

Pension Application for John Jacob Moyer

S.13960

State of New York

County of Montgomery SS

On the 29th day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty two, personally appeared before Henry J. Dievendorf Esquire one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County, John Jacob Moyer a resident of the town of Minden, in the County & State aforesaid, aged eighty one years in February hath when 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 mentioned.

That in the month of February 1776 he was called upon and entered the service of his country in a Company Commanded by Capt Henry Diefendorf, (1) Lieut Jacob Diefendorf; Ensign George Countryman in Colo. Ebenezer Cox's Regiment, that the Company to which he so belonged was then Marched to Johnstown, a distance of about eighteen miles. When the Militia from different directions, were collected. That they were then stationed several days under Command of Gen. Schuyler, when they were discharged, & he returned home.--That in the month of June following he was again called out in the Company to which he belonged, with the regiment—under Colo. Cox (2) & marched under command of Gen. Herkimer to Cherry Valley, then South to Unadilla where they were stationed about three weeks until a compromise was made between Gen. Herkimer & Colo. Brant (3) who there commanded a party of Indians, troops & Tories, when they were discharged & they returned home—The precise term of Service in going to, Staying at & returning from Johnstown aforesaid, & in going to, staying at & returning from Unadilla aforesaid he Cannot State, but that he did, as he believes at least two Months actual duty in the Service of his Country.

That in the month of June 1777 he was again called into the Service of his Country, by his Said officers above named and stationed with the Company to which he belonged near the place where Fort Plank was afterwards built, was then kept on duty about eight days when they were allowed to return home for a short time, that he was Called out a different time, put on duty & sent out in Scouting parties in different directions until about the first of August following when he with the regiment to which he belonged marched to Oriskany in the County of Oneida, when he was on the sixth day of August engaged in the Oriskany battle (4) in which his said Capt. Diefendorf & Colo. Cox were killed—That about three days after the battle they returned home. When he was again kept on duty & out in Scouting parties, the most of the time until about the first of October following when they were Marched towards Stillwater on their way to Join in the battle against Burgoyne (5)—That when they arrived near the place of battle, they were informed that the battle was over or that they were not wanted and they returned home, where he Continued on duty & out in Scouting parties as circumstances required until some time in the month of November following. When hostilities of that season ended, that he was the most of the time during that season in the service of his Country & was, required to be in Constant readiness and that he did as he believes, at least three months actual duty in the Service of his Country.—

That in the month of May 1778 he was again Called into Service by Capt. Jacob Diefendorf, (6) who succeeded Capt. Henry Diefendorf Killed in the Oriskany battle as above mentioned, That he was Stationed at Fort Plank there kept on duty & out in Scouting parties in different directions, as Circumstances required to check the Indians & Tories, that he was So kept on duty the most of the time until in the month of November following when they were marched to Cherry Valley (7) about twelve Miles South of the Mohawk River to Protect the

inhabitants from tory & Savage Cruelties, that they did not arrived there in time to save the place from Savage destruction, but remained there a Short time, buried the dead & then returned, that Soon after they returned the hostilities of the Season ended & he was dismissed, And that during that Season he did, as he believes, at least four months actual duty in the Service of his Country.

That in the Month of May 1779 he was again Called into Service by his said Captain, was stationed at Fort Plank, there kept on duty & out in Scouting parties to protect the Inhabitants from the ravages of the Indians & tories, was so kept in Service almost continually, was occasionally allowed to go home for Short periods but was required to be in Constant readiness, that he so continued to serve until about the month of December following, when hostilities of that season ended, And that during that season he did, as he believes, at least four months actual duty in the Service of his Country.

That about the first of May 1780 he was again Called unto Service by his Said Captain & was Stationed at Fort Plank, there kept on duty & out in parties as circumstances required until about the last of July When he in the Company in which he belonged with other men under Colo. Klock (8) & Gen Van Rensselaer marched to Fort Stanwix in the County of Oneida, about fifty miles up the Mohawk River to guard the government boats & property to that place, that he was imployed about eight day in that Service—That after they returned he was again Stationed at Fort Plank there kept on duty & out in parties as circumstances required, until Some time in the Month of December following in he believes when he was again allowed to go home—and that he did, during that Season as he believes at least three Months actual duty in the Service of his Country.—

That in the month of May 1781 he was again Called into Service by his said Captain, was Stationed at Fort Plank, there kept on duty and out in parties as circumstances required, was sent out in different directions & kept on duty almost continually, until in October following was then left to guard the Fort & inhabitants when Colo. Willet & Majr. Coopman with all the men it would do to take from the Forts Marched to Johnstown to meet the enemy Commanded by Colo. Butler & Majr Ross, that after the Johnstown battle (9) & when Colo. Willett & his men were marching up the Mohawk River in pursuit of Butler & Ross he joined them & pursued the enemy to the West Canada Creek (10) where they were overtakin [sic], Butler & Several of his party, Killed and then they returned home—And that he did during that Season, as he believes, at least three months, actual duty in the Service of his Company.

That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure who can testify to all of his Service.—

That he was born in Minden in the County and State aforesaid—

That he has no record of his age.—

That he was living in the Town County & State aforesaid, when called into Service as aforesaid, where he has Continued to live Since the war & now lives.

That he was called into Service at the different times & in the manner above mentioned—

That he Cannot state the names of regular officers who were with troops; continental or Militia regiments or the general circumstances of his Service, other than as the same is by him above Stated.—

That he never received a written discharge from the Service.—

That Solomon S. Moyer & Jacob J. Moyer are the names of persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his Services as a Soldier of the revolution, and that there is no clergyman residing in his immediate vicinity.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State—(Signed with his mark) John Jacob Moyer

Sworn to and Subscribed the day & year aforesaid before me, Henry J. Diefendorff a Judge of Montgomery County Court Pleas.

End Notes—S.13960—John Jacob Meyer

1. Captain Henry Dieffendorf of the Fifth Company in Colonel Nicholas Herkimer's First Regiment of Tryon County Militia. The following were the company officers, Jacob Dieffendorf as the first lieutenant, Henry Moyer as the second lieutenant and George Countryman as the ensign.
2. Ebenezer Cox was the lieutenant colonel in Herkimer's Regiment. On September 5, 1776 Herkimer was appointed brigadier general of the Tryon County Militia Brigade. Cox was appointed colonel and Major William Seeber was appointed the lieutenant colonel of the First Tryon.
3. The meeting at Unadilla with Captain Joseph Brant and General Herkimer happened on June 27, 1777.
4. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on August 6, 1777.
5. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British forces on October 17, 1777.
6. Jacob was commissioned captain on March 4, 1780. The following were officers of the company and commissioned on the same date: George Countryman as the first lieutenant, Nicholas Bardt as the second lieutenant and Richard Elwood as the ensign.
7. Cherry Valley was attacked on November 11, 1778 by Captains Walter Butler and Joseph Brant.
8. Jacob Klock was the Colonel of the Second Regiment of Tryon County Militia. Robert VanRensselaer was appointed brigadier general on June 16, 1780 of the Second Brigade of the Albany County Militia. The Tryon County Militia was attached to this brigade in 1780.
9. The Battle of Johnstown was fought on October 25, 1781. The British forces were commanded by Major John Ross and Captain Walter Butler. Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett commanded the American Forces. Major Abraham Copeman of the First Regiment of Tryon County Militia.
10. The Skirmish at West Canada Creek was fought on October 30, 1781.