

Pension Application for Adam Bouman, Bowman, Bomen, Beauman, Bawman, or Bauman

S.10379

State of New York

Herkimer County

On the Twelfth day of October in the year One thousand Eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in Open Court before the Court of Common Pleas in and for the said County of Herkimer now sitting Adam Bowman a resident of the Town of Herkimer in said County of Herkimer and State of New York aged Seventy three years in December last, 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 in the year of the Oriskany Battle (1) which was in the year 1777 in the Spring of the year he was drafted into the service of the United States and served under Captain Bigbread (2) for the term of five weeks and three days—that the service rendered at said time under said Bigbread was at and in the vicinity of Fort Stanwix (3) in guarding the men employed getting out Timber for said Fort which was then building and for pickets for said Fort and for buildings for Barracks which were then constructing—that he was not himself employed in laboring upon said works but acted as a guard and was daily stationed out side of the works to guard and defend the men employed upon said works—that he does not remember who were the Subaltern Officers under Captain Bigbread—that he at the time resided at Herkimer in Tryon County now Herkimer County and that Captain Bigbread resided at Palatine then also in Tryon County now Montgomery—that when he was drafted he was marched from Herkimer where he resided to Fort Stanwix and at the end of said tour of five weeks and three days service he was discharged and returned home to Herkimer—that no written discharge was ever given him for said five weeks and three weeks service. That afterwards in the same year he was again drafted and went to Fort Stanwix and was there three or four weeks opening a road, He don't remember who was his officer at that time. – That in the year 1778 (4) being the year after his said aforesaid Term of service he enlisted and served for the Term of nine months. That he enlisted for said Tour of nine months into a company of Rangers under the command of Captain Marks Demuth.

That he does not recollect who were the Subaltern Officers in the Company of Captain Demuth except Lieutenant John Damouth and David Gorden—(5)

That said Company was under the command of Colonel Peter Bellinger (6) as he believes who was a Colonel of the Militia at Herkimer. That his said Term of Nine months service was performed chiefly at Fort Dayton at Herkimer when he and the company of Captain Demuth were most of the time stationed to guard said Fort—that he was occasionally during said nine months employed and sent out with others of said company as scouts—that was often as four or five times he served as a guard to guard Boats on the Mohawk River from Herkimer to Fort Stanwix during his said enlistment for nine months—that at the expiration of nine months he was discharged at Herkimer and has no knowledge or recollection that any written discharge was ever given him for said term of nine months service—

The during his said two different periods of enlistment aforesaid he was in no battle but in Skirmishes and does not know the names of any of the officers in the regular service although there were some Regulars at Fort Dayton when he was Stationed there during his enlistment for nine months Was along with the troops when Butler was killed, see him after he was shot—it was up the West Canady Creek. (7)

And the said Adam Bowman further states that he was enrolled in a company of Militia at the beginning of the Revolutionary War under the command of Henry Harter (8) Lieutenant John Demuth and Lieutenant Peter Weber [Weaver], Ensign John Bellinger—That said company was in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Peter Bellinger, Lieutenant Colonel Frederick Bellinger and Major Denis Clapsattle—(9) that the orders were then they must keep themselves in readiness at all times to march at a minutes warning and he during the whole of the war except when at Fort Stanwix under Captain Bigbread and when he was enlisted under Captain Demuth served in the company of Captain Harter and kept himself ready at all times to march at a minutes warning—that he was during the whole of the war Stationed at Fort Dayton and almost continually engaged on duty at said Fort Except when absent on duty—He sometimes worked on a farm and hoeing corn. – That the inhabitants in the vicinity of Fort Dayton were collected At Fort Dayton during most of the War That he and the rest of the Militia of that neighborhood were kept at said Fort to guard said Fort and the inhabitants living at the Fort—That there were times when the Militia were not on duty at the Fort—That sometimes some Continental troops were stationed at said Fort to guard the Fort but that the Militia and he among them were almost continually engaged upon duty at said Fort—That he was sometimes with the rest of the militia ordered out in pursuit of the enemy—that he was in the Battle on the West Canada Creek when Butler was killed that he has no documentary evidence of any of his services.

That he was born at Canajoharie now in the County of Montgomery & State of New York on the [blank] day of December 1758.

Will be 74 years old Dec. 14th next.

That there is a record of his age.

That he has a transcript of said Record with him.

That he lived at Germanflatts now Herkimer in the County of Herkimer then Tryon County when he entered the service—that he has lived at Herkimer ever since the Revolutionary War.—

That his first service was in the Militia—He was next drafted under Capt. Bigbread. He was next enlisted for nine months under Captain Demuth—and he then again served in the Militia under the officers hereinbefore named to the close of the war. That he never received a written discharge for any of his service.

That he is known to Christopher Bellinger, John Dockstader and Philip Harter (10) who can testify to his character for his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

And 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 Adam Bowman)

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid—in Open Court. Julius C. Nelson, Clerk
Notation on another paper, There is no date relative to wife of children. He died Oct. 4, 1834, date of death taken from Agency Book.

End Notes—S.10379—Adam Bouman

1. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on August 6, 1777.
2. John Breadbake, Captain of the Fifth company in Colonel Jacob Klock's Second Regiment of Tryon County Militia. For many of these work details, detachments were sent from the various regiments of the Tryon County Militia and placed under various officers of the different regiments.
3. In 1776 Fort Stanwix was renamed Fort Schuyler in honor of Major General Philip Schuyler. Most of this work that Adam speaks of was done in 1776 as Fort Schuyler was garrisoned by the Third New York Continental Regiment by March of 1777.
4. Adam is wrong about the year for this service. Captain Hans Marcus or Marks Demuth's Company of Tryon County Rangers was formed on August 1, 1776 and they were discharged on March 27, 1777.
5. There are no muster rolls for this company but one of the lieutenants is John Adam Frederick Helmer, commonly called Adam Helmer. Many of the pensioners that claim to have been in Captain Demuth's Company mention a Robert Gordon as being the other lieutenant.
6. Peter Bellinger was the colonel of the Fourth Battalion of Tryon County Militia. Adam served in this regiment for most of his service except when he was in Captain Demuth's Company. Most of the men in Demuth's Company had enlisted from Bellinger's Regiment.
7. Captain Walter Butler was killed at the West Canada Creek on October 30, 1781.
8. Captain Henry Harter, First Lieutenant John Demuth, Second Lieutenant Peter James Weaver and Ensign John T. Bellinger were in Colonel Bellinger's Regiment. According to Captain Harter's payroll for 1779 Adam served as follows: June 6 days, July 8 days, August 14 days, September 1 day, October 5 days and November for 3 days. In 1780 he served as follows: March 1 day, April 6 days, May 7 days, June 6 days, July 7 days, August 3 days, September and October 0 days, November 7 days and December 1 day. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 72, folder 78, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
9. Frederick Bellinger was the Lieutenant Colonel and Augustinus Clapsaddle was the Second Major in Bellinger's Regiment. Bellinger was taken prisoner and Clapsaddle was killed at Oriskany.
10. John Dockstader and Philip Harter served in Captain Harter's Company.