

Pension Application for Michael Billiger or Billinger

S.12203

State of New York
County of Ulster SS.

On this 2nd day of May 1833 personally appeared before me Abraham A. Deyo one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the county aforesaid Michael Billiger a resident of the Town of Shawangunk in said County aged 83 ½ 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.

Vino. First that in the spring of the year 1776 he was ordered out from the Regiment of Militia to which he belonged in Shawangunk as an Orderly Sergeant for 1 month in the company of Captain Roos in the Regiment of Colonel Snider and served at Fort Constitution.

Second. That in the summer (about June) of 1776 he was by the Command of Colonel Hardenburgh of the Regiment of Militia lying in Shawangunk placed as Adjutant of said Regiment (the adjutant being confined to his house in consequence of a tumor on his back of which he died) and in the capacity of an adjutant was ordered with a part of said regiment to Newburgh and from thence to Fort Montgomery under the command of Colonel Hasbrouck for 1 month and did serve for said tour.

Third. In the summer of 1776 he was again ordered to Fort Montgomery for one month in the capacity of Adjutant in the Regiment of Colonel Hardenburgh and did serve said term.

Fourth. In the month of October 1777 on the 8th day he was again ordered with the regiment at Shawangunk for to go to Fort Montgomery on an alarm—the regiment to which he was attached as adjutant was commanded by Colonel Hardenbergh and was marched to Kingston to Hurly &c under the command of General Clinton and he was at this time as adjutant for 1 ½ months.

Fifth. In the spring of 1778 he was again ordered to Ramapoo in New Jersey with a part of the Regiment (under Col. Jansen) as a Adjutant for said Regiment and did there serve as such for two months.

Sixth. In the year 1778 immediately after the last mentioned service I was chosen by General Clinton—Together with [?] others to go to Peenpack to 3 Tory officers who were raising a Tory company for to go to the British that we captured one of them and conveyed him to a ship at Kingston that he was out on this expedition for 1 month as an adjutant.

Seventh. In November 1778 he was again ordered to Ramapoo in New Jersey under Col. Johannes Jansen as an adjutant and was out for 2 months under this last engagement.

Eighth. In the spring of the year in April 1779 he was again ordered out with a part of the Regiment of Colonel Jansen for 1 month to West Point on [fatigue?] at Fort Peethill as an adjutant.

Ninth. In the summer of 1779 a part of the regiment of Shawangunk under Col. Jansen was quartered at the house of the Colonel the same having been attacked by Indians. He was there for 1 month in the capacity of Adjutant.

Tenth. In the fall of 1779 in October he was out as Adjutant to Haverstraw for 1 month under Col. Jansen.

Lastly. That between the years 1776 and 1782 he was ordered out on alarms with the regiment at Shawangunk under the command of Colonel Hardenbergh and Col. Jansen at least 20 times which would make on an average a service 10 days each time in the capacity of an adjutant, making 6 ½ months for which service he never recd any compensation. That the following is a brief statement of said aforesaid service. Viz.

1st for 1 month as an orderly sergeant in 1776.

2nd for 1 month as an adjutant in 1776.

3rd for 1 months as an adjutant in 1776.

4th for 1 ½ month as an adjutant in 1777.

5th for 2 months as an adjutant in 1778.

6th for 1 month ad an adjutant in 1778.

7th for 2 months as an adjutant in 1778.

8th for 1 month as an adjutant in 1779.

9th for 1 month as an adjutant in 1779.

10th for 1 month as an adjutant in 1779.

Lastly for 6 ½ months as an adjutant on alarms from 1776 to 1782.

Making 18 months as an adjutant in the militia.

And 1 month as an orderly sergeant for which service he claims a pension.

That to the Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department he answers to the -----

First – That he was born in the Dukedom of Westombergh in Germany in 1750 on the 29th day of September on St. Michael's Day and was therefor[e] called Michael.

Second—has no record of his age in this country.

Third—That he came to Philadelphia in the year 1768 and from thence to New York and was there until the year 1774 then I moved to Shawangunk in Ulster County and State of New York where I resided when I entered the service and that I have lived in Shawangunk from the time I left the service— as aforesaid until the year 1803 when I again removed to New York and have ever since made my home with my children alternately between and apart in Shawangunk aforesaid that I am now with my daughter in Shawangunk.

Fourth. That I was always ordered in the service by the Colonel.

Fifth. That in my first service at Fort Constitution there was no regular troops lying there. That in my 2nd service in 1776 at Fort Montgomery there was a Regiment of Regular troops lying then under Col. Dubois and a company of Artillery under Capt. Moody—That in my third service Do, Do. That in my 4th service I was in company the same regular troops and with General Clinton's Army on its march from New Windsor to Kingston that we had some grape thrown at us from the British shipping at New Windsor. That in my 5th service in 1778 while at Ramapoo there was 2 militia Regiment lying there then one under Col. McClaughery and the other the regiment in which I was Col. Johnston that in my 6th service in 1778 there were a small guard selected to take some prisoners—and to lodge them in the prison ship at Kingston at the order of Gov. Clinton that we took one a Captain Medock and did deliver him the command of this expedition was under David Mills.

That in my 7th service at Rampoo there was no regular troops but 2 militia Regiments that a detachment of 300 man army which he was ordered to Haverstraw to take some British stores that they had a small skirmish and took the stores and pressed teams and conveyed them to Ramapoo—under Col. McClaughery.

That in his 8th service there was no regular troops.

That in his 9th service he had a small pursuit of the celebrated Indian Brant & his Company from the home of Col. Jansen.

That in this last alarm engagements he never was in any battles—that he never received a commission but only acted as Adjutatn at the command of the Colonel of the Regiment.

That he is acquainted with James Tannery, Jonathan Alsdorf and James N. Mitchell;--who can testify to his good character and a belief of his services. That Ferdinand Vandevier the clergymen of the neighborhood can testify to his good character.

That 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) Michael Billiger.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Abraham A. Deyo, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Ulster.