

**Pension Application for Andrew Dillenbach (Dillenback)**

R.2955 (Catharine Zielley)

This woman's second husband Capt. John Zielley was a Revolutionary Soldier.

To: The Honorable Secretary of the Home and War Department of the United States of America.  
United States of America

State of New York, Montgomery County SS: I Andrew Dillenbach of the Town of Palatine County and State aforesaid, depose and say; that I according to record and information given to and by my mother while living and others whom I had reason to believe that I was born in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy five the twenty sixth day of April and that I am the only surviving heir of Andrew Dillenbach who as I was informed by my Mother, Uncles and Captain John Zeilly (1) who after wards married my Mother who was slain on the sixth day of August in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven when acting as a Commandant of a company of Militia although but a commissioned Lieutenant (2) at the battle and massacre of Oriskany now in the County of Oneida, in said State under the command of General Herkimer, (3) Colonel Clock and others, and that myself, his widow nor any of the heirs have ever drawn or procured any pension in consequence of the massacred husband and Father and according to information given to me by my Mother while living and others that in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy six he the said massacred Andrew Dillenbach was appointed with John Zielly and others as a special committee of vigilance to procure men and accoutrements, ammuniton &c to carry on the Revolution to effect the American Independence and that he according to the duties involved and entrusted to him discharged his duty faithfully until the time of his becoming the victim of the British Army and Toreys and Indians at Oriskany as aforesaid all of which this deponent verily believes to be true and correct and that your petitioner as in such cases is provided for by Law by so doing you will confer a favor of Honor and satisfaction by awarding your petitioner in common with others under similar circumstances. And further this Deponent says not. (Signed) Andrew Dillenbach

Sworn before me this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July 1853. Joseph England Jus. of the Peace & for said County.

Pension Office, Dec. 15, 1853

Sir: The claim presented by Andrew Dillenbach, in right of his mother, Catharine Dillenbach, widow of Andrew under the act of July 4, 1836, has been examined.

As Andrew Dillenbach was killed in battle in 1777, and as his widow died in 1813, there is no law in force under which a pension can be paid to their remaining child, and the claim is necessarily rejected.

This claimant can have no relief except by special act of Congress. Henry Snell, Esq. Ephratah NY

State of New York

Montgomery County SS.

On this 30<sup>th</sup> day of November 1853, personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Andrew Dillenbach, aged Seventy eight years on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April last past, and that he was born in the town of Palatine in the County & State aforesaid, where he has resided from his birth to the date hereof, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836. That he is the son of Andrew Dillenbach deceased on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 1777, who after marching from the said town of Palatine westerly along the Mohawk River through the County of Herkimer into Oneida County as they are now called (then called Tryon County) to what was called the Battle of Oriskany where he went commissioned as Lieutenant of Captain Sylvenus Cook's Company of Militia under the command of General Herkimer, Colonel Klock & others to fight the battle in favor of the American Revolutionists against the British Tories & Indians, where he acted as Captain Commandant of said company until he fell, dead on the field of Battle in behalf of the United States of America, which death was occasioned by a musket ball penetrating through his head. He left a wife, three children & one born about six months after his death, making four children. The oldest child Margaret was about fourteen years of age at the date of his death. And this applicant further declares that the said Andrew Dillenbach deceased in the commencements of 1776 was appointed as a special committee with Captain John Ziely to procure and see to the repairing of Arms for the benefit of the Militia of the United States in which he was engaged (although Lieutenants) until the fore part of 1777. Also that the said Andrew Dillenbach deceased was married to Catharine Fink on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 1764 by the Rev. Abram Rosakrans (4) as appears by the record kept by the said Rosakrans as Pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church at Stone Arabia in the said town of Palatine aforesaid. And this applicant further declares that his mother a few years after the death of his father was married to Captain John Zeiley with whom she lived until the year 1813 when she died in the month of February of said year, and that all the heirs are dead who were brought forth by my mother as the wife of my deceased father, and further that no pension has been procured at any time heretofore by his mother himself or any other or others of said heirs in consequence of the death as heretofore stated of his father. All of which this applicant according to information from his mother & stepfather Captain John Zeilley & other creditable witness who were said to have been engaged in the battle of Oriskany he verily believes to be true. (Signed) Andrew Dillenbach

Subscribed and sworn to in open court this 30<sup>th</sup> day of Nov. A.D. 1853. J.W. VanDeusen, Clerk of Montgy County

Reply dated June 21, 1937, requesting information.

