

Pension Application for Henry Snook, or Snoeck, Snuke, etc.

S.11435

State of New York
Montgomery County SS

On the Nineteenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County now sitting at Johnstown in said County Henry Snook a resident of the town of Florida in the County and State aforesaid aged Seventy two years who first being 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That in the year 1776 he belonged to a Company of Militia of the town of Florida in said County whereof Samuel Pettingell (1) was Captain in a Regiment Commanded by Col Frederick Fisher of the New York State Militia that Volkert Veeder was Lieutenant Col in said Regiment. That in the summer of seventeen hundred & seventy six or 1777 this deponent cannot remember which; this deponent was drafted from Captain Pettingell's Company to go to Sacondaga about twenty miles from Florida to keep guard at an Old Blockhouse at that place - That this deponents Father William Snook (2) who was then a Lieutenant of the Company went with this deponent & other men from said company the names of some of them the deponent now recollects; to wit Peter Young, William Young, Cornelius Van Horne & John McGraw - That the draft from said Company crossed the Mohawk River near Tripes Hill and so on to Sacondaga. that the time this deponent was stationed there he cannot Remember how long; but he recollects that he and those from his Company stayed there until they were regularly Relieved; that he also recollects that his Father as Lieutenant had Command of the Men at the Fort while we lay there for the defence of that place. This deponent further says that he was also drafted from said Company to go to Johnstown and keep guard at a Fort near the Johnstown Jail. he recollects that Daniel McGraw & William Phillips were also among the number from said Company, that they went to Johnstown from Florida & crossed the Mohawk River at Tripes Hill & continued in the Fort at Johnstown until they were discharged but this deponent cannot tell how long he lay there nor can he tell the year but believes it was 1776 or the forepart of the year 1777. He recollects that one Vrooman (3) was Captain Commanding the Fort Ann, Beekman Lieutenant and a man by the name of Hatch was Sergeant -

And this deponent further says that some time in the summer of 1777 Before the Oriskany Battle was fought between the Americans & British Captain Pettingell's Company & the Regiment Commanded by Col Frederick Fisher was ordered out to March to Oriskany in the County of Oneida: That Captain Pettingell's Company went up on the South side of the Mohawk River some on Foot and others on Horse back, untill they arrived at Fort Plank a little above the place now called Fort Plain. That Col. Fisher gave orders that Horses should not be further used for the Troops to ride. And this deponent with two others were ordered back with about fourteen head of Horses belonging to Captain Pettingell's Company & this deponent returned down the River to Florida with the Horses before mentioned and did not return. That in the Oriskany Battle Captain Pettingell & John Pettingell James Phillips, Peter Putman & Stephen Tuttle the privates of said Company, were killed in the Oriskany Battle as this deponent was then informed and verily believes; That his Father William Snook a Lieutenant in the Company was also in the Battle- That after the Battle, in consequence of the death of Captain Pettingell. The deponents Father was appointed Captain of said Company- And this deponent further says that after the Oriskany Battle, And after this deponents father had been appointed Captain of the Company formerly commanded by Captain Pettingell to which this deponent belonged: said Company had been ordered out as many as four times & marched from Florida to Fort Plank near the Place called Fort Plain upon alarms excited by the Indians and British: And on the several times before mentioned returned again. But from the lapse of time this deponent is utterly unable to state how long they were engaged in the Service at Fort Plank on the several occasions aforesaid nor can he pretend to state the year or times with any degree of accuracy.

And this deponent further says that Captain Snooks Company was ordered out & Marched to Fort Windecker some distance above Fort Plank and lay there some time in the American Service Col. Frederick Fisher was also at Fort Windecker at the time & the Forces collected there amounted to about two hundred men as near as he could judge- And their Captain Snooks Company was permitted to return to Florida- And after wards the Company was ordered to March up the Mohawk River as far as the German Flatts in the County of Herkimer for the protection of that place and was stationed there for some length of time under Command of Col Fisher: And said Company in the like manner was ordered to the German Flatts a second time under Command of Col Fisher. But this deponent is wholly unable to give any satisfactory account how long he layed at Fort Plank, Fort Windecker and the German Flatts on the several occasions before mentioned- he can only say that he was engaged a great deal of his time during the most troublesome period of the war, as the Militia were repeatedly called out upon Alarms. And this deponent says that he was drafted from Captain Snooks Company to go again to Johnstown and lay there in the Fort near the Jail under the Command of Major John Newkirk. (4) that this deponent served the Country untill he was discharged But cannot say how long, it was as long as two weeks & probably longer- He is also unable to state

the year. That during the war Captain Snooks Company was also ordered out & Marched to Bowmans Creek And was absent near a fortnight. That they marched up the Mohawk River to Canajoharie & from there to Bowmans Creek he recollects that Col. Frederick Fisher was there and Lieutenant [Colonel] Volkert Veeder - The Americans were apprehensive of an Attack from the Indians at that place.

