

Pension Application for Nicholas Baumann or Bowman

R.1081

State of New York
Herkimer County SS.

On this 25th day of February 1833, personally appeared before me John Mahon, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Herkimer Nicholas Bowman a resident of Schuyler in the County of Herkimer and State of New York aged seventy one 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 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he entered the United States service in the fall of the year 1777 at Fort Dayton—that immediately after he entered the service they had a battle with the Tories and Indians at Fort Dayton who made an attack upon the Fort.

That his said service was in a company of Militia commanded by Captain Henry Harter, Lieutenants John Demuth & Peter Weaver and Ensign John Bellinger in the Regiment of Colonel Peter Bellinger, Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Bellinger and Major Lewis Clapsattle—

That he was enrolled in said company in the year 1777 which was the year that he attained the age of sixteen—that he served at Fort Dayton and was on guard duty at said Fort previous to his enrollment and before he was sixteen years of age—that from the time of his first service which was as early as 1776 and before he was sixteen years old he served under the before named officers at Fort Dayton until the year 1781 when he removed to Warrensbush now in Montgomery in the State of New York except that during the winter of 1778 he went to Fort Plank at Canajoharie now below Herkimer where he served also during the said winter and whilst he remained at Fort Plank in a company of Militia commanded by Captain George Countryman—that he does not recollect the other officers in said Countryman's company except Sergeant Henry Walradt—that in the spring of the year he returned to Fort Dayton at Herkimer where his parents and their family are living—

That the service at Fort Dayton and which continued until the year 1781 was as follows—the inhabitants of Herkimer residing in the neighbourhood of Fort Dayton from their exposure to the constant attacks of the enemy and among whom this deponent was included are from the commencement of the war until the period that the dwellings of the Inhabitants at that place were burnt which was in the year 1777 for a great part of the time collected at Fort Dayton to defend themselves against the enemy—

That after the burning of Herkimer and from that period to the end of the war the Inhabitants of Herkimer were continually assembled and living in Fort Dayton—that the collection of the inhabitants at said Fort was the occasion that required the constant guard and defence of said Fort—that there were sometimes short periods when no duty was required at said Fort—but such was the continual exposure that at that place that the inhabitants could not perform the usual farm labour upon their lands without an armed guard to defend them and that very often when engaged in labour upon their fields with a guard around them they were attacked by the enemy—that many of the inhabitants were killed during the said war in fields when at labor—that so much were they continually exposed and watched by the enemy that it was only by considerable parties that the inhabitants at said Fort could at all perform any labor upon their fields—

That whenever they went into the fields to labor they would go out in parties and every person that did go out was obliged to carry his arms with him—that when in the field they would stack their arms place out some of their parties as sentinels and the rest would perform labour—that during his stay at Fort Dayton he had often times been thus enjoyed in labor on their lands sometimes on sentry around those at labour and sometimes at labor with sentinels around him.

That very often he would perform this regular tour of guard duty at said Fort in the night time and during the day was under arms on the fields—that for a great part of the time they were obliged to keep the Fort closed and remained on duty at the said fort night and day.

That this kind of service was rendered at said fort by him and the other Militia stationed at said fort from the commencement of the war until the year 1781 when he moved to Warrensbush in the County of Tryon now County of Montgomery in the State of New York that then were occasionally parties of regulars stationed at said Fort Dayton who aided the Militia in the defence of said Fort—that for the most part of the said period no regulars were stationed at said Fort and the whole defence devolved upon the said Militia among whom he was once—that this period of service was continual both in the summer and winter seasons during the whole period that he was at said fort and that he was continually engaged in this service—that besides the said s thus rendered by him at Fort Dayton he was also occasionally ordered out upon duty away from said Fort Dayton that he was ordered out twice to guard boats to Fort Stanwix.

That when at Fort Plank in the winter of 1778 he was on duty also at said Fort Plank and out upon scouts—that his duty at Fort Plank was guard duty and was performed under said George Countryman—that from 1781 to the close of the war he was enrolled into the Militia at Warrensbush in the company of Captain Yeomans but his services there were unimportant that his service at Fort Dayton he considers as continual service in the service of the United States and that the same continued from the year 1776 before he was sixteen years of age until the year 1781 except the short period that he was stationed at Fort Plank and that whist at Fort Plank he rendered important services in behalf of his country.

That he has no documentary evidence of his services nor has he ever had any.

That he was born at Herkimer in the State of New York on the 14th day of April in the year 1761.

That he has a record of his age at home which was made by his father.

That he resided at Herkimer when he entered the service.

That since the war he has lived at Herkimer, Fish Creek in Oneida and at Schuyler—that he now resides at Schuyler.

That he was called into the service as hereinbefore set forth.

That he was acquainted with Colonel Dayton, Lieut Col. Whiting, Major Barber and Capt. Bloomfield who were at different times at Fort Dayton when he served at said Fort.

That he never had any discharge for any of his service.

That he is known to George Hilts and Philip Harter of Herkimer who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution—

And he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever for 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) Nioklas Baumam.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 25th day of Feb'y 1833. John Mahon, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Herkimer.