

Pension Application for Nathaniel Hayes, or Hays

S.10820

State of New York

Chenango County SS.

On this thirtieth day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open court, before the Honorable Robert Morrell Vice Chancellor, of the Sixth Circuit of the State of New York, at a Court of Chancery held at the residence of the vice chancellor in the Town of Greene, in the County of Chenango and State of New York, now sitting Nathaniel Hays, a resident of the Town of Greene, in the County of Chenango and State of New York, aged sixty eight years, who being first duly sworn according of law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers and served as herein stated—

That at the breaking out of the War of the Revolution he lived in [the] town of lower Salem, County of WestChester in the State of New York—

In the summer of the year 1778, he entered the service as a substitute for his Father Nathaniel Hays, who was then at Horseneck, and was dismissed after being out six weeks, and that after his dismissal he returned home.

In the month of April 1779 he enlisted in a company under Captain Nathaniel Sacket, in a regiment commanded at that time by Colonel Holmes as he believes, they went into North Castle and ranged from there to White Plains, and about that country until his discharge.

The company to which he belonged were called rangers. He enlisted for six months and when the time was up he was dismissed and returned home.

He was in a skirmish with a party of British horsemen, at what was called Round Hill and recovered from them about two hundred head of cattle, which had been taken by the British.

In the winter of the year 1780, he enlisted for four months, as a Ranger in the company under Captain Samuel Lewis—and Lieut Hiel Boutton, and were stationed at and near White Plains, until the 17th of March following at which time, he was out under Lieut Boutton on a scouting expedition, with others, and he with fourteen others were taken prisoners, by a party of Refugee Horse, and carried to New York and were confined for six months a part of the time six weeks in the old Provost (so called) and the rest of the time in the old Sugar House; at the time of his release, there was an exchange of prisoners & he with others was exchanged.—

The first of April 1782, he enlisted for the term of nine months in a Regiment raised under Colonel Weisenfels, [Weisenfels] and marched under him to Fishkill, whose regiment was inspected & having passed muster, the officers were dismissed & went home, and they were taken to Pumpton in the Jerseys, and joined the Continental Army – at Pumpson they were under drill until they were sufficiently expert, and were then raised to the Block House at Smiths Clove—at this place they

routed a party of the Cow Boys. They were at Smiths Clove about three months some time they were moved to VerPlanks Point, and were there engaged in Chopping wood and boating it up West Point—

From this place they were moved to New Windsor, a little below Fishkill on the opposite side of the river and there cut wood for the officers quarters, who were stationed at that place—after the expiration of the nine months for which he enlisted he received a written discharge, which he has since lost—

That he has no documentary proof of any part of his services, and knows of no person or persons, by whom he can prove any part of his services.

He hereby relinquishes, every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Nathaniel Hayes

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Robt Morrell, Vice Chancellor

The following questions were propounded by the Court to the Applicant.

First Where, and in what year were you born?

Ans. He was born in the Town of Canaan, Litchfield County of State of Connecticut in the year 1764, the 26th day of June.

2nd Have you any record of your age, and if so wehre is it?

Ans. He has no record of his age whatever & knows it only by information from his Fathers family.

3rd Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans He lived at the time of his first service in the Town of South Salem, County of West Chester and State of New York—Since the Revolutionary War he has lived in the Town of Fredericksburgh (so called at what time) in the County of Dutchess and State of N. York—a part of the time in the town of Cairo, County of Green N.Y. and the residue in the Town of Greene, County of Chenango and State of New York at which place he now lives.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute; and if a substitute, for whom?

Ans The principal part of the time of his service was by enlistment and served as a substitute for six months for his Father Nathaniel Hays.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the Troops where you served; such Continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans The principal officers who were with the Troops where he served, were Colonel Holmes—Captain Sacket, Capt Lewis, General Washington—The Continental regiment in which he served was called the Second New York regiment—At Pumpton in the Jerseys, the first New York Regiment, was stationed at the same place. The circumstances connected with his service of any importance, were an engagement with a company of Horse of the British Army, from which they included in retaking a large

number of cattle which had been taken by the British—Also an engagement with a party of Cow Boys, who were in the habit of plundering and whome [whom] they routed.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Ans The last of December 1782 he received a discharge of the nine months service done by him, but he doesn't not recollect by whom it was executed—and which he has since lost.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution?

Answer Caleb Hays, Benjamin Jackson, Dr. Levi Farr, Warren Gray.

We Caleb Hays an Elder of the Baptist Church and a brother to the above named applicant residing in the Town of Barker, County of Broome in the State of New York and Benjamin Jackson of the Town of Greene & County of Chenango & State aforesaid, and Marvin Gray Esquire a Justice of the Peace of the same place with said Jackson, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Nathaniel Hays, who has subscribed and sworn to the above declarations. That we believe him to be sixty eight years of age. That he is reputed and believed, in the neighbourhood where he resides, to have been a Soldier of the Revolution, and that we concur in that opinion. (Signed) Caleb Hayes, Warren Gray

Sworn & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid – Robt Morrell, Vice Chancellor

Letter in folder dated February 27, 1932, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter of January 26, relative to Nathaniel Hayes, a soldier of the Revolutionary War.

The data which follow are obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.10820, of Nathaniel Hayes, based upon his military service in that war.

Nathaniel Hayes, son of Nathaniel, was born June 26, 1764, in Canaan, Litchfield County, Connecticut.

While living in South Salem, West Chester County, New York, he enlisted in the summer of 1778 and served six weeks as a substitute for his father who was then at Horse Neck; officers' names not stated. He enlisted in April 1779, served six months as a private in Captain Nathaniel Sackett's company of rangers, Colonel Holmes' New York regiment, and was in a skirmish the British horsemen at Round Hill. He enlisted in November, 1780, and served about four months as a private in captain Samuel Lewis' New York company of Rangers, and while out under Lieutenant Boutton, he was taken prisoner March 17, 1781, and carried to New York where he was confined for six months, a part of the time at the old provost and the remainder of the time in the Sugar House. He enlisted April 1, 1782, served nine months as a private in Colonel Weisenfels' New York regiment, was in a skirmish at the Block House at Smith's Clove, and served until the last of December, 1782.

After the Revolutionary War he lived in Fredericksburgh, Dutchess County, New York, also in Cairo, Green County, New York.

He was allowed pension on his application on his application July 30, 1832, while a resident of Greene, Chenango County, New York.

No reference was made to the wife or children of Nathaniel Hayes.

In 1832, Caleb Hayes, a brother of the soldier, was an elder in the Baptist Church of Barker (formerly Lisle), Broome County, New York. In the same year, Caleb Hayes was referred to as a clergyman, but no details given.