

## **Pension Application for Simon Heermance**

R.4914

State of New York

County of Dutchess SS.

On this thirty first day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred & thirty three personally appeared in open court in the Court of Chancery before Charles H. Ruggles Vice Chancellor of the second circuit of the State of New York, now sitting Simon Heermance a resident of the Town of Red Hook in the County of Dutchess and State of New York aged seventy [blank] years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

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

In the year 1779 while residing with his father in the town of Rhinebeck in that part which is now RedHook in the County of Dutchess aforesaid, he was drafted for six months service, as he believes.

In the year 1780 and as near as he can recollect, in the latter part of June or forepart of July and while residing with his father in the place aforesaid, he was again drafted to go to the north and went pursuant to such draft. The officers of the militia Regiment and company to which he then belonged were, as he believes, Colonel Morris Graham, Captain John Clum and Lieutenant John Heermance, but none of the officers of his regiment were required to go upon this service.

He was directed to proceed to or near Albany, and went accordingly on foot, on the east side of the Hudson River and without any officers to near Albany, where he joined some troops and was placed in a company commanded by one Nelson, whose Christian name he does not recollect, acting captain—at this place they remained for some length of time, and then, pursuant to orders, marched on to Fort Stanwix—here they remained until in the month of January 1781, when he was discharged and returned home, having been engaged in this service six months.

On his return in company with a party of others who had also been discharged, the first night after leaving Fort Stanwix they entered a hut for the purpose of remaining for the night. In a short time they discovered that they were pursued by Indians. They then left the hut and went on their way and reached Fort Herkimer in safety, that night. From this place he proceeded on home.

From the lapse of time, the age of this applicant and the loss of his memory, and from the circumstance that he was unacquainted with all the officers engaged in this service, having never seen them before nor since the time, he does not recollect the names of any of them except his acting captain Nelson, abovementioned.

Only part of a regiment was engaged in the service, and he thinks there was no officer with them as high a rank as colonel.

The service above stated is the only one which this applicant claims to have rendered during the revolutionary war, while not engaged in some civil occupation or pursuit.

This applicant was born in the Town of Rhinebeck in that part which is now Red Hook in the County of Dutchess aforesaid on the first day of April in the year 1763. He has no record of his age. His father had one which is destroyed.

He was living in the place last aforesaid when called into service. He has lived there ever since the Revolutionary War, and he lives there now.

He never received a written discharge from the service, has no documentary testimony and knows of no surviving witness who can testify to his service except his sister, Maria TenBroeck, who knows that he was absent from home upon the draft above stated.

The following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. Jacob C. Elmendorf, Nathan Beckwith, Philip Pitcher, John W. Pitcher, Nicholas Hoffman, Henry Staats.

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) Simon Heermance.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open court. Charles H. Ruggles, Vice Chancellor

Letter in folder dated March 26, 1928, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, R.4914, it appears that Simon Heermance applied for pension December 31, 1833, while residing at Red Hook, Dutchess County, New York, and alleged that while residing with his father (whose name is not given) at Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, New York, in the summer of 1780 he belonged to Captain John Clum's Company, Colonel Morris Graham's Regiment of New York Militia, went to Albany and was placed in Captain Nelson's Company and went on to Fort Stanwix and was there until in January 1781.

His claim was not allowed, as he did not serve six months as required by the pension law.

It also appears in said claim that soldier was born April 1, 1763, at Rhinebeck, New York.

It is not stated that soldier was married.