

Pension Application for Samuel Verity

R.10930

State of New York

County of Queens SS.

On this Second day of June 1835, personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Queens, and State of New York, Samuel Verity, a resident of Jerusalem South in the County of Queens, and State aforesaid, aged Seventy years and upwards, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832:-

That he enlisted in the army of the United States, in the year 1775, being the year before the British troops landed at Flatlands, Long Island, (Kings County) which serves to Enable him to fix the date. He enlisted in the Summer in warm weather:- he does not remember the month. He enlisted with Colonel Benjamin Burtsall, who resided on the Long Island, South, road, at Jerusalem South, near the residence of Deponent, and near where deponent now resides. The Colonel raised the Company, himself, and it was composed principally of persons in the neighborhood. It was called "the Colonels Company". The number of the regiment, and him, he does not remember. His Colonel was Colonel Burtsall before mentioned. The names of the other field officers he does not remember.

After Colonel Burtsall had got the Company together, Captain Nostrand became the Captain of the Company. Simmons, the son of a farmer at Jericho, North Side of the Plains was the Lieutenant. He can't say who was the Ensign. That Deponent at the time of his Enlistment, resided, as aforesaid, at Jerusalem South, at the hands of one Solomon Pool, a weaver, to whom he was an apprentice at the time. Deponent's father and family lived in the neighborhood.

That immediately after Enlisting, deponent became actually occupied in the service as a soldier, and was & employed in and about Jerusalem South. He was out often with the said Colonel and different members of the Company upon Scouting parties, which they used to call "hunting the tories". They went from place to place, and attacked and entered the houses of people friendly to the British and took away their arms. That arms were taken or sent by some officer (who came from the main land), over to the main.

Deponent was also stationed in the second year of his services, as a Sentinel "down at the landing",--that is a place near the head of the Creek running out from Jerusalem South, where the people in the neighborhood generally drew up their boats which they used for haying and fishing in the bay,--to watch over the boats, and prevent the tories from taking them and going out aboard the British fleet which was expected off the Coast, and which did finally arrive.

Shortly before the battle which took place at Flatbush, near Flatbush, in August 1776, deponents company was marched to Flatbush, when they arrived the night before the battle. They were sent for on account of a battle being Expected. Flatbush is about twenty eight miles west of Jerusalem South. Deponent was in the

battle, with his company. After it was over, he retreated with the army to New York. He staid there, he thinks, one night, and then retreated with his company and the other troops towards Kingsbridge. From that place they went further back, as far as New Rochelle. Here, after remaining a day and a night, his term of service expired and Colonel Buntsall told the members of Deponent Company that they could go if they had a mind to, or stay, as they pleased. Deponent, with two others of his company, accepted the offer and returned home.

On their way home they fell in with a party of British who made them prisoners, but after a detention of one night they were discharged, on account of their being unarmed when they were taken, and on their way from the army, home. They then [?] and arrived at Jerusalem South without further difficulty. A few days after Deponents arrival he heard of the battle of White Plains. That the whole term of service of deponent according to the best of his belief was a year and three or four months. Deponent is unable to specify dates and times more particularly. He is illiterate, and his memory is bad. He "lost his learning" by means of Enlisting. Solomon Pool, his master, was to have sent him to school, but his apprenticeship was broken up by means of his Enlisting. Deponent received part of his pay from time to time in continental money, which finally turned out to be of no use to him, but there was six months pay due to him when he left, for which he never got any thing. It was in September 1776 that he left the Service. It was just "Marching time". (The time when people on the South Side of Long Island go out upon the marshes after Salt hay."

He hereby relinquishes his ever claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. (Signed with his mark) Samuel Verily

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid before Samuel Sherman, Clerk in open court.

Letter in folder dated May 6, 1924, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, R.10930, it appears that Samuel Vaerity applied for pension June 2, 1835, at which time he was 75 years old and a resident of Jerusalem South, Queens County, New York, where he also lived during the Revolution.

He alleged that he enlisted in 1775, served in captain Nostrand's Company, Colonel Benjamin Burtsall's New York Regiment, was engaged in the battle of Flatbush, left the service in September 1776, was captured on the way home but released the next day. His claim was not allowed as he failed to furnish proof of service as required by the pension laws.

The name of his wife is not on record. In 1853 the following were reported as "the only children and heirs of Samuel Verity" deceased: Hannah Verity, John Verity, Walter Verity, Richard Verity, Anabella wife of Obediah Verity, Mary wife of Smith Bartow, or Barton, Ann wife of Jotham Post, Jacob Verity, and Mary Ann wife of William Gould who were the children of Lawrence Verity; also Walter Wausa, Elisa wife

of Hiram Valentine and Ester wife of Benjamin Carpenter who were the children of Eliza Wausa.

The name Wausa is so illegibly written that it may be Wanna, it also appears as Wauzer or Wansar.