

Pension Application for George Scrafford, Scrafer

S.15216

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832

State of New York

County of Albany

On the Sixth day of February 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Justices Court of the City of Albany, not sitting, George Scrafford of Guilderland in the county of Albany and state of New York, aged seventy three years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oat, 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 and served as herein stated:

That he was born in the Town of Schenectady on the 19 March 1759 as he has been informed by his parents, and as the same is recorded in the record thereof at time kept by the Revd. Barent Vrooman the minister of the Dutch Church in that Town.—That he was enrolled in the militia in 1777 by Col. Van Arnum (1) of Capt. Schuyler's (2) Regiment and performed his first tour by marching with Groot and part of Capt. Van Arnum's Company to Saratoga, and were encamped in Saratoga not far from Genl. Schuyler's from thence marched to Schenectady and there remained some time, and then marched back in the way to Saratoga, but were met by orders to return, as there was then no longer occasion for the militia at that time whereupon they returned home and were dismissed having been out during this whole time for two months, during all which time this declarer was by appointment of his Captain a Sergeant (3) of the Company.—In 1778 this declarer was again ordered out and marched with Capt. Van Aarnum's Company and marched to Saratoga and lay at the Fish Creek and was out on duty for a period of six weeks—In the same year he was again ordered out and marched with the company to Schoharie, and after having been in the lower fort there, he returned home late in the fall, having been in service for three months—In the year 1779 he was again ordered to march to Schoharie under the same Capt. and lay in George Mann's Stone house (4) and from thence marched back to Schoharie, and was in a skirmish there with Butler and Brant (5) and after the enemy had gone off, the militia were dismissed having been on this tour for six weeks—In 1780 he was ordered out under Jacob Van Arnum and in Company of Capt. Groot's (6) Company and marched to Cobuskill Turloch and other places & were out previous to being dismissed for full six weeks—In 1781 he was again ordered out and marched to the Little Falls on the Mohawk River, under Capt. Van Arnum, (7) and remained in service for two months and then returned home and were dismissed.

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) George Scrafford

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid in open court. J. G. Wasson, Clk

We Manning Bogardus, a clergyman, residing in the Town of Guilderland [George Scrafford, Peter Relyea crossed out] and residing in the same place hereby certify, that we are well acquainted with George Scrafford who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration; that we believe him to be seventy three years of age; that his is reputed and believed, in the neighborhood where he resides, to have been a soldier of the revolution, and that we concur in that opinion. Manning Bogardus, Pastor of the Dutch church of Helderberg. Peter Relyea. J. G. Wasson, Clk

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion, after the investigation of the matter, and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named

applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier, and served as he states. And the court further certifies, that it appears to them, that Manning Bogardus who hath signed the preceding certificate, is a Clergyman resident in the Town of Guilderland and that Peter Relyea who has also signed the same, is a resident of the same place and is a credible person and that their statements are entitled to credit. [Three justices of the City of Albany signed]

I, John G. Wasson Clerk of the Justices Court of the City of Albany do hereby certify, that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of said Court in the matter of the application of George Scrafford for a pension.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office, this 6th day of February A.D. 1833. John G. Wasson Clk.

Albany County SS

I Peter Relyea of the town of Guilderland do swear and declare, that I have heard the foregoing declaration of George Scrafford which is by him subscribed & sworn to, read distinctly, and that I do know that most if not all of the services therein stated have been performed by him. (Signed) Peter Relyea

Subscribed and sworn to by Peter Relyea whom I know and certify to be a man of truth and veracity [rest cut off]

Letter in the Pension folder dated November 6, 1934

The data contained herein are obtained from the papers on file in the Revolutionary War claim for pension, S.15216, based upon the military service of George Scrafford, in that war.

George Scrafford was born in Schenectady, November 19, 1759. The names of his parents are not stated.

He enlisted, place not stated, in 1777, and served two months as sergeant in Captain Van Arnum's Company, 1778 and served six weeks in Captain Van Arnum's New York Company. He served three months in Captain Van Arnum's New York Company and was discharged late in the fall of 1778. He enlisted in 1779, served six weeks in Captain Van Arnum's New York Company and was in a skirmish at Schoharie. He enlisted in 1780 and served six weeks in Jacob Van Arnum's New York Company. He enlisted in 1781 and served two months in Captain Van Arnum's New York company.

He was allowed pension on his application executed February 6, 1833 while a resident of Guilderland, Albany County, New York.

Soldier died January 11, 1840, place not stated.

There are no family data.

End Notes—S15216—George Scrafford, Scrafer, etc.

1. Jacob Van Aernam was the Captain of the fourth company in Colonel Abraham Ten Broeck's Third Regiment of Albany County Militia. Ten Broeck was appointed brigadier general of the Albany County Militia Brigade and Lieutenant Colonel Francis Nicholl was promoted to Colonel on or about February 20, 1776. In 1778, Colonel Nicholl resigned and Philip P. Schuyler was appointed Colonel in his place.
2. Major General Philip Schuyler of the Continental Army. Schuylerville was originally Saratoga and was later renamed after General Schuyler who had a home there and working mills.
3. So far the only rank for George found is as a private.
4. George Mann was the Captain of the first company in Colonel Peter Vrooman's Fifteenth Regiment of Albany County Militia.

5. This raid happened on October 17, 1780 and it was led by Sir John Johnson and Captain Joseph Brant. The Lower and Middle Forts were reinforced with various detachments of the Albany County Militia. Sir John attempted to capture the forts by force but with little effect.
6. Captain John Groat or Groot of Colonel Schuyler's Regiment. He was commissioned captain on June 27, 1778.
7. A book of interest which has some information on Captain VanAernum and the present day Town of Guilderland in Albany County during the War of Independence was written by Arthur B. Gregg entitled Old Hellebergh, the Altamont Press, Altamont, N.Y. 1936