

## **Pension Application for Mathew DeGarmo**

S.2359

State of New York

County of Schenectada

On the 25<sup>th</sup> day of June 1839, personally appeared before me the undersigned, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County of Schenectada, Mathew DeGarmo of the Town of Northumberland in the County of Saratoga, aged seventy nine years and being duly sworn doth declare & say in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the Act of Congress passed 7 June 1832, that he was born in the City of Albany in said state, but has no record of his birth that during the Revolutionary War or after its commencement he resided in the County and town of Schenectada and was enrolled in the company of militia commanded by Captain Jelles Fonda (1) in the Regiment of Colonel Abraham Wemple and he at times served in the company of Militia in Said Regiment commanded by Captain Jesse Van Slyck. (2)

Early in the spring of the year 1777, being the same year in which the British under Burgoyne surrendered at Stillwater (3) this Declarant was duly enlisted into the company of Batteauxmen commanded by Captain Tunis Fisher (4) and served therein transporting stores from Albany to Saratoga, Lake George & other places during the said year until said company was discharged late in the fall, making in all a service of not less than ten months.

In the month of January 1778 he enlisted again in the Department of the Quarter Master General at Saratoga under the immediate charge of Colonel Christopher Yates (5) Deputy Quarter Master General for the Northern Department of the United States of America & served for the term of five months at Saratoga and places adjacent. And this declarant thinks that the subordinate officers under who he served in this department were Jacob Vrooman (6) and Nicholas Veeder.

In the fall of the year 1778 he this Declarant engaged in an expedition up the Mohawk River with a detachment of militia from said regiment & served in this tour for the term of five or six days.

In the fall of 1779 he marched with a like detachment to Fort Hunter & other places west along the valley of the Mohawk under the command of Captain Ahasures Marselus (7) for the like short term of five or six day. He served with a like detachment in pursuit of the noted Tory Joseph Betteys (8) at the neighborhood of the Helderburgh & on a scouting party to Saratoga.

When he this Declarant lived at Schenectada as aforesaid he engaged in an expedition to the Upper Fort of Schoharie for the term of one month under the command of Capt. Walter B. Vrooman (9) & George Passage (10) Sergeant Major for said one month he served on his own account and in his own behalf & two weeks for one Garret Van Schaick, (11) said last named tour of two weeks was performed two weeks after the first named tour of one month to wit in the fall of the year 1779.

And this Declarant also testifies that during the last two years of said war he served at Saratoga under Captain Jabez Gage (12) in several short tours to Fort Edward and other places, which he is now unable to particularize.

And this declarant further says that during the said War of the Revolution he was acquainted with the following named officers besides those already mentioned, viz. Captains Wasson, (13) Vrooman, Oothout and many others of the Schenectada and Albany Militia & also with Captain Peters, (14) Peck, Vernor & others of the Batteauxmen, Carpenters and etc.

(Signed) Matthew DeGarmo

Subscribed and Sworn this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June 1839 before me the said Judge. John Silus Judge &c.

Letter included in the pension file.

February 5, 1932.

Susan DeGarmo Hayner

Stillwater, New York

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to your letter relative to Matthew DeGarmo, a soldier of the Revolutionary War.

The data furnished herein are obtained from the papers on file in pension claim S.2359 based on the service of Matthew DeGarmo in that war and is the record of the only soldier of that name found on the Revolutionary War records of this office.

Mathew De'Garmo or Matthew DeGarmo, was born in Albany, New York, date of his birth and names of his parents not shown. It is stated that the Dutch for Matthew is Tawes or Tewes.

