

Daniel S. DeGross

Sometimes one wonders how or why a record is found where it is and not where you think it should be. This is one of many examples that have been discovered while transcribing pension application files. This deposition was given for the pension application of Jane Staring, widow of John Staring P.A. No. W.167741.

Daniel S. DeGross states he was the son of Simon DeGraff who had a boat Company or batteaumen. The payrolls and muster rolls that he refers to are in the National Archives, Washington, D.C. They were microfilmed and are with several batteau companies on Roll 122, Jacket or folder 78, Continental Troops, Quartermaster General's Department. This microfilm series is referred to as series M-246.

The following is Daniel's deposition:

State of New York

County of Schenectada SS.

Daniel S. DeGross of the City of Schenectada, in said County, aged forty nine years, being duly sworn and examined, doth depose & say, that his father Simon DeGraff departed this life about sixteen or seventeen years ago—that his said father Simon [Simeon, the e was crossed out] was a Captain in the revolutionary army of a Company of Batteaumen, & showed him this Deponent his papers appertaining to his said service, and he this Deponent has often heard his said father Simon [the e is crossed out] DeGross converse with others relative to his said services, and also as to his other services in the militia of this State. That he this Deponent after the decease of his said father several times saw the aforesaid papers, but was not careful to preserve them, or carefully to examine them for the reason that he did not believe they would ever be of any service—That he this Deponent recently searched for said papers, some of; which are now lost, of those lost among others, he remembers the Commission of his said father—that he has found and examined two papers purporting to be pay rolls—from which it appears that among others the following named persons were member of the Company of said Simon [again the e is crossed out] DeGross and that their time of service expired on the 31st December 1778, to wit. Nicholas Gardinier, Adam Miller, Abraham Philips, John Staring, Adam Staring, & Nicholas VanSlyck—and further this Deponent was informed & verily believes the fact to be so, that the time the men of said Company were enlisted for was one year, and this Deponent further saith, that he is well acquainted with the handwriting of his said father, and that said pay rolls are in the own proper hand writing of his said father, and are the same which he showed to this Deponent & represented to him this Deponent as such. Daniel S. DeGross

Subscribed & sworn this 9th day of May 1837 before me. J.D. Harman, Justice of the Peace