

Pension Application for Michael Helsinger or Hillsinger or Hilsinger

S.23692

State of New York

Otsego County SS.

On this 15th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Otsego now sitting Michael Hilsinger of the Town of Oneonta in the County of Otsego and State of New York aged seventy three years on the ninth day of January last, 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United [States] under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he resided in the Town of Schoharie in the County of Scharie [Schoharie] in the State of New York and enlisted into a company of Continental troops at that place in the year 1781 in the month of April commanded by Capt. Benjamin Dubois in Col. Willett's Regiment for the period of nine months and was stationed at the fort at Middleburg in said county of Schoharie, and at a fort at Vrooman Land in the same County, and continued in the service stationed at the above places in said company and Regiment until the served out the full period of his enlistment of nine months and was then discharged and he further states that one of the Lieutenants belonging to said company was Love.

The principal part of Col. Willett's Regiment was stationed at Fort Plain on the Mohawk River at the time above stated. And he further states that the next summer after he was discharged from the nine months service above stated, he was called into the service in a company of militia commanded by Capt. Schoolcraft of the Town of Schoharie aforesaid and also in a company of Militia commanded by Col. Peter Vrooman of Schoharie and Lieutenant Col. Zeelye.

That he went into the service as a volunteer under each of the above named captains, and the period of time that he served in both of said companies was at least two months in Col. Vrooman's Regiment, and was stationed at the lower Fort then called, being the stone building which was erected for a meeting house and which is now occupied as such, being about one mile east of the Court House in said County of Schoharie and he further saith.

That in the winter of the last year of the War, he again went into the service as a substitute or his brother John Helsingr in a Company of Continental Troops commanded by Capt. Pierce or Tears and Lieutenant John Thornton in Col. Willett's Regiment and joined said Rigimant [Regiment] at Fort Plain in the County of Montgomery in the State of New York. At the time he entered the service at this time as such substitute for his said brother it was by the consent of Capt. Pierce and Col. Willett.

That he continued in the service in the said company and regiment until the close of the war and until the army was discharged, which according to his present recollection was at least ten months and was discharged by his officers at Schenectady in the county of Schenectady, the State of New York.

And he further states that during this first nine months service he was three times engaged in skirmishes with the Indians which was all the fighting which he was engaged in while in the service.

And he further states that he was born in Cobleskill in the County of Schoharie in the State of New York in the year 1759.

That he has a record of his age now in his possession, that he lived at Schoharie aforesaid at each and every time he was called into the service as above stated—that he continued to reside in the County of Schoharie until about twenty eight years since when he moved into the Town of Milford in the County of Otsego, and into that part of said Town which in the division thereof is called Oneonta where he now resides.

That the manner of being called into the service and the names of the officers with whom he served is as above set forth, and also that he never received any written discharge from the service and also that he is well known to Timothy Sabin, Theodatus Edson & Ray Guild of his present neighborhood who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services except Ray Guile whose deposition is hereunto annexed—and he further states that he has heretofore been inscribed on the Pension List Roll of the Agency of the State of New York as a private soldier, as appears by his certificate which is hereunto annexed, and that he is the same identical Michael Helsingr named in said certificate—that he has drawn one years pay under the said Pension Certificate and his name was then stricken from said Roll.

And 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 with his mark) Michael Hillsinger.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid. Horace Lathrop, Clerk