While a resident of Schenectady, Schenectady County, New York, he enlisted after the "commencement of the Revolution", dates not given, and served in Captains Jellis Fonda's and Jesse VanSlyck's (15) Companies, Colonel Abraham Wempel's New York Regiment; he enlisted about January 1, 1777 or in the spring of 1777, and served about ten months or one year under Captain Tunis Fisher in the bateaux service, transporting stores from Albany to Saratoga and Lake George; from January 1778, he served five months under deputy Quartermaster General, Christopher Yates, and in the fall of that year, was on a tour of about six days to the Mohawk River; in the fall, 1779, he was on a tour of six days under Captain Ahasures Marselus to Fort Hunter, was on a scouting expedition to Saratoga and served one month in Captain Walter B. Vroman's Company, Colonel Duboys' (16) New York Regiment; during the last two years of the war, he served on several short tours under Captain Jabez Gage, no details of these services given.

He was allowed pension on his application executed June 25, 1839, while a resident of Northumberland, Saratoga County, New York. He was then seventy-nine years of age. He resided in said Northumberland in 1844.

It is not stated that the soldier was married.

In order to obtain the date of last payment of pension, the name and address of the person paid, and possibly the date of death of the above named soldier, you should apply to the Records Division, General Accounting Office, Washington, D.C. citing all of the following data: Mathew DeGarmo, certificate #32152, issued June 8, 1844, rate \$34.55 per annum, commenced March 4, 1831, act of June 7, 1832, New York Agency.

Very truly yours,

A.D. Hiller,

Assistant to Administrator

End Notes—S.2359—Matthew DeGarmo

1. Matthew's name does not appear on any of Captain Jellis J. Fonda's First Company muster or pay rolls for Colonel Abraham Wemple's Second Regiment of Albany County Militia. Captain Fonda in 1775 commanded one of the Minute Men Companies and possibly Matthew served in that company. So far no muster rolls have been found for the three Minute Men Companies for the Schenectady District.
2. Captain Jesse Van Slyck of Colonel Wemple's Regiment.

3. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his army on October 17, 1777, to Major General Horatio Gates.
4. Captain Tunis Visscher's Company of Bateauxmen of the Quartermaster General's Department. On searching the muster rolls none were found for this company for the year 1777. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 122, folder 78, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
5. Christopher C. Yates is often confused with Christopher P. Yates of Tryon County. Matthew is right on this one. Christopher C. was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel in Colonel Wemple's Regiment on June 20, 1778. In 1779 he was appointed Deputy Quartermaster General with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.
6. So far a muster roll for Jacob Vrooman's Company has not been found. On Captain Nicholas Veeder's Company of Carpenters Muster Roll for 1778, Matthew's name does not appear on it. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 181, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
7. Ahasures G. Marselus or Mercellus, Marselis, etc., appears as a private in Captain Thomas B. Bancker's Company in Colonel Wemple's Regiment.
8. Joseph Bettys or Bettis, etc., was from the Balls Town area and eventually was captured and hung as a spy.
9. Walter J. Vrooman was the first lieutenant in Captain VanSlyck's Company. In 1779, Vrooman served as a lieutenant in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Henry K. VanRensselaer's Regiment of New York State Levies. On May 11, 1780, Vrooman was appointed Captain in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant John Harper's Regiment of New York State Levies. He was taken prisoner on October 23, 1780 near Oneida Lake. There was a Jacob B. Vrooman serving as a first lieutenant in Captain Bancker's Company.
10. George Passage, Sr. served as a sergeant in Captain Abraham Oothout's Company in Colonel Wemple's Regiment.
11. Garret VanSchaick served as a private in Captain VanSlyck's Company.
12. Jabez Gage served as second lieutenant in Captain Ephraim Lake's Fifth Company in Colonel John McCrea's Thirteenth Regiment of Albany County Militia.
13. Captain Thomas Wasson of Wemple's Regiment.
14. Captains William Peters or Peterson, Joseph and Jacobus or James Peek or Peck and John Vernor of the Quartermaster Generals Department.
15. Matthew appears as Thewes De Garmon on Captain VanSlyck's Receipt Roll for 2 certificates for a total of £0. . 5. .4 FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 77, folder 170, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
16. Walter J. Vrooman did not serve in Colonel Lewis DeBois' Fifth New York Continental Regiment or in Colonel DuBois' Regiment of New York State Levies in 1780.