

Pension Application for Andrew Michael

R.7150 (Widow: Anna or Hannah) Married November 25, 1790. He died October 3, 1835.

French Army

No deposition in folder by Andrew Michael.

State of N. York

Montgomery County SS.

On the 28th day of October 1834, personally appeared before me, Cornelius J. Wessder a Justice of the peace of the Town of Root, in and for the County of Montgomery aforesaid, Reinhold Fraugott, of the said Town County and State aforesaid who being duly sworn, according to Law, deposeseth and saith, that he is aged Seventy three years & ten Months past, and that he is personally acquainted with Andrias Michael. And has known him personally in the Revolutionary War, more particulary [particularly]. Since the arival [arrival] at Newport, State of Rhode Island sometime in July, started from [passport?]t in France, with the French Army saith and so understood with an Army of Eight Thousand men, that both deponent and the aforesaid Andrias Michael were Enlisted, in a Regt Commanded by Col. Graff Christian, deponent Enlisted under the Command of Capt. Cawaus Company, and that deponent is personally known that the said Andrias Michael, Vizt a Claimant for a Pension, did belong to a different Company, Commanded by Capt. Heno, belonging to the said Reg.t with him said Deponant.—

That this deponent further saith, that the whole Army were under the Genl Command of Genl Rush Shambo, until joined the Army of Genl Washington, and than Continued Under the General command of Genl Washington until and after the taking of Cor Wallis [Cornwallis] and his army, deponent believes sometime in October 1781 – and both Continued with the Army, under the Command of Genl Washington, deponent says according to the best of deponents knowledge and belief, until the conclusion of the Revolutionary War.—deponent further saith, that he recollects, that the army under the command of Genl Rush Shambo, left France at [passport?] in the year 1780, he believes. In May, and arived [arrived] at Newport, Rhode Island) sometime in July there Incamped [encamped], and stationed during the remainder part of Summer & fall & Winter, until sometime in Spring, when a selection was made out of Genl Rush Shambo's Army, composing or Constituting a full Regt at which time deponent, was one of those who had to stay, back at New port to defend and guard against the British, where Genl Rush Shambo's army, composing or constituting a full Regt at which time deponent, was one of those who had to stay, back at Newport to defend and Guard against the British, when Genl Rush Shambo with the remainder part of the French Army, went to West Pont there joined under the Command of Genl Washington and his army. And after sometime, Genl Washington with his army by Land and deponent, by Water, with the Regt aforesaid again joined the Army, under Genl Washington, and deponent saith that himself and a Claiment were present at the taking of the British Army at York Town and after marched to William Burgh there stationed, where they had their Winter Quarters, until, he believes in April, tan

marched to Baltimore, there Encamped for a Considerable length of time, now In 1782 from thence, to Providence, Rhode Island, there Encamped again for a considerable length of time, again started from thence, in fore part of the Winter for Boston Massachusetts, but the company left belonging to no more got off of the ship or vessel until landed at the “West India, and finally deponent says that they had not returned to France until late in Summer 1783, deponent states that claimant has at least rendered United States Services for exceeding far two years, that he said Claimant had been a true and faithful soldier in the American Cause, that after his return to France, and after his continuance in France for about tow years, deponant again returned to America and then went up the Mohawk, to the Town of Canajoharie, said County of Montgomery, in which County said dep’t logated [located] his residence ever since.—

This deponent further and lastly saith, that Claim’t is a man of irreproachable Character, truth and varacity, and that his Testimony is Enlisted to full Credit, and further saith not. (Signed) Reinhold Fraugott

Sworn to and subscribed this 28th day of October 1834 Before me. C. S. Wessels, Justice.

Letter in folder dated June 11, 1917, written in response to an inquiry.

In response to your letter dated the twenty-ninth ultimo, you are advised that the papers on file in this Bureau show that Andrew Michael (Andreas Michler in the German), applied for pension January 13, 1835, at which time he was a resident of Oppenheim, Montgomery County, New York.

He stated that he was born April 24, 1759, in Alsace, “a German Empire belonging to the French Government”, that he was an enlisted soldier in the French Army at the time of the Revolutionary War between the British Government and the colonies in America, and embarked with an army of eight thousand (as he understood), from Brest, France, in April, 1780 for America, as a Private and Musician, in Captain Hainault’s company, Colonel Christian de Forbach, Duke de Deus Ponts’ regiment, and served under Generals Rochambeau, Lafayette and Washington. After an engagement with a British frigate, en route, they arrived at Newport, Rhode Island, in July, 1780; remained there until the spring of 1781 when they joined General Washington at West Point, marched to Kings Bridge, thence to Yorktown, Virginia, where they engaged in the siege, and surrender of Lord Cornwallis, then proceeded to Williamsburg Virginia, land Newport Rhode Island, where he was discharged in the fall of 1782.

Preferring to remain in the “Land of Liberty and Independence”, he went to Palatine, New York, where he married November 25, 1790, Anna Hellmer (or Hannah Helmer) daughter of Philip Hellmer. They had son Jacob baptized June 15, 1791, and son Philipp born June 19, 1793 who was baptized February 14, 1794”. In 1935 soldier referred to his two sons and one daughter who had families of their own; and one other son, (his youngest) who was a divinity student; but did not state any of their names.

No pension was ever allowed for the reason that the Act of June 7, 1832, under which the soldier applied, "did not provide for the soldiers who belonged to the French Army, though in the service of the United States".

Andres Michael died October 3, 1835, leaving his widow a resident of Oppenheim, aforesaid, aged seventy-nine years in 1840. In 1853, she resided at St. Johnsville, Montgomery Co., New York. There is no further family data on file.