And this deponent further says that the Americans apprehended an attack at Stone Arabia in the town of Palatine in said County That Col Fishers Regiment was ordered to March for the protection of that place & after this deponent had arrived he was ordered to Return back to warn the men who had neglected to report themselves in arms at Stone Arabia--

That he came back served written orders upon some of the officers of Captain David McMasters—gave written orders to Captain Jellis Fonda (5) and warned in person the delinquents of his father's company—to appear at Stone Arabia and this deponent returned back to Stone Arabia and served there between ten and twelve days & was then discharged.

This deponent was also drafted from his Fathers company and stationed as a guard on Tripes Hill to watch the Tories and Indians, This service he thinks was rendered before Genl Burgoyne (6) was taken but is not certain and he is unable to say how long he continued at Tripes Hill but Judges that it was about ten days. This deponent in like manner was stationed as a guard near for Fort Hunter in Florida under the command of his Father as near as he can recollect who was then Captain of a company to which the deponent belonged—and served there on guard as near as he can recollect ten or twelve days—

And this deponent further says that he volunteered with a number of whigs to go and take one William Newberry & William Rombo who were called British spies—and who were connected with one Harry Hare (7) a British Spy. That this deponent and his company found Newbury & Rombo in the woods on the Eastside of the Schoharie Creek in the town of Florida, and took them prisoners and surrendered them to Captain Snook and Major Newkirk and this deponent then remembers and believes that they were publicly executed at Canajoharie as British Spies, and that Hare's their companion, who had also been taken by Captain Snook and some men under his command was also executed as a spy. And this deponent further says that he always held himself in readiness as a minute man during the whole war to serve the country when called upon when by draft or as a volunteer. And that he believes that in the various services in which he has been engaged, that the same would amount to two years & upwards.

And this deponent further says that he was born in the town of Florida in said county in the year 1760. That he has a record of his age in his family Bible which was written by his [?] many years ago, that his Fathers family Bible in which his age was recorded as he has been informed and believes, was burnt in the Revolution, when his fathers House and Barn was Burnt by the British & Indians & that this deponent resided in Florida (8) when he entered the service and has lived there ever since. That in the service which he rendered he was drafted principally, and volunteered some of the time. And served on his own account. That he has stated that the principle officers and the circumstances of his service. As near as he can recollect. That he never received a discharge--and has no documentary evidence that he expects to be able to prove some of the services then rendered by witnesses to wit, John McGraw & Victor Putman—and 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 or of any of the United States. And this deponent expects to prove by Nicholas Hill and John McGraw who can testify as to the veracity of this deponent and of their belief as to this deponents services as a soldier of the Revolution. (Signed) Henry Snook (9)

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Geo. D. Ferguson, Clerk.

End Notes—S.11435--Henry Snook

1. Samuel Pettingell was appointed Captain of the Fifth Company in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia on August 26, 1775.
2. William Snook was appointed second lieutenant late in 1775 or early in 1776. He was commissioned second lieutenant on June 25, 1778.
3. This tour of service actually happened in 1780. Walter J. Vrooman was appointed Captain on May 11, 1780 in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant John Harper's Regiment of New York State Levies. William Hatch served as a sergeant in this company in 1780.
4. John Newkirk was the major of colonel Visscher's Regiment.
5. Captains David McMaster and Jellis Fonda of Colonel Visscher's Regiment.
6. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British forces on October 17, 1777 to Major General Horatio Gates at Saratoga.
7. See pps 222-231 of Vol. I of Don't Shoot for the hanging of Henry Hare.
8. Warren's Bush is not in the Town of Florida; it was burned on October 24, 1781.
9. Receipt Roll of February 16, 1786, sworn to by Lieutenant Colonel Volkert Veeder paid on June 4, 1785 to Henry for the following certificates: No. 41141 £ ____..10..8; 31158 5..4; 31504 4..2; 30266 19..6 2/3;

31242 8..10; 31100 6..11; 31301 10..0 FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 74, folder 100, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Henry also served as follows: On October 2, 1786, Henry was appointed as ensign of Captain Thomas Van Horne's Seventh Company in Lieutenant Colonel Commandant John Newkirk's Regiment of Montgomery County Militia. FROM: Military minutes of the Council of Appointment of the State of New York 1783-1821, ed. Hugh Hastings, James B. Lyon, State Printer, Albany, N.Y., 1901, Vol. I, p. 102. Also in the Book of Baptisms for the Dutch Reformed Church of Caughnawaga on page 84, William born March 19, 1787 and bap. On April 16, 1787, son of Henry and Sophia Oosterman Snook.