

Pension Application for John Vaughn

W.2884

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.
State of Pennsylvania
Luzerne County SS.

On this sixth day of November AD Eighteen hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County of John Vaughn a resident of Blakeley Township (formerly Providence) in the County of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania aged Eighty one years, and upwards who being first duly sworn according to Law deposeth & saith 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 and served as herein stated—that he was born in Canaan in Litchfield County, Connecticut on the 18th of March 1751 old style—that when quite young his Father moved into Nobletown in the County of Albany and State of New York where he resided at the commencement of the Revolutionary War.

In the year 1776 this declarant being enrolled in the militia in the Company of Capt. Nathaniel Howe on a requisition being made for the militia, the whole company turned to go to a place called Nine Partners in Dutchess County. Our head quarters were at Carpenters Hollow. Col. Robert VanRansalaer [Van Rensselaer] commanded the Regiment & went with us to nine partners where we took about 150 Tories prisoners and brought them to Head Quarters. We then went to Poukeepsie [Poughkeepsie] and thence to Fishkill—The prisoners were sent from there under the escort of Capt Abm Fundy to Exeter in New Hampshire. I was out there about seven weeks.

In the Spring of 1777 as near as I recollect, when the Tories rose in arms on Livingston Manor, when orders came for the militia Capt. Joshua Whitney's Company to which I belonged volunteered & went after them. Col. Stephen Hogaboom commanded the Regiment & went with us. Some militia came also from Massachusetts, we found a body of about 150 tories armed, who fired on us & we returned the fire, wounded one and took 24 prisoners & carried them to Nobletown. They were afterwards sent on board a sloop in the North River. Returned home after having been out 3 or 4 days. The same year in the last of June or 1st of July, the militia was again called for, for the purpose of joining the Continental Army to go and met the Brittish under Genl Burgoyne. I went with the company under Van Ness was the Col. Of the Regiment, but think he did not go out—went up to Fort Edward which was headquarters, Genl Phillip Schuyler commanded.

While there the militia became dissatisfied at being kept out so long, and Genl Schuyler agreed that if one half would stay the residue might go home I among others staid. We went up 14 miles to Half way Brook at [as] it was called between Fort Edward & Lake George. The Continental Army met us there from Fort George and we returned to Fort Edward. L Thence we retreated down the river the army being divided

part on each side [of] the river. Came to a place called Moses Creek & put up a small breast work. I was sent back with a party of men towards Fort Edward—were attacked by Indians, who followed us to the breast work—fired into that and killed Lieut Murray belonging to Col. Whiting's regt. Genl Arnold was with the division on the East side of the river. Continued to retreat towards Saratoga and the night before we reached that place marched all night. Thence we went to Stillwater, at which place we were dismissed the last of August, having been out as near as I now remember about six weeks.

In 1778 I went out on a months tour of duty, having been drafted for that purpose under Capt. Abner Hawley—went to Cherry Valley & was there and in the neighbourhood for one month. Remember to have gone on one occasion with a part of Capt Ballards Comp'y of Continental soldiers on a scout across the head of the Susquehanna River to a place called Whiteock flats—we were at Cherry Valley when we heard Wyoming was destroyed. At the end of the month was dismissed. Was gone from home about six weeks—Was out another months tour in the full of the same year at Fort Plank in Canajoharie a little below the German Flats on the Mohawk River under Capt. Ephraim Barrett.

In 1779 as near as I recollect, the time the Indians burnt Old Schoharie, and the settlements along the Mohawk river the militia was called out, went out under Capt. Joshua Whitney & Col John McKinster about harvest time. The night marched all night in pursuit of Indians, by the light of burning houses, barns, & Stacks. In the morning saw a man on horseback on the opposite side of the river said to be Sir John Johnson, son of Sir William. [?] at night came up with the Indians - fired on them—drove them off & took [?] field pieces which they were obliged to have chased the Indians up to the German Flats, & thence took across the woods intending to overtake them before they got across the woods intending to overtake them before they got across Oneida Lake, but before we got to the Lake met Col. McKinster and others who had been in advance under the guidance of some Oneida Indians & found the hostile Indians had crossed the lake. We turned back to the Mohawk and then home. Genl or Gover. George Clinton was with us during the expedition but don't remember to have seen him till we started to go through the woods. Remember Genl Robt Van Ransalaer, Col. Whiting, Major Horse as officers during the expedition. I do not remember exactly how long we were out—perhaps a month.

In the fall of the same year there was a call for monthly tours of duty. I engaged for 3 months in the places of Abm Frear, David Young & Wm Denison who had been drafted for a month each in succession, went out under Capt. John McClave or McCleveland down to Fishkill which was headquarters & performed duty there & in the neighbourhood till dismissed by Gov'r Clinton Lieut Gov'r Van Cortland. I do not recollect any other service except going [?]- after deserters—once took two whom I was ordered to take into Massachusetts—after the war was transferred to the south, I was frequently called out on service near home for a few days at a time, for the purpose of guarding the road prevents the carrying grain flour & provisions &c until at the close of the war.

During the greater part of the service above mentioned I acted as Sergeant. I have no documentary evidence & know of no living witness to prove my services—Have no record of my age, but presume it is to be found at Canaan Connecticut. Have lived in Nobletown till I came into Luzerne County Penna 35 years ago-& never lived in Providence since called Blakely Township ever since—Noah Stephens, Alex'r Dolph, Saml Ferris, Elisha S. Potter Esq & others of my present neighborhood can testify as to my character for truth & veracity & their belief of my revolutionary service.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state.
(Signed) John Vaughn

Sworn & Subscribed in open Court the day & year aforesaid. H. Pettebone.
Prot.

Letter in folder dated December 16, 1925, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.2884, it appears that John Vaughn was born March 18 or 19, 1751 (Old Style) in Canaan, Litchfield County, Connecticut; when quite young he moved, with his father (his name not given) to Nobletown, Albany County, New York.

While residing at said Nobletown, he enlisted in 1776 and served at various times as private, corporal, and sergeant in the New York Troops, under Captains Nathaniel House, Joshua Whitney, Abner Hawley, Ephraim Barrett, John McClave or McClaveland, and Colonels Robert Van Renssealer, Stephen Hogeboom, Peter Van Ness, and John McKinstry, he served to close of war, amounting in all to nine months and twenty-two days. He was out against the Indians many times, and in some skirmishes.

He was allowed pension on his application executed November 6, 1832, while a resident of Blakely Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. He died September 9, 1837.

Soldier married August 9, 1772, Eunice Kellogg, date of her death not on file.

He married September 23, 1781, Lydia Pettybone or Pettibone, she was born October 18, 1753. She was allowed pension on her application executed May 20, 1839, while a resident of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Children by first wife.

Theodotia born October 8, 1775.

Robert born December 30, 1793.

Children by second wife.

Stephen born May 13, 1782.

Moses born February 15, 1784.

Robert born December 19, 1785, died June 9, 1830.

Isaac born January 12, 1787.

Eunice born March 19, 1790.

Ann born February 15, 1792.

Richard born September 7, 1794, died June 3, 1830
John Jr. born October 15, 1796.

Henry born December 11, 1799, died October 15, 1831.

Note in handwriting, *I did not use the other names on family record as there was no way to determine whose children they were.*