

Pension Application for Matthias H. VanDenbergh

R.10837

State of New York

County of Greene SS.

On this third day of September one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the said County of Greene now sitting being a court of record Matthias H. Vandenberg a resident of the town of Coxsackie in the County of greens and State of New York aged between seventy and seventy one years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain he benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was born in the town of Coxsackie in the County of Greene (formerly county of Albany) on the 26th day of September 1761 as he has always understood and believed, and which day is also the day in a family record of his father—

That he has always been a farmer and always resided in the same town and still resides there—

That in the year 1777 and a short time before the surrender of Burgoyne he was enrolled as a militiaman in the said town in a company commanded by Captain Henry VanBergen of the same place and Lieutenant Ryckert VanDen Bergh and in a Regiment commanded by Col. Anthony VanBergen also of the same place, all of which officers are dead.—

That the said Anthony remained the commandant of the Regiment to which this deponent belonged the whole of the revolutionary war. That immediately upon his enrolment he was released by his commanding officer to be prepared for constant actual military service against the enemies of the country, that he prepared himself forthwith with ammunition and the requisite accruements.

That from that time he was bound to military service until the close of the revolutionary war. That within a very few days from his enrollment he was ordered out on scouting parties and on guard at various parts in the town and in places adjoining.

That after the surrender of Burgoyne, he was ordered to go to Albany a distance of twenty two miles from Coxsackie, that he went there under Captain Henry VanBergen, was stationed in a fort, did duty there, and was from home at that time he thinks one month.

That after that he was called on to go to Schoharie that he went under Lieutenant Ryckert WandenBergh. That they were ordered to go by the way of Schenectady—that when they arrived there, they were directed to remain & defend Schenectady from an expected attack of Indians—That Schenectady is about forth miles from Coxsackie—that he believes he was at Schenectady not less than a fortnight and be away have been from home [sic] between three & four weeks.

That he also did duty at Catskill, under Captain Henry VanBergen – that they were stationed at one William Salisbury's house deceased. That an attack was expected from the Tories & Indians – that he was there about ten days.

That afterwards, and he thinks it must have been between 1779 & 1781, he did duty under Philip Caine a Captain Lieutenant in the New York line of the Continental Army & remained there at a place called Passamaquassac in the Town of Catskill aforesaid & performed duty there for one month.

That he was called to a place called Basick in the County of Albany. That he was then commanded by the aforesaid Ryckert VandenBergh and was absent at that time on duty about a week.

That he was also on duty in pursuit of the Tories who had robbed one Peter VanSlyck residing in New Baltimore in the County of Greene—that he was then gone about a week.

That he distinctly recollects he was under arms and on duty for three whole seasons from sometime in the Spring until the latter part of the fall in the same year; but the years he cannot state but it was after 1777. This duty was performed in the said town of Coxsackie, Baltimore, Athens, & [Hectshill?]. The duty was done in the following manner.

The country was in a state of alarm expecting daily & nightly attacks from the Indians & Tories, and a portion of the militia (of whom this deponent was one) was ordered to guard & protect a distance of country extending north and south about twenty or thirty miles.

That this guard was directed to keep a part of them on the march constantly—relieving each other at specified times—that according to the best of his recollection he was on guard not less than two nights each week, some times also in the day.

That besides the services in this declaration above enumerated, he further declares that from the time that he was enrolled until the termination of the revolutionary war, he did many and various other services as a soldier for the United States.

That there was an alarm of some kind almost every week from several parts of the country of some kind almost every week from several parts of the country adjoining where he resided—

That he was declared out & did duty some times in one direction and sometimes in another. Sometimes to keep what was called 'guard' sometimes on scouting parties and sometimes in pursuit of the Robbers who infested that country.

That upon such occasions he was on active duty generally for a few days and nights at a time, and occasionally for a week or ten days, but at this remote period and having no memorandums, a witness from which he can calculate, he cannot either state with any degree of certainty all the places he went to or the length of time he served upon each occasion.

That he believes that the actual services he rendered as a soldier for the United States during the revolutionary war amounted to not less than one year and six months and may have amounted to two years or more.

That from 1777 until the end of the war he considered himself as bound to military service, and he does not remember any time that he was not [tiable?] to military duty in behalf of the United States during that period.

All the services were on his account.

That he has no discharge or other written evidence and never had one.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares and declares [sic] that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency &c. (Signed) Matthias H. VanDenbergh

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court before me.
William V. B. Heermance, Clerk.