thompson's company went with the rest of the Regiment and served with the Regiment and served with the regiment at least six weeks and her said husband served in the said company at least six weeks and was discharged with the rest of the said company, at the expiration of that time.

That in the month of July 1777 a company of men was raised by volunteering by Capt. John Wood for the term of three months from the Regiment commanded by Col. Allison and went to Fort Clinton on the Hudson River and was stationed at that place until the fort was taken in the month of October of [seven?] year and her

husband Ebenezer Dunning volunteered into the said company and served in the said company until Fort Clinton was taken, at least two months.

That at the battle at Fort Clinton Capt. Woods company became so disorganized that those that were not killed or taken prisoners returned home and her said husband was one of those that made their escape after a service of two months under Capt. John Wood and under either Col. Clinton or Allison.

That in the month of May Capt. Swezys company went to Fort Dewitt on the west side of the Shawangunk Mountain and on the western frontier of Ulster County and service at that Fort at last seven months under Capt. Swezy and Col. Newkirk and was discharged sometime in November or December of said year and she has been informed and believes that her husband Ebenezer Dunning went to Fort Dewitt as a private soldier in the said company and served in the said company at Fort Dewitt on the west side of the Neversink River at least seven months and was discharged with the rest of said company.

That in the spring of the year 1779 a company of men was raised for the term of eight months by Capt. John Wood to serve on the western frontiers against the Indians and that in the beginning of May of said year the said company rendezvoused at Major Decker's Fort on the west side of the Shawangunk mountain on the western frontier of Orange County and remained in the neighbourhood of said Fort until the ever memorable nineteenth of July 1779 when the Indians made a descent upon the valley of Minisink and burned and destroyed the most of the property in said valley.

That after the burning and pillaging of the said valley the Indians retreated and were followed by the militia of the adjacent country under the command of Cols Hathorn & Thurston and by Capt. Woods company of volunteers as far as Beaverbrook where a most bloody battle was fought and the Militia were defeated and Capt. Wood was taken prisoner after this defeat that part of Capt. Woods Company which was not either killed or taken prisoners returned to the valley of Minisink and there served out the time for which the volunteers at Major Deckers and at Levi VanEttens forts and she has been informed and believes that her husband Ebenezer Dunning volunteered into the said company and service in the said company raised by Capt John Wood the full term of eight months in the Regiment commanded by Col. Pawling and was discharged with the rest of the company at Levi VanEttens Fort about the first of January 1780.

That her said husband served in the company under Capt. Swezy from the beginning of 1780 until the end of the war against the Indians but she is unable to state the times served or their length.

She further declares that she was married to the said Ebenezer Dunning on the twenty fourth day of June seventeen hundred eighty three by the Rev. Kerr then Pastor of the Presbyterian [Presbyterian] Church in Goshen as will more fully appear by the proof annexed that her name before marriage was Martha Daines.

She further declares that her husband the aforesaid Ebenezer Dunning died on the seventeenth day of December eighteen hundred and two.

That she has no documentary evidence of her said husband's services in her possession nor does she know of any but relies upon the testimony of those who knew him in the service to sustain her claims.

That she has remained a widow ever since the death of her said husband. That she was not married to him previous to his last term of service but was married previous to the first day of January seventeen hundred and ninety four viz at the time above stated.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day and year before mentioned by making her mark. Martha Dunning. S.W. Fullerton, Judge of the Orange County Court of Common Pleas [Pleas].