

Pension Application for John VanAerman or VanAernunn, or VanAernam
W.18207 (Widow: Jane)

Family Record

June 3, 1778 John VanAernum Junr was married to Genny Van Loan

June 3, 1779 Gertrude was born 1st daughter

[?] 2, 1780 Peter Van Aernum was born 1st son.

Sept 28, 1782 Jacob VanAernum was born 2nd son

Sept 30, 1784, Genny VanAernum was born 2nd daugh.

May 11, 1787, Elizabeth Van Aernum was born 3 daugh.

July 25, 1789, Coltintha VanAernum was born 4th daugh.

November 7, 1792, Hannah VanAenem was born 5th daughter.

June 17, 179[?] John VanArnum June was born 3d son.

1803 Esther VanArnum was born December 1st.

State of New York

Onondaga County SS.

On this third day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty three personally appeared before John L. Stevens, one of the Judges of Onondaga County Courts in & for the County of Onondaga & State of New York aforesaid—Mrs. Jane VanAernum aged eighty eight years and upwards, a resident of the Town of Cicero, County of Onondaga and State of New York, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4, 1836.

That she is the widow of John VanAernam deceased—who was an ensign of Militia in Captain Jacob VanAernum's Company and who served under Colonel Phillip P. Schuyler—Col. VanRensselaer and Col Goose VanSchaick in the Revolutionary War. Said John VanAernum also performed service under Captain Levinius F. Lansing as Lieutenant. John Eacker (or Acker) was a Lieutenant under said Captain Jacob Van Aernum & served in the same company with said John VanAernum.

Declarant further says that her said husband John VanAernum served his country in the army or militia a considerable part of every year during the continuance of the Revolutionary War, and was engaged against the tories, British & Indians north of Albany & in the neighborhood of Schoharie most of the time he was in service.

Declarant further states that he first saw the said John VanAernum her said husband, at a company training in the Town of Guilderland County of Albany & State of New York aforesaid about two years before the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga. That she saw said John VanAernum leave with his company immediately after said training & Declarant was then informed and it was then generally understood by the people at Guilderland, that said John VanAernam & his company were going into the service above Albany.

That said John was absent at that time from Spring till Autumn but she does not distinctly recollect precisely what month he returned. That from that time up to

June 1777—(June before Burgoyne surrendered). She does not recollect particularly at seeing him in the service, but always understood from him that he was a minute man (as they were then called) during the year before the great battle of Saratoga I was actually engaged at least a portion of the time from Spring till fall—

That this declarant was married to said John VanAernam, on the third day of June Seventeen hundred and Seventy seven—by the Rev. Mr. Vroman, a Presbyterian Clergyman, according to her present recollection—said marriage took place at Schenectada [sic] in the State aforesaid. That the next day after said marriage (June 4th 1777) her said husband left Guilderland (then called Helderbergh) and went into the service above Albany and did not return again until after the taking of Burgoyne's army in the fall of the same year. Her said husband was actually engaged in said Battle as she was then informed & has always understood from her said husband & others.

Declarant frequently heard her said Husband State during his life time—a circumstance which happened while he was absent at this time. That an officer standing next to said John in an engagement killed one of his own men in front of him by accident.

Declarant does not now recollect of her said husband's being called out again (unless for a very short time) until the Spring of 1778. Then he went away with his company, dressed in uniform (military) & he left as early as the first of June 1778, and was absent until the last of October. He was during all that time stationed near Schoharie & about sixteen miles distant from his home in Guilderland & was home occasionally on parole to visit his family. Sometimes he was at what was called the Middle Fort & Sometime the Upper Fort. But when he came home on parole he remained but a very few days. Sometimes but a very few hours, not even to say over night.

Declarant further states that her said husband was some times called out into service in the winter, but on such occasions he was absent but a short time on each occasion & the particulars she is now wholly unable to state.

He continued to serve in the same manner being in service from Spring to fall & occasionally in the winter, during the whole period after his marriage to Declarant in 1777, until the war closed on one occasion he was sent to Cherry Valley & was absent several weeks, perhaps two months and then returned to Schoharie.

John Seger who lived in the same town with this declarant also served in the same company with said John VanAernum, Jacob Relyea—both of Albany was in the same Regiment. Peter Onderkirk – late of Canada was in the same company. John DeVan was also in the same company. All these last named individuals were pensioners as this declarant has been informed & are now all dead as she is informed except Seger. DeVan died at Manlius in the County of Onondaga.

After the murder or massacre at Harpersfield her said husband went in pursuit of the Tories & Indians with his company. Declarant further says that she well recollects of her said husbands being away in actual service at different periods during

the war time enough to make an aggregate of at least these years—as she verily believes—

Declarant further says that about a year after her marriage as aforesaid, she and he said husband commenced housekeeping, but her said husband was absent much of this time as above stated.

She further states that she was married to the said John VanAernum on the third day of June in the year seventeen hundred and seventy seven as aforesaid and that her said husband died at the town of Cicero & County of Onondaga aforesaid on the seventeenth day of June in the year eighteen hundred and twenty six.

That she has been—remained such widow ever since the death of her said husband as aforesaid—as will more fully appear by the papers hereto annexed and also by papers heretofore forwarded to the War Department. (Signed with her mark) Jane VanAernum

Subscribed & sworn before me, the day & year above written. John L. Stevens, one of the Judges of Onondaga County Courts. Witness as to signature—Edward A. Brown.