

Pension Application for Adam Happal, Huppell, Heppel

R.4584 (Widow: Alice)

District of Pennsylvania SS.

On this third day of April A.D. 1818, before me Richard Peton, Judge of the District Court of the United States for the Pennsylvania District personally appeared Ada Happal, who being duly sworn deposes and declares that during the War of the Revolution he served against the common enemy, as a private soldier in the Continental Army—that he first enlisted in a company commanded by Captain Yates in the second Regiment of the New York Line, of which Wessel VanSchaick [Goose Van Schaick] Esquire was Colonel and was present and in service with the said company at the attack upon Quebec in the year 1775.

That in the Spring of the year 1777 he again inlisted in Captain Orsons Company in Colonel Peter Gansevoort's Regiment and remained therein and faithfully served therewith until the conclusion of the war when he was honorably discharged.

And this deponent further declares that he is not seventy five years of age and upwards. That by reason of his reduced circumstances in life, he is in need of assistance from his country for support.

That he is a resident citizen of the United States and that he never has received or been allowed a pension by the Laws of the United States, & that his discharge has been lost or destroyed. The Mark of Adam Happal.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me. Richard Peters

New York June 11, 1819

The Sect at War.

Sir

I recollect there was a soldier nam'd Adam Happal, in the 3 New York Regiment in the years of 1777 & 78. While stationed at Fort Stanwix, and altho I cannot positively swear, that the bearer (where visage I perfectly recognize) is the man, yet form his minute relation of a number of circumstances both previous to and during the time we were besieged. I have no hesitancy in my mind respecting the fact.

The following are related by the Bearer, with which, I am personally acquainted.

1st Captain James Gregg and a Sergeant of his being shot, tomahawk'd and scalp'd the former being found five hours after the affair happen'd, when he was brought in by a part of the Garrison (who went in search of him) by four men upon a large piece of Bark and surviv'd many years.

2nd Lieut John Spoor, and twenty men with him on a fatigue party being cut off by some Indians within a mile of the Garrison.

3rd Coll Willett's leaving the Fort at night to appraise General Gates at Saratoga with the State of the Garrison & the position of the besiegers.

4th The effect of the exploration of a shell upon Mr. McCarty wife of one of my soldiers, taking out of her Buttock a piece of flesh as large as a man's first and her being safely delivered of a child the night after.

5th The entrance into the Fort (while we were besieged) of Hanyost Schuyler a tory who had joined the enemy and who with two others while on a plundering party at German Flats who was taken prisoner by General Arnold, who had been detach'd by General Gates to which the Garrison and which said Schuyler was to apprise Coll Gansevoort of Arnold's approach while the two men taken with him were detain'd as Hostages, for the faithful performance of his conduct.

6th The Defeat of Gen'l Herkimer.

7th The Sortie made from the Fort under Coll Willett (in which I was a Volunteer) in Consequence of Schuyler's arrival to divert the attention of the enemy & then to facilitate the march of General Herkimer, for our relief. In this affair he mentions a Lieutenant.

8th Singleton of the British Army, who was wounded in Herkimer's defeat, and taken prisoner by Coll Willett in the above Sortie—Likewise the attempt of Genl St. Ledger the British Commander, to [eat?] off our retreat on our return to the Garrison, after we had destroyed an Indian Camp and taken a number of prisoners, Muskets, Indian Colors, Blankets &c. How we fac'd about to repel the enemy and did oblige him to retreat; and our safe arrival into the Fort—one man only being slightly wounded.

9th The arrival of Genl Arnold after we had been besieged twenty days—The precipitate retreat of Genl St. Ledger. His leaving his own tent standing, and most of his Camp Equipage – Our pursuit of him down Wood Creek—Our taking four brass [Tesla?] Pieces, which in their flight they threw into the Creek. He likewise mentions a great many circumstances which took place in the campaign of 1779 under Genl. Sullivan with as much [?] & correctness as the above all of which, are perfectly within my recollection and which I am fully persuaded, no due, unless present and an actor in them, could possibly detail.

With much respect Sir, I remain your very humble Serv't. Saml Bleecker Capt. Light 3 New York Reg & Major by Brant in the Revolutionary Army.