

Pension Application for Jacob Lusk

S.29302

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

State of New York

Wayne County

On this 2d day of October (1832) personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting in and for the County of Wayne aforesaid Jacob Lusk a resident of Walworth in the County of Wayne and State of New York aged Sixty five years who being first duly sworn according to Law, 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 under the following named officers and served as herein stated, to with:

That he volunteered for one month under the command of Captain Clough. Went from Claverack then Albany County now, Columbia County State of New York. Marched to Canajoharrie [Canajoharie] about three miles north of the Mohawk River to Little Fort called Fort Plank at that place Col. Gordon commanded, he was at the fort when the Indians destroyed Cherry Valley. He served out the term of one month.

He volunteered in the fall of the year 1778 for the same named month and that in the following spring of 1779 the militia of the County of Albany and perhaps that of all the State were divided in Classes of twelve each (or thereabouts) Each of these classes had to furnish a man for the term of nine months and that one of these classes did hire him he was mustered he was mustered [sic] at [?] Peter Vanness's then sent without a commissioned officer to Fort Plank above named where he was put inter the command of Lieutenant Col. Wisenvelt who commanded the fourth New York Regiment called Livingston's Regiment he was sent from thence to Stone Robbie under the command of Captain Norton.

That about the first of June the camp broke up at Stone Robbie and marched to Bowman's Creek then the whole regiment came by the [?] and co convened carrying Boats and provisions across from the Mohawk River to Otsego Lake the head of the Susquehannah River about the first of July 1779 the camp was broken up at Bowman's Creek and marched over the Country to foot of Otsego Lake here Brigadier General Clinton led the command of all the forces in this place we built a dam across the outlet of the Lake about the last of July let out the water embarked in the boat and descended [descended] the Susquehannah To Tioga .

Point on our way down the River we met a detachment sent by Gen. Sullivan to know of use were coming we stayed a few days at Tiog[a] Point, then commenced our march to Northwestern to Seneca Lak[e], we marched up the Chemung or Tioga River but we had not proceeded more than ten miles before we came where the Indians and Tories had made a stand they had made a breast work of logs from the river nearly to the Mountain but it was soon forced and the enemy driven off remembers of them were killed being little more than were killed he does not remember of any of our men

being killed he was not in the Battle he then being little more than twelve years of age was in the rear to Guard the pack horses we camped that night and the rest on the ground that the enemy left here, General Sullivan informed us that we had only provisions enough to last us to travel but 80 miles further and that to accomplish the objects of the expedition he should go 160 miles and then made a proposition to go on half across and those of the army who felt disposed to pursue the enemy on the condition of having but half Rations were requested to give their Cheers [cheers]. The air was rent with the unanimous shout. The next day we marched for the Seneca Lake in a northerly direction and after someday saw the lake at the outlet opposite where Geneva now stands. We continued our march forded the outlet of the Lake and encamped in a place called the Canadrigo Castle an Indian settlement now called old Castle when were found a large orchard of apple trees and plenty of green Corn—

And he was then taken lame and was sent back to Tioga Point with two or three hundred others there Remained until General Sullivan returned from the expedition then embarked and descended the Susquehannah River to a place then called Wioming [Wyoming] in the State of Pennsylvania from thence went to the Delaware a place called Easton crossed the Delaware into the State of New Jersey passed through Moraven Town a small village, continued our march towards Morristown at Pumpton plains, the Army was inspected by General Washington—and proceeded [proceeded] on to a place called Basking Ridge about three miles from Morristown where we arrived about the first of December and commenced building huts for winter quarters.

About the last days of December he was discharged having served out his term of nine months and returned home. These were state troops he [?] in the year 1780. Was again hired by a class as before. Mustered as before and went to Albany, from thence was sent to Johnstown north of the Mohawk River and was put into the Company of Captain Vroman.

