

Pension Application for John Vanderburgh

S.16279

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

State of New York

Herkimer County SS

On this ninth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open Court before Michael Hoffman first Judge John Mahon & Augustus Beardslee, Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the county of Herkimer now sitting John Vandenburg a resident in the town of Norway in the said County of Herkimer and state of New York aged seventy 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 7, 1832.

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

In the spring he believes, of the year 1776 he enlisted as a volunteer for nine months into the service of the United States, and went to Fishkill on the Hudson river to muster, where he entered into a company of which one John McKinster was Captain, and one Joel Wix was Lieutenant.

One Harry Dodge was he believes Adjutant of the Regiment to which this company belonged Col. Wiser well commanded the Regiment. The first move of the regiment was to West Point, where it remained for some time, but the precise length cannot recollect, next the regiment went to White Plains and from thence to Fort Plain in Montgomery County. L At this place Colonel Dubois commanded the regiment, and one Captain White, and he believes Andrew White was Captain of the Company to which he belonged, the former Captain John McKinster having been superseded in the command, either by death or other cause, unknown to Vandenburg.

The regiment or a part thereof including the company to which he belonged pursued the Indians & Tories northerly of the Mohawk, there was a battle about this time a short distance from Fort Plain on the North side of the Mohawk river.

Hew as in that battle, and they took 30 or 36 prisoners and three pieces of cannon.

From this station, he went as one of the guard to take the 30 or 36 prisoners before alluded to to [sic] Poukeepsie [Poughkeepsie]. He thinks that the regiment was disbanded at Poukeepsie and that each company returned singly to their places of residence, and the one to which Vandenburg belonged went to Poukeepsie. He took from a savage the scalp of Colonel Brown who had been killed & scalped at Stone Arabia. He as 14 years old when he entered the service of the United States.

That he the spring of the year 1777 he again listed as a volunteer for six months and went to Fishkill again where they mustered. The name the Colonel who commanded the regiment was Dubois the name of the Adjutant was Welch, but he cannot give his Christian name.

The name of the Captain of his company was Andrew White, the same as the year before. The regiment went to West Point and thence to Saratoga.

He as one of the detachment sent out to destroy the bridges between Fort Edward and Saratoga to prevent the approach of Gen. Burgoyne & his army, and this detachment took a spy from Burgoyne's Army by the name of Thomas Loveless who was afterward tried, condemned and hung.

The Company to which Vandenburg belonged was with several others drawn off from Saratoga a little before the battle of Saratoga and went to West Point to keep garrison [garrison] and remained there until disbanded again which he thinks was in the winter, the fore part of the winter of 1777 & 8. L He received a discharge from Capt White but it is lost, or with some of the descendants of one John Klock who is dead & the paper cannot be found.

That there was a record of his age in the family bible of his father's family and he thinks it is now in [?] in the possession of his sister but he is not positive of that he not seen it for fifty years.

He as residing in the town of Poukeepsie when he entered the service of the United States, since the revolutionary war he has resided at His present residence in the County of Herkimer.

That he was born in Poukeepsie when he entered the service of the United States—Since the revolutionary war he has resided at this present residence in the County of Herkimer.

That he was born in Poukeepsie in Dutchess county in the year 1762.

That he has no record of his age.

That he resided at Poukeepsie when called into the service & Continued to reside there for ten years after the war & then removed to Norway in Herkimer County where he has ever since resided & now resides.

That he was called into the service as a volunteer, he enlisted.

That the following general officers were in the service where he served; viz; Colonel Weisenvelt, Colonel Dubois, Major Benschoten, that he was in service on the White Plains, the Continental Army was there & Gen Washington was there.

That he did receive a written discharge, but it is lost ever since the close of the war.

That he is unable to procure the attendance in court of any witness who can state in detail his services, and any witness cannot be found who can state all his service, but he has the affidavit of James Van DeBogert who resides at a distance and who cannot be brought to court at a great expense as he is almost helpless & infirm from age.

That he is known to Stephen Avery, & Henry Tillinghost residing in & near his present neighbourhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

That no clergyman resides in his neighbourhood to whom he is known, and who can certify as to his character & services. (Signed) John Vandenburg

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 to his knowledge or belief. (Signed) John Vandenburg.

Sworn in open Court Oct 9th 1832. Julius C. Nelson, Clerk