

Pension Application for Lawrence Vrooman

R.10973 (Widow: Susannah) Lawrence died February 33, 1833.

State of New York

County of Schenectady SS.

On this twelfth 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 Lawrence Vrooman, a resident of the town of Niskayuna in said County & State, a aged upwards of seventy 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.

He was born in the then township of Schenectady in the then county of Albany (now Schenectady) in the State of New York, on the twenty-sixth day of July 1757. He has no record of his age but the time of his baptism is given in the Register of Baptisms of the Ref'd Duch [Dutch] Church of Schenectady. When he was called into the service of the United States in the army of the revolution, he was living in the township of Schenectady (the Brandywine Mills) and since the revolutionary war he has lived in the township aforesaid and in the town of Niskayuna aforesaid & he now lives in the town of Niskayuna aforesaid.

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

Sometime in the year 1775, he enlisted in Captain Jellis (J.) Fonda's Company of minute men and served therein until the year 1778 when he received the appointment of Ensign in said Company of Captain Jellis Fonda but he did not receive a regular Commission until the beginning of the year 1780 which commission accompanies his declaration; and he served under said Commission until the end of said war.

Early in the fall of the year 1776, he was called out with the company to which he belonged & marched to Stillwater where he lay in camp some time, from thence he marched to Fort Ann where he remained on duty for some time from thence proceeded down Wood Creek to Skenesborough as a guard to the boats carrying provision and ammunition. In this expedition he served from first to last for the term of rising two months.

In the fall of the year 1777 he was appointed to Doctors Treat & Potts of the Northern Department Deputy Commissary to the hospital to purchase supplies & he served in that capacity until April 1778. Previous to his last named service as Deputy Commissary he performed military duty with the northern army from the 27th Dept 1777 the time of the first engagement with Burgoyne until a few days before Burgoyne's surrender when he was taken sick & returned home.

Subsequent to this period he performed duty at sundry posts & papers, but how often & for how long a period each time he cannot recollect. The principal expeditions in which he engaged, & the particulars respecting them, are as near as he can recollect them as follows.

In the year 1778 he performed garrison duty at Fort Paris for the term of about one month under the command of Colonel Visger, or Fisher. In the year 1779, he performed the like service in Schoharie for a term of more than twenty days.

On another occasion when Cobleskill was destroyed by the enemy he performed the like duty at one of the Schoharie forts, & was witness to the loss of the greater part of Captain Patrick's Company of the Continental line.

At the time the settlements at Fort Plank were destroyed he was on duty there for the term of more than one month at this time the militia were called away with Colonel Willett who had an engagement with the enemy near fort Schuyler. He has been stationed for some time at Fort Plank & there had the command.

When Warrenbush was destroyed by the enemy he performed sentinel duty at Schenectady as an attack upon Schenectady was then expected—and when not on duty at other posts in more immediate danger of attack, he mounted guard at Schenectady.

The whole period which he was engaged in actual duty during said war as a private and Ensign as aforesaid exceeds two years; of which period he served at least eighteen months as Ensign.

It never fell to his lot to be in any battles or engagements with the enemy except as herein stated.

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: Colonels Cortland, VanSchaick, Bailey, Gaansevoort, Willett, VanDyck, Generals [?] Schuyler, Gates, Arnold & very many others.

He never received any written discharge from the service. His commission is hereunto annexed.

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 hereto 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 H. Van Wagenen & Derrick C. Groot.

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) Lawrence Vrooman

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