We here relieved a company of Regular troops belonged [belonging] to Co. Harpers Regiment. We are thin ordered to Schenectady to transport guard boats that were taking flour to Fort Stanwix and that he returned to Johnstown in the latter part of the season we were ordered to Herkimer where we were embodied [embodied] under Major Benscoten. Col. Harper was not with us and that he was ten marched for Fort Stanwicks, we fell in with a body of Indians, defested them, and proceeded without further trouble to Fort Stanwix then relieved a Regiment of Regulars a company of Artillery belonging to the Regular troops, remained with us. Here we staid about two months and were relieved by a Regiment of Regular troops and that while he was in this place Gen. Van Rensalaer [sic] fough[t] a battle on the Mohawk River, sent an express to Major Benscoten to head the enemy at Oneida Lake, a detachment of sixty or seventy men were sent and were all killed and taken except two we then marched slowly to Schenectady, and were there discharged about the first of December had no written discharge.

And in the year 1781 in the spring of that year was again hired by a class, sent to Albany from thence to Johnstown he was under the command of Captain

Cannon[s] Regiment commanded by Co. Willett New York State troops, he staid there but a short time marched to Fort Plain on the south side of the Mohawk River here Col Willet commanded in person and that sometime in the month of June he thinks a body of Indians were discovered at a place called Turlock, Col Willet called all the men he could and marched for the enemy and that he this deponent was one who march[ed] with Col. Willett. Started from Fort Plains about dark expecting to reach the Indian Camps before day; but did not arrive until five in the morning.

The Col. divided us into three division one was to show themselves to the enemy and retreat so as to show themselves to the enemy and retreat so as to bring the enemy between the two other divisions, one of which was commanded by Col. Willet and the other by Major Kean or McKean, a severe combat ensued Major McKean received his death wound near the deponent's side and that he received a wound in his third finger of his right hand and that there was from twenty five to forty killed and wounded but the enemy were defeated we found two white children massacred and uncovered some cattle then returned to Fort Plain, from thence he marched to Herkimer, at this place the Indians had killed Capt. Elsworth and some others just before he arrived at that place staid at the last mentioned place nearly through the summer and at Fort Dayton.

He then marched from Fort Plain from thence in Cap. Cannons Company to Ballstown and built a fort this term of service was to be eight months but before it quite expired he enlisted in the company of Capt Canon, Regiment of Col. Willet for the term of three years at the end of the aforesaid eight months the men that had enlisted were called Levies and received Furlows [furloughs] until Spring 1781 first December.

I was mustered at Albany by a man named Lansing I think, and received from him a certificate for five hundred acres of Bounty Land, marched to Schoharie lay a short time at the lower fort and then marched to the upper fort and staid there through the Summer in the fall marched to Fort Plain from thence to Johnstown continued there till the beginning of winter then returned to Fort Plain, where he was inoculated for the small pox and that he was next marched to Herkimer staid there until the first of February 1783, a Rhode Island regiment joined us here a detachment was ordered to march to Reduce Oswego a fort on Lake Oswego a fort on Lake Ontario. Col Willet's Regiment all went across Onid [Oneida?] Lake in sleighs then left them, men misled by our Pilot and were obliged to return to Herkimer much frozen and starved and that he remained at Herkimer until spring when an offer arrived from the east with news of peace and that he staid at Herkimer near through the summer was at Fort Plain when General Washington came there, went as one of a guard with the General to Fort Stanwix and returned with him to Herkimer late in the fall the Regiment marched to Schenectady and there staid until the first of January 1784 when we were discharged [???] had a written discharge signed by [???] is lost.

And declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state.

And that he has no record of his age he [?] one but it was burnt up in [???] was accidentally consumed by fire.

And that he was born in the Town of Claverack, County of Albany now County of Columbia State of New York, in the year 1766. He removed to the County of Wayne, State of New York where he now resides. The men that will certify to my character for truth and veracity are Jonathan Bogule, Luther Tucker, Gilbert Hinkley. (Signed) Jacob Lusk.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 2d day of October 1832. John S. Cuyler, Clerk