Reference is made to your request for the Revolutionary War records of Andrew and John Dillenbach.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim, R.2955, based upon the service of Andrew Dillenbach or Dillenback, the only soldier of that surname, searched under all spellings, that is found in the Revolutionary War records of this office.

Andrew Dillenbach or Dillenback, who was born April 26, 1775, in Palatine, Montgomery County, New York, while residing there in 1853, made application July 23, 1852, for the pension which might have been due on account of the Revolutionary War service of his father, Lieutenant Andrew Dillenbach.

He stated that his father, while residing in Palatine, New York in 1776, was appointed with Captain John Zielley and others as a Committee of vigilance to procure arms and equipment for the New York Militia; that in 1777, his father marched from Palatine, New York, as Lieutenant of Captain Severines Cook's Company in Colonel Klock's New York Regiment, and while acting as Captain Commandant of said company in the battle of Oriskany, August 6, 1777, was shot through the head and died instantly.

He stated that his father married November 27, 1764, Catharine Fink as recorded in the Reformed Dutch Church of Stone Arabia in Palatine, New York. They had four children of whom Margaret, the eldest, was aged about fourteen years at the time of her father's death, and Andrew who was the sole surviving heir in 1853, are the only names shown. The widow, Catharine Dillenbach, married is the early part of 1780, Captain John Zeielley. She died in February 1813.

The claim of Andrew Dillenbach was not allowed as his father was killed in battle in 1777 and his mother died in 1813 and there was no law under which a pension could be paid to their surviving child.

In 1853 one David I. or J. Zielley who was born December 20, 1769, was living in Palatine, New York, and he was a son of Captain John Zielley by a former marriage.

There are no further data relative to the family of Lieutenant Andrew Dillenbach.

End Notes—Andrew Dillenbach (Dillenbeck, Dillenbagh, Tillenback, etc.)

1. John Zeely (Seely, Zielie, etc.) was appointed on August 26, 1775 as First Lieutenant in Captain John Breadbake's Company (Fifth Company in Colonel Jacob Klock's Second Regiment of Tryon County Milton. He was commissioned as such on June 25, 1778.
2. Andrew Dillenbach was appointed First Lieutenant on August 26, 1775 in Captain John Keyser, Jr's Fourth Company in Colonel Klock's Regiment. Captain Keyser in 1775 was appointed a Second Lieutenant in Captain Christopher P. Yates' company in Colonel Goose VanSchaick's Second New York Continental Regiment. He died in November 1775 in Canada. According to Captain Yates' Muster Roll, Keyser was appointed to Second Lieutenant on July 14, 1775. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 67, folder 19, National Archives, Washington, DC. As a result of Captain Keyser's death, First Lieutenant Dillenbach was appointed the Captain of the Fourth Company. Severinus Klock (Cook), was appointed as First Lieutenant, Richard Coppernoll as the Second Lieutenant and Samuel Gray as the Ensign. Klock, Coppernoll and Gray received their commissions on June 25, 1778. On the death of Captain Dillenback, First lieutenant was pointed the Captain of the company and received his captains commission on March 4, 1780. Coopernoll was commissioned the First Lieutenant, Samuel Gray as the Second Lieutenant and Peter Krems as the Ensign all on March 4, 1780. Also you can look at John I. Suts' pension application W.16747 which also refers to Captain Keyser, Dillenbach, and Kook.
3. Nicholas Herkimer was the Brigadier General of the Tryon County Militia Brigade.
4. The Reverend Abraham Rosencrantz.