

Pension Application for Hugh Groesbeck

S.23665

State of New York

Saratoga County SS.

On this thirtieth day of September in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred & thirty four personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Erik Cowan Vice Chancellor of the 4th Circuit of the State of New York, now sitting, Hugh Croesbeck a resident of the town of Wilton in the County of Saratoga and 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein states viz. In a Militia Regiment of the State of New York whereof Peter Yates was Colonel, John W. Groesbeck Major, Jacob Yates Capt., John Bradt and Richard Davenport Lieuts, and John VanAntwerp Ensign. That from the time the applicant was sixteen years of age he served the United States as a soldier in said Regiment and company until the close of the war of the Revolution (except several months service as a volunteer and under Lieut. Lewis Brown, Capt. Joseph Peek and Col. Yates of Schenectady and [blank] Lewis of the Continental or State troops as hereafter mentioned).

That the applicant was born in the town of Schaghticoke in said State and resided there at the time he entered the service. That from the year 1779 until the close of the war (except as aforesaid) he served as Corporal in Capt. Jacob Yates' Company. That for about four years he had but little respite from active duty as such corporal, obliged to stand in readiness at all times, he deferred engaging in other pursuits and devoted his time to the service.

That the northern frontier was exposed to the depredations of the enemy—and the predatory incursions of Indians of Tories were so underwriting as to produce constant alarm and to require untiring vigilance upon the Regiment to which the applicant belonged divided in a great measure the duty of guarding the frontier and repelling the enemy of patrolling and scouring the Region of Country lying between Crown Point and Albany—His detachment frequently drove the enemy & seized their baggage horses and arms—and rendered important Service to the Country in dislodging the forces under Sir John Johnson from their hold upon Crown Point—in which the applicant participated. That there were small bodies of Regular troops stationed at some of the northern posts—but the applicant does not recollect the names of any of the officers. That he repeatedly during the four last years of the war rendezvoused with the detachments at the barracks at Saratoga at Fort Edward, Fort Anne, Fort George, Ticonderoga & Crown Point.

And the applicant further declares that during to last two or three years of the Revolutionary War he served for several months in succession as a volunteer at Albany and Coeymans with the Regular troops and was commanded by Col's [blank], drew a

line] Yates (of Schenectady) and [blank] Lewis Capt. Joseph Peek and Lieut. Lewis Brown.

That he does not recollect the precise time he entered or was discharged nor the precise length of time that he served as such volunteer, but believes he so served between six months and a year and was honorably discharged. That he has not nor does he remember that he ever had any documentary evidence of his enlistment service or discharge. That he does not know that any of his fellow soldiers are living except his Ensign John VanAntwerp of Schaghticoke under whom he served in the militia as aforesaid about four years and Thomas Jordan of Saratoga with whom he served at Albany & Coeymans as aforesaid and whose testimony is herewith offered in open Court. That he possesses his father's family Bible and Record of births in which his age is recorded. That he removed from the town of Schaghticoke into Halfmoon in Saratoga County about the year 1790 where he lived about thirteen years and removed thence, and occupied farms in succession in the towns of Saratoga Northumberland of Militia, in the same County.

That he is known to the Inhabitants generally in the towns of Saratoga, Northumberland, Wilton & Saratoga Springs and to many of the old Inhabitants of Schaghticoke and believes that all who know him can testify to his character for veracity and he presents the names of Thomas Jordan, John VanAntwerp who can so testify and to 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. [next line partially cut off] Regulations of the Department [cut off] answers to the Questions in this his Declaration.

Interrogatories 1st Where & in what year were you born? Answer. In the town of Schaghticoke County of Rensselaer of State of New York in the year seventeen hundred and sixty two.

Question 2nd Have you any Record of your age and if so where is it? Answer I have the Record of my age in a Family Bible which was my father's at my residence in Wilton-----

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live? Answer I lived at Schaghticoke aforesaid when called into service, since the Revolutionary War I have lived in the town of Halfmoon, Saratoga, Northumberland of Wilton in the County of Saratoga in said State & now live in Wilton aforesaid.

Question 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if so a substitute for whom? Answer I was called into Service by the command of the officers of the Regiment to which I belonged—volunteered and served in a different corps for several months—but was not to my recollection drafted—or a substitute.

Question 5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the Troops where you served? Such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service-- Answer—I served with the

Troops at Albany & Coeymans at Saratoga, at Crown Point, Fort George, Fort Anne, Fort Edward, Ballston & Palmertown and Remember Col [blank] Lewis, Col. [blank] Yates (of Schenectady) Capt. Joseph Peek, Lieut. Lewis Brown who commanded Regular Troops at Albany & Coeymans and the militia Regiment commanded by Col. Peter Yates under whom I served nearly four years on the Northern frontiers between Schaghticoke and Crown Point and was employed with the other troops in guarding the frontiers and repelling the incursions of Indians Tories and British –

Question 6th Did you ever received a Discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it? Answer I received honorable Discharges but whether in writing or not I do not remember nor by whom given, I have nor do I remember to have had any written Discharge.

Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer Thomas Jordan, John VanAntwerp, John M. Steel, Hon. Erik Cowan Vice Chancellor [?] Winne.

The applicant further declares that there is not any clergyman living in his immediate vicinity. (Signed) Hugh Groesbeck

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me, Erik Cowen, Vice Chancellor as above mentioned.