

Pension Application for Gersham Vanderwarker

S.10037

State of New York

Oswego County SS

On this Tenth day of December In the year 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas of the County of Oswego now sitting, Gersham Vanderwarker a resident of the Town of Oswego in said County of Oswego aged Seventy Six 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 applicant is not certain as to the time or place of his birth but has an indistinct recollection of living in Saratoga when a child and of moving from thence with his father with the neighbourhood of Fort Hunter, when he was about six years of age.

That he has no record of his age, but according to his own recollections and the statements of his family he was born in the year 1757. That Fort Hunter aforesaid was situated on the Mohawk River in the County of Montgomery. That applicant remained there about two years, when he removed to Warren's Bush a few miles distant in said County, where he remained with his father's family about twelve years. That applicant then removed with his father's family to the Susquehannah about 22 miles below Cooperstown; that soon after the arrival of applicant at the last mentioned place he enlisted about the first of April in the year 1776 for during the war in a company of Rangers under Captain John Wynn. Lieutenant Peter Schambling, Ensign Lawrence Bros. Applicant is confident that he enlisted for during the war and that the consideration stipulated was 500 acres of Land and a bounty of \$10 and 54/4 wages per month. That applicant received his wages from Daniel Gros paymaster, but never received his land or Bounty. That immediately after enlisting as aforesaid he went to Cooperstown where he joined his company that Curtliff Snyder was the Sergaent who enlisted applicant on this occasion.

That he remained at Cooperstown (then a station for Scouting parties) continually doing duty as a soldier, until in the fall when he went with his company to Cherry Valley, from whence after a few days he went to Goteen Van Alstine's in Canajoharie with his company; from thence said applicant with his company, were sent by order of of [sic] Committee of Safety, who met at said V'n Alstines to Johnstown, from thence applicant with his company as sent to a place about seven miles from Johnstown, then called Philadelphia Bush; from this said last place, applicant with; his company were ordered about the last of the fall or forepart of the Winter of 1776 to the Village of Cherry Valley, where they remained nearly through the winter, and then were dispatched down the Susquehannah in pursuit of some militia, who had been fined for not training pursuant to orders, that three of said militia men were taken and brought back to Cherry Valley after this a few days, applicant went back to the Susquehannah and remained there till about the first of April when applicant was dismissed in consequence of his Captain having killed a man of the

name of Weaver by reason of which his company aforesaid was dissolved that upon his first enlistment applicants father John Vanderwarker was major. That during the period that applicant was at Cooperstown & Cherryvalley, he belonged to Samuel Campbells Regiment.

Applicant further states that immediately after his dismissal as aforesaid, he was again enlisted by the said Curtliff Snyder Sergeant with the company of Gerrit Putman for the term of nine months; the office of Lieutenant was held by a man of the name of Putman, Benjamin Dix, ensign. Applicant during the whole of this term of nine months was stationed at a place called Long candle about two & a half miles east of the German Flats on the Mohawk River; that this place there were two Forts or rather Picket defences, one around the meeting House, and one around the House of General Herkimer. There were then other companies stationed here, one under Captain John Smith, one under a Captain whose name applicant calls Put Broth (as near as he can be understood) one under Captain Helmer. That the regiment he belonged to was commanded by Colonel Willet, that during this last term of service applicant was frequently engaged in skirmishes with the Indians and Tories and was constantly on duty as a soldier.

That applicant served out the above mentioned term of nine months and about the first of March 1778 again enlisted into the company of Gerrit Putman the captain under whom he served the last aforesaid term, for another term of nine months that applicant served with the same companies that he did during the previous term of nine months, that he belonged to the regiment of Colonel Willett and served part of the time at Fort Plank, that in the latter part of this last period of nine months, applicant was engaged with the other companies in a severe skirmish with a body of Tories and Indians, in which of fray there were of the Americans one killed and fifteen wounded that immediately after this expiration of this last term applicant enlisted at Schenectady as a Bateau man under Captain Peterson for the term of six months and was engaged during the whole of the term in carrying provisions, ammunition from Schenectady to Fort Stanwick accompanied by a guard.

Applicant further states that after his Bateau service had expired, an order was issued that every eight men should furnish a man for actual service, and that he was hired by Reanea Van Every, John Van Every, Cornelius VanEvery, Vance Teur, Abraham VanAlstine, Cornelius van Alstine & three others making in the whole eight to serve as a substitute for them for nine months and repaired immediately to the German flats where he had before been stationed and remained there about four or five months without being incorporated in any particular company, serving some times in one company & sometimes in another.

Captains Putman, Smith, Helmer and Put Brath had command of companies at that station during the service of applicant. Applicant is of opinion that Colonel Bellinger had the command of this station at this time.

Applicant further states that since the Revolutionary War he has resided at the place when he first enlisted as aforesaid and at Sharon in the County of Schoharie and at Canajoharie in the County of Montgomery aforesaid, applicant states that

during the whole of the aforesaid services in the Revolutionary War he served in the capacity of a private soldier. L Applicant further states that he has procured the affidavits of George Waggoner of the Town of Minden in the County of Montgomery proving his first term of service of one year and his term of nine months commencing on the first of April 1777 and of Conrad Mowers of the Town of Root in the County of Montgomery proving the service applicant for the Term of nine months commencing in the spring of the year 1778.

That for the last eleven years applicant has resided in Sharon Schoharie County that he now resides in Oswego, Oswego County where he has lived for the last two months, that in every instance that applicant was discharged upon the expiration of several terms of service aforesaid, he received a written discharge, but are not lost. That Cornelius Strobeck and William Kniskern of the Town of Oswego have been acquainted with applicant about thirty years and will testify to his character for truth and veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is onto on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Gersham Vanderwarker

Sworn to & subscribed this tenth day of December 1833 before D. McPherson, dep. Clerk of Oswego, County Courts.