

Pension Application for Alpheus Harmon

R.4618

District of New York
County of Seneca SS.

On the twenty first day of January 1820 before me the subscriber, one of the Judges in and for the County of Seneca and for the said district personally appeared Alpheus Harmon of Wolcott in Seneca in the said district, lagged sixty four years last March, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress, entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war."

That he Alpheus Harmon volunteered with Seth Warner and Ethan Allen in the spring of the year 1775 and was of the party with them at the surrender and taking possession of the British Garrisons of Ticonderoga and Crown Point where he remained one month to keep garrison then he Inlisted for nine months at Crown Point with Captain Robert Cochran in Col. Easton's Regiment Massachusetts troops and went down Lake Champlain was with General Montgomery at the siege and taking of Fort St. Johns at the north end of Lake Champlain in Canada at the close of the campaign was with the Regiment discharged at Ticonderoga.

His next Military tour was in 1776 under Captain Tahan Noble of Vermont Militia under whose command he marched to Ticonderoga some time previous to General Burgoyne's appearance before the fortresses at that station remained there until the retreat was one of an inconsiderable detachment who took eleven prisoners at Hubberton.

That in the beginning of the year 1778 he Inlisted into a Corps of Rangers in a company belonging to that corps commanded by Captain Joshua Conkey at Salem Washington County New York to serve during the war on Continental Establishment said to be raised by the General government through the influence of General John Williams principally—they were fed clothed and paid by the Continental Congress, and that he continued to serve in the said corps and that he continued to serve in the said corps until late in the fall of the year 1780 when he was discharged with the applause of his officers for his good and faithful services—at Salem Washington New York.

That during the siege of Fort St. Johns 1775 he was in several skirmishes [skirmishes] some of them sharp and severe the most distinguished commenced near the Fort with the Indians but they were strongly reinforced with British & Indians we were reinforced and the Battle was hot & heavy it commenced at eleven oclock A.M. and continued until after sun set—we were worsted and lost several hundred men killed.

In 1777 he in the retreat from Ticonderoga was in several battles and skirmishes in the Battle of Bennington and at the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga and that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services. (Signed) Alpheus Harmon

Sworn to and declared before me, the day and yea aforesaid. Adonijah Church

Letter in folder dated July 18, 1923, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the pension claim R.4618, it appears that Alpheus Harmon was born March 29, 1755. He enlisted in the spring of 1775 and served under Colonels Ethan Allen and Seth Warner in the Green Mountain Boys, was at the taking of Ticonderoga and Crown Point, was stationed in the garrison at Crown Point under Captain Grant for one month, then served under Captain Robert Cochran and Colonel Easton and was at siege of Saint John. In 1776 he enlisted under Captain Tehan Noble of the Vermont Militia, and in 1777 was engaged in the battles of Hubbardton and Bennington and the surrender of Burgoyne. Early in 1778, he enlisted in Captain Joshua Conckey's company of New York Rangers and served until discharged in the fall of 1780.

In 1821 he referred to his wife and nine children and in 1826 he referred to his children; Bohan aged 18 years, Susannah 14 years, Nathan 10 years, and Udilla six years.

On January 21, 1820, while living at Walcott, Seneca County, New York, he applied for pension, but his claim was not allowed as the organizations in which he served did not come within the provisions of the pension law of March 18, 1818, under which he applied, which required that service should be rendered in the Continental Line of the Army, and not in state organizations, such as described by the soldier.