

## Pension Application for Leonard Bleecker

S.29017

B.L.Wt.158-300-Capt. Issued June 13, 1790. Died March 9, 1844, aged eighty eight years. Surviving -- Gertrude Kenneys (wife of Edward Kenneys) and Eliza C. Bleecker of Singing, Westchester County, George Washington Bleecker of Brooklyn, Kings County, Leonard Bleecker and Edward Bleecker of the City & County of New York. Leonard was pensioned under the law of 1818 as a Major at \$240 per annum and under the law of 1828 as captain of the New York Cont'l Line at \$480 per annum, later \$524 dollars per annum.

New York Mayor's Court.

In the Court of common Pleas, called the Mayor's Court of the City of New York, held at the City Hall in and for said City before the Judges of the same Court, of February term, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one.

Present the honorable Peter A. Jay Recorder, City of New York SS.

Be it remembered, that on the nineteenth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty one personally appeared in the Court of Common Pleas, called the Mayor's Court of the city of New York, in open court, the said court being a court of record for the city and county of New York according to the charter of the said city and the laws of the state of New York, Leonard Bleecker aged sixty five years, resident in the City of New York who being first duly affirmed according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the revolutionary war as follows:

That in 1775 he entered the army as 2d Lieut in Capt Marinus Willett's company Col. McDougal's Regiment of the New York Line was promoted to a Captaincy the 20<sup>th</sup> November 1776, in the New York Line and continued a Captain till 4 Nov. 1783 when the army was disbanded for which services he received a Brevet Major's commission—a more detailed account of which accompanies his first application.

And that his original declaration is dated the twenty fifth day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and that his pension certificate is no. 2037.

And I do solemnly affirm that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not since that time by gift, sale, or in any manner, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress, entitled, "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States, in the Revolutionary war", passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts, due to me; nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed, and by me subscribed to wit:

Real Estate None.

Personal Estate None. Except necessary wearing apparel & bedding a few religious books and some small articles of little value, not exceeding two hundred dollars—I was compelled last spring by reason of misfortunes to relinquish housekeeping and sell all my furniture, except to furnish one bedroom for self & wife, with two other beds for my children. I still owe for the rent of my house.

I have one pew in the New Dutch Church valued at \$300 which is pledged to two friends for \$550, money loaned me to support my family.

My family consists of self & wife named grace aged 38, a daughter named Eliza D. aged 32, a son named Leonard aged 18, another son named Edward 16 years old who are dependent upon me for support. My profession is a stock broker, but my business is inadequate to the support of my family & I am now involved in debt. My two sons above are now out of employ. (Signed) Leon'd Bleecker

Affirmed to this 19 day of February 1821 in open court. Jno. L. Broome Clk

New York February 22d 1821.

The honble J. C. Calhoun.

Sirs

Inclosed is a schedule of my affairs; and however painful the development yet of my circumstances in Providence are such as to urge me to the measure.

I deem it proper to explain the situation of my two sons, to obviate any difficulties that might possibly arrive in your mind respecting their being out of employ at their period of life. The first had been in a dry good stor for more than two years. Six months of the latter part of which he received ten dollars pr month, and I had to pay his board, and clothe him, but even this small sum could not be allowed him any longer, in consequence of the declaration of himself of his employer and I have formerly six months (with extreme difficulty) paid his board and cloathed him and unless a situation offers for him by first of May. I shall be under the necessity (however painful) of sending him to sea as a common sailor.

When I broke up housekeeping last spring a friend of mine took my youngest son to board with him and give him some instruction in the languages gratis preparatory to the study of Physic, for which my son had a strong desire but the situation of my friend is so charged, that he cannot keep him longer than the first of May by which unexpected event he will again entirely depend upon me for support. They are both youth of correct principles and the younger one, possess a superior mind.

With sentiments of greatest respect I am sir, your very hunble servant. Leon'd Bleecker