

Pension Application for Adam Vrooman

W.20109 (Widow: Engelica)

State of New York

County of Schenectady SS.

On this Seventeenth day of October 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 in and for said County now sitting Adam Vrooman a resident of the City of Schenectady in said county & state aged seventy two 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.

He was born in the township of Schenectady in the County of Albany in the State of New York on the thirteenth [thirteenth] day of April.

He has no record of his age except that contained in his family Bible.

When he was called into the service of the United States in the army of the revolution he was living in said township [blank space] and since the revolutionary war he has lived in the same place & he now lives in the City of Schenectady aforesaid.

He entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the month of October in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six, he enlisted as a private in the company of minute men commanded by Captain John Mynderse in the Regiment whereof Abraham Wemple was a Colonel. His other company & field officers were James H. Peek & Lawrence Mynderse Lieutenants Abraham J. Truax Ensign, Christopher C. Yates Lieutenant Colonel, Abraham Swits and Myndert Wemple Majors. In this company he served under one engagement until the end of the war. During the first part of his service in said Company he acted as a corporal, and for more than two years as Sergeant.

He performed military duty in said Company on all occasions when his company was called out, and these occasions were very frequent. His recollection does not serve him sufficiently well to specify all the places he marched to, nor all the expeditions in which he engaged, nor yet the dates or duration of these expeditions in which he engaged, nor yet the dates or duration of these expeditions. The principal ones which he recollects are as follows.

In the year 1776 he marched to the Sandflatts on an alarm, with a detachment of militia. Also in the spring of the year 1777 to Ballston.

In the summer of the year 1777 to Lake George, Fort Edward, Snook kill, fort (Edward) Miller, Saratoga, Stillwater & Bemis's Heights. At Snook Kill aforesaid and the other posts herein before named, he served as a picket (guard). At Snookkill the Detachment with which he served as attacked by Burgoyne's troops & a battle ensued, and the American army returned to Fort Miller. From thence General Schuyler the commander retreated to Saratoga. At each of the above named posts he served at least for the term of one month. He was in the battle of September 19, 1777, when the contest continued until dark, and in several skirmishes which ensued during attacks

made on the British pickets. He remained at said forts during the whole of the northern campaign of 1777 until after the surrender of Burgoyne & his army.

He has marched to Fort Hunter several times. The militia were often called out on alarms, but the alarm subsiding, they were dismissed. On such occasions claimant was often called to Kiadarosseros [Kaydeross Creek] & Fort Hunter aforesaid and other places. He has marched to & performed garrison duty at Caughnawaga, Palatine, Fort Paris in Stone Arabia, and Fort Plank all in the year 1778, and for the term of a month at each place, except Fort Paris where he served two months. He has marched to and mounted guard at the 3 different forts in Schoharie both before and after the destruction of the Schoharie settlements by the enemy—also at Cobleskill and Brakebeen (near Cherry Valley) for a term exceeding one month at each place, to wit for a period in the whole of about six months in the years 1778, 1779 & 1780—also at Johnstown in the year 1781. He went out on numerous occasions as a scout. And when not out in distant expeditions and as a spy or scout, he performed his quota of duty in guarding Schenectady which was surrounded with pickets & had a fortress.

The whole period for which he served in the garrison & in the field exceeds two years.

The following are the names of some of the regular officers whom he knew, or who were with the troops where he served, and such continental and militia regiments or companies with which he served, or as he can recollect, viz: General Arnold, general Schuyler, Colonel VanDyck, Col. Gaansevoort, Major Fink, Capts Jacob Windell, Lieut Hardenbergh, Adjutant Tiera, Capt. Dubois C &c.

He never received any written discharge from the service.

He has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except those whose depositions are hereunto annexed.

The following are the names of persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, to wit, John Mullen & Jacob Clute.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Adam Vrooman

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year first aforesaid. John S. Vrooman,
Clerk

Letter in folder dated October 5, 1935, written in response to an inquiry.

The data pertaining to Adam Vrooman which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, W.20109, based upon his service in the War of the Revolution.

Adam Vrooman was born in Schenectady, New York, April 20, 1760 and was baptized, May 25, 1760 in the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church. He was the son of Isaac Vrooman and Doratheia Boschkirk.

While residing in Schenectady, New York, Adam Vrooman enlisted in the fall of 1776, served as a private, corporal and sergeant at various times in Captains John Mynderse's and Jellis Fonda's companies, Colonel Abraham Wemple's New York regiment; he was in the northern campaign in both battles when Burgoyne was taken, was in several skirmishes, and did guard duty at Fort Edward, Stone Arabia, Fort Herkimer, Schoharie, and many other places, continued to serve until the close of the war, all of his service amounting to about two year.

He was allowed pension on his application executed October 17, 1832, at which time he was a resident of Schenectady, New York, where he had always lived.

He married January 5, 1789, Engelica (Angelica) VanSlyck; she was born September 14, 1767, names of her parents not given. They were married in Palatine, New York by the Reverend Thomas Romeyne, Pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church.

The soldier, Adam Vrooman, died May 6, 1836.

His widow, Engelica (Angelica) Vrooman, was allowed pension on her application executed October 9, 1839, then a resident of Schenectady, New York, where she was still living in 1843.

It is not stated that they had children.

John S. Vrooman in 1832 was Clerk of the court in Schenectady, New York, and Simon J. Vrooman in 1839 was seventy-nine years of age and living in Oswego, New York. There is not relationship shown between these two persons, nor it is stated that they were related to the family.