

Pension Application for Asa Hill

S.44198

Otsego ComPleas of the term of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred twenty seven.

State of New York

Otsego County SS.

On this seventh day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred twenty seven personally appeared in open Court being the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Otsego in the State of New York & being a Court of record & proceeding according to the principal of the Pension Law with power of fine & imprisonment, Asa Hill aged Sixty Six years, resident in the Town of Worcester in the County of Otsego who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress passed the eighth of March 1818 & the first day of May 1820.

That he the said Asa Hill enlisted as a private for the term of nine months in the month of April in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & seventy nine in the State of New York at the City of Albany in a company commanded by Captain Dunscomb's (1) in a regiment commanded by Col. Weisenfeldt in the Line of the State of New York in the Continental establishment & that he continued to serve the said Corps until the full expiration of nine months from the time of his enlistment as above stated & was then discharged at Morristown in the State of New Jersey, the said Asa Hill hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension (except the present) & that his name is not on the rolls of any State except New York & that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension in that I have not until this time been able to procure the proof which was necessary to prove the service rendered in the army of the revolution in consequence of my poverty & the difficulty of finding any person who was personally knowing to my enlistment & service as above stated in the year of eighteen hundred & twenty five.

I ascertained that Samuel Hasford a private of the Company commanded by Capt. Dunscomb resided in the County of Jefferson in the State of New York who was the first person who I found that served in said Company with me during the time above stated in the fall of the year eighteen hundred twenty five. I ascertained that James Parshall (2) of Middlefield in the County of Otsego was an orderly sergeant in the regiment Commanded by Col. Weisenfeldt & was calling upon him he at that time informed me that he well recollected of the services rendered by me in said Regiment as above set forth & since that it [???] to produce the proof above mentioned.

I have spoken to several gentlemen to assist me in making my application for pension who have manifested a disposition of willingness to do the same but on account of my extreme poverty I have not been able to pay the expences which are charged in such cases and therefore have not had it in my power to employ any person to assist me in making said application & in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820 I do swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 & that I have not since that time by act or sale or any manner disposed of

any of my property or any part thereof or by intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress, entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land & naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war passed on the 18th day of March 1818 & that I have nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed by me Subscribed on the 18th day of March A.D. 1818.

I had no real estate either in possession reversion or remainder or expectancy in law or equity or personal property except my necessary bedding & wearing apparel. I have as follows, one yearling heifer, one calf, two milking pail, iron kettle, one half pail, do one cast iron teakettle, two spiders [frying pan on legs to use for hearth cooking], one pair of [cast and irons?] one iron trammel, one old pine chest, one 6 quart tin pail, one wooden ten quart pail, one common churn, five tea cups & saucers, one black earthen Teapot, nine earthen Plates, two iron Spoons, four pewter spoons, two tin pint basins, one quart decanter, one Gallon Stone Jug, one 2 qt earthen jug, 1 quart earthen bottle, two earthen milk [pains?], two tin do one pair shovel tongs, one iron candlestick, 1ppl tumbler, on tin [fucwil?], five old chairs, one old Cherry Table, one common bible, one in[glirt?]reader, one testament, six knives & forks, one hoe, one Scythe & Sraith, one meat Barrel, one flour Barrel, two common Towels, three diaper do two old Bedsteads, one pair of small steel yards, one wash tub, two earthen cream pots, one pitch fork, which was all the property, I the said, Asa Hill then owned aforesaid in the world (except my bedding & wearing apparel as aforesaid)--

And I the said Asa Hill do further upon my oath state & say that I am by occupation a farmer & am now sixty six years of age, my wife is seventy years old. I am now out of health & have not enjoyed good health for more than two years past & am unable to labor but very little my wife is wholly unable to do anything whatever in consequence of a vein on her arm & old age.

I have three children all sons their [names?] & ages are as follows, Roswell 38, Heseekiah 30, Henry 26. Heseekiah lives in the State of Ohio, has a family & is in low circumstances the other two are single men without property & wholly unable to render me any support or assistance whatever. I have the property above specified without any material [alteration?] except the swine which I then owned they have been converted to the use of myself & family, but I at this time [mature?] other swine & I do further swear that I am honestly indebted & am now owing the following debts to wit—to [Lucius?] J. Andress of Worcester in the County of Otsego, the sum of eleven dollars for which he holds a not against me & about nine dollars in book account to John Chappion of the same place the sum of fifty dollars one note which I gave him two years since. Also to William [Banall?] of the same place on a Judgment the sum of ten dollars besides interest & also Edward B. Bigelow of the same place five dollars on an Book account. I have no debts or [?] of money or property due to me from any person or persons whatever. (Signed with his mark) Asa Hill (3)

Sworn & subscribed this [blank] 7th day of February A.D. 1827 in open court.
E. P. Crandal, Clk

End Notes—S.44198—Asa Hill

1. Asa enlisted as a private in Captain-Lieutenant Edward Dunscomb's Company in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Frederick Weisenfel's Fourth New York Continental Regiment. Asa was discharged on December 31, 1779, at Morristown, New Jersey. This was fortunate for Asa as the winter of 1779-1780 at Morristown was worse than that the winter of 1777-1778 spent at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Although Asa did not mention it but he would have been in the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign against the Iroquois in the western part of New York in 1779. He would have been at the Battle of Newtown or Elmira, N.Y. on August 29, 1779.
2. James Parshall enlisted on June 1, 1777 and was appointed sergeant in Captain Samuel Sacket's First Company in Colonel Henry B. Livingston's Fourth New York Continental Regiment for during war.
3. Asa does not mention it but he had served as a private in Captain Peter Van Ness' Ninth Regiment of Albany County Militia. Asa also enlisted as a private on May 1, 1781 in Captain Lawrence Gross' Company in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. He was disabled by a fall of his horse at Fort Rensselaer and discharged November 1781. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C. He did apply to the Pension Board of New York which listed him as residing at Hillsdale, Columbia County—A 137, Co. 69. But these minutes appear to have been burned in the Capitol Fire of 1911. The citation for the Pension Board Minutes is found on page 394, Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York, ed. Bertold Fernow, Vol. XV, State Archives, Vol. I, Albany, N.Y. Weed, Parsons and Company Printers, 1887.