

## Pension Application for Geradus or Gerardus Clute

S.23160

State of New York

Albany County SS.

Geradus Clute, being duly sworn says that he now resides in the Town of Pompey, County of Onondaga, State aforesaid where he has resided for about fifteen years past to which place he removed from [Schenectady?] Schenectady County.

That this deponent was eighty one years old last August, was born in Albany but lived during his minority at a place called the Bought at the junction of the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers.

And this deponent further says that he has been in actual service in the militia & Army during the Revolutionary War at the times & in the manner following to wit.

That his first tour of service was in a company of Militia commanded by Capt Nanning Foisher. Said company was principally from Half Moon Saratoga County & were ordered out on an expedition against Sir John Johnson who was supposed to be hostile to the American Cause & to have been about raising forces consisting of his retainers & followers. The expedition was for the purpose of disarming said Johnson & his followers it was during the winter of 1775 & 6 as this deponent believes. L This deponent & said Company went to Johnstown on said expedition. He was armed & equipped, that went up with a sleigh, which had the charge of & & which carried others of said company. General Schuyler was at Johnstown as commanding officer—This deponent was absent on said expedition about ten days.

And this deponent further says that his next military service was in 1777 in said Capt Nanning Fisher's company in a body of Militia under Major Ezekiel Dayton as commanding officer. Said company & this deponent as a member thereof were called out in July of said year & marched to Fort Edward where they were stationed & when they remained until the advance of General Burgoine when they moved south along the Hudson River to a station Called Crum Ruff. When lying at said last named station, they were attacked by a party of the enemies forces consisting of Indians, who fired from a swamp thicket. Two or three of the body of militia to which this deponent was attached were killed. Their fire was returned from a cannon, which was fired into the thicket—which dispersed & drove off the assailants.

That this deponent in said body of Militia then moved down to Saratoga, where the rear guard of our party were again attacked.

We then moved on to Stillwater & from there to VanSchaick's Island, where the said company was dismissed. VanSchaick's Island was near the farm of the deponent's father where this deponent then lived. Part of the American forces at this time were encamped on this deponent's farm, & the quarters of Gen. Poor were at this deponent's father's house. This deponent was Intimately & particularly acquainted with the surrounding country & on account of such knowledge was requested to join & did attach himself to the Brigade of said Poor & was attached to Capt. Bill's Company. Lieutenant Lee of Col. Adams' Regiment. This deponent together with part of said company went out on scouting parties. Once over on the east side of the Hudson River & once over in Saratoga County. This deponent was not enlisted in said company but remained attached to said company Regiment & Brigade & in actual service as a soldier in manner aforesaid & until the surrender of Burgoine.

That this deponent for a short period was lame & remained at home as an invalid, but as soon as he became well, he joined the said company & remained attached thereto until the surrender of Burgoine & was with the army, at the time of said surrender & witnesses the ceremony thereof.

The battle at Bemis Heights took place during this deponent's lameness. Col. Adams was killed in said action & Capt. Bill was wounded by a ball in the shoulder & died at Albany where he was taken for medical attention, as this deponent believes.

And this deponent further says that in the year 1778 as this deponent believes, this deponent was engaged in another tour of service in the militia. This deponent was one of a company of militia

from the Town of Half Moon commanded by Capt Vandenburgh in the Regiment of Col. Gorden which was ordered out for the defense of the country about Schoharie.

They moved on toward said frontier & arrived at a fort called Fort Plank now Fort Plain as this deponent believes, on the Mohawk River, when there they saw the light from the fire of Cherry Valley. They arrived at said last named place after the conflagration & murder of many of the inhabitants & this deponent saw the smokey ruins of houses & many mutilated bodies of the slain. The enemy having retreated this deponent together with said company returned home.

This deponent was about on said last named tour of duty about twenty nine or thirty days.

And this deponent further says that he had certificates of his service given by Col. Jacobus VanSchoonhaven who was the successor of Col. Gorden, above mentioned of this deponent's military service or part of them & which said certificate of service the deponent sold many years ago to one James McChesney of the City of Albany. (Signed with his mark) Gerardus Clute

Witness. C. B. Lansing sworn to before me this 18 September 1835.

Letter in folder dated April 4, 1930, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.23160 it appears that Geradus or Gerardus Clute was born in August 1754, in Albany. He lived during his minority (at a place called the bought at the junction of the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers). This place was afterward called Watervliet, Albany County, New York.

He served in the winter of 1775 and 1776 ten days as sergeant in Captain Nanning Vischer's Company of New York Militia, and was in an expedition against Sir John Johnson. He enlisted in July 1777 and served in Captain Nanning Vischer's Company under Major Eze3kiel Taylor. He was in a skirmish with the Indians at Crumruff, and a skirmish at Stillwater and was discharged at VanSchaick's Island, after which he was attached to Captain Bill's company, Colonel Adams' Regiment and was in scouting parties until the surrender of Burgoyne, his service in all amounting to three months. In 1778 he served about three months at different times, in captain VanDenbergh's Company, a part of the time under Colonel Gorden.

He was allowed pension on his application executed September 18, 1835, at which time he was living at Pompey, Onondaga county, New york, having formerly lived at Niskayuna, Schenectady County New York.

The soldier stated that VanSchaick's Island was near his father's farm, his father's name is not given, and General Poor had headquarters at his father's house.

No reference is made to wife or children.