

Pension Application for John Munson

R.7498 (Widow: Mary)

State of New York

Washington County SS.

On this Eighteenth day of January 1831, personally appeared before David Woods—one of the Judges of the County Courts of the county of Washington & State of New York of the degree of Counsellor at Law of the Supreme Court of Indenture of said State, Mary Munson of the town of Hebron in the said County of Washington aged eighty seven [seven] years & upwards who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4, 1836..

That she is the widow of John Munson. Since or late of the town of Hebron aforesaid deceased who as a soldier & Lieutenant in the army of the Revolution that the said John & this deponent soon after their marriage emigrated from the State of Connecticut to the town of Stamford in the State of Vermont where they resided about three years when they moved to the said town of Hebron in this county where they resided until the death of the said John Munson Junr as herein after related that during the time he so resided in Stamford as aforesaid, her said husband the said John Munson Junior served in the war of the revolution as a volunteer soldier at different times for the space of three months, or more, was also during the said time engaged in the battle & fought therein at Bennington in the State of Vermont in the year 1777.

That in the month of June 1778, this deponent with her said husband removed from the said town of Stamford to the town of Hebron in said County of Washington where she now resides.

She further declares that after the removal to the State of New York & during the years 1778, & 9, & 1780 & 1781 up to March in the year last aforesaid her said husband always held himself in readiness as a volunteer & actually performed at different times the duties of a soldier at different places & rendezvous in the revolutionary war at the call of the officers which were then in command but whose names this deponent cannot now recollect the full term of nine months service as this deponent verily believes from her recollection of the events of the war.

And this deponent further saith that on the 16 day of march 1781 as appears by the Certificate of the Dep'ty Secretary of the State of New York hereto annexed her said husband was appointed & commissioned (which commission this deponent has been unable to find amongst the papers of her deceased husband) a Lieutenant in the Company of Capt. James Wilson, who is also dead in a Regiment of Militia commanded by Col. Alexander Webster & that whilst so commissioned & in the said company of Capt Wilson her said husband was called into the service of the country to Skenesborough & various other places at different times the term of six months as this deponent is informed & believes that during the period of such last service she has been compelled with her small children & some of her neighbors & to secrete themselves in the woods from fear of the tomahawk & scalping knife of the savages &

the enemies of the county who were allied to the British called Tories. And that during this latter period ammunition for the company was put into the house of her said husband in Hebron & that she has often seen her said husband when going out on alarms or expeditions deal out such ammunition for the soldiers & men of his said company.

And she further declares that she was married to the said John Munson Junior in the fall of the year 1771—at the town of New Haven in the State of Connecticut by Esq Chandler a Justice of the peace of that place from whom she hath at no time received any certificate of her said marriage to her said husband from the said Esqr Chandler nor does she believe nor does she know of any record of her said marriage & that it is not in her power as she believes to produce any record of the same nor can she produce the evidence of any person who was present at the solemnizing of her said marriage, as she believes the witnesses there to as well as the said Justice have long since deceased and that this deponent lived with the said John Munson until his death which took place on the 22d day of February one thousand eight hundred and fifteen at the said town of Hebron in the County of Washington aforesaid & that she hath remained the widow of the said John Munson Junior ever since & that she is now the widow of the said John Munson Junior & hath remained such widow ever since his death.

She further states that John Munson show affidavit is hereto annexed is her eldest child living who is now sixty four years & upwards. (Signed with her mark)
Mary Munson

Subscribed & sworn to this 18th day of January 1839, before me David Woods, a Judge of Washington County Courts.

Letter in folder dated February 5, 1938, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War records of John Munson (Monson) Sr., John Munson, Jr., and Philander Munson, all of Hebron, Washington County, New York; you state that Philander Munson is supposed to have moved to Lanawee County, Michigan about 1834.

Revolutionary War data furnished by this office are obtained from claims for pension and bounty land which have been made to the United States based upon service.

A search of those records fails to show a claim on file based upon service of any Philander Munson, under any spelling of that surname. The record has been found of only one John Munson, designated John Munson, Jr. The data which follow are shown in the papers on file in pension claim, R.7498, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

The date and place of birth of John Munson, Jr. are not show. As early as 1771, he resided in New Haven, Connecticut, from which place he moved about the year 1775, to Stamford, Vermont.

While a resident of Stamford, Vermont, John Munson, Jr. served as a volunteer at various times, and was in the battle of Bennington. He moved about June 1778, to

Hebron, Charlotte County (later Washington County) New York; he served at various times between 1778 and 1780, in Captain James Wilson's company, Colonel Alexander Wenster's regiment of New York troops, and on March 16, 1781, was appointed 2nd Lieutenant in that company and was called out frequently. It was stated that the ammunition for the soldiers was stores at his house, and that he distributed to them before the various alarms against the Indians and Tories, also, that he drilled these soldiers at his house.

John Munson, Jr., continued to reside in Hebron, New York, until February 22, 1815, the day of his death.

He married in the fall of 1771, Mary Mansfield, who lived then in New Haven, Connecticut; they were married by a Justice of the Peace in New Haven, Connecticut. The names of Mary's parents are not shown. It was stated that two of her brothers, Joseph and Amos, served in the Revolutionary War, the former as an officer.

Mary Munson, the widow of John Munson, Jr., applied January 18, 1839, for the pension which might have been due on account of his service in the Revolutionary War. She was then aged "eighty seven years and upwards". Her claim for pension was not allowed as she failed to furnish proof of service of six months as required by the pension laws.

John Munson, son of John Munson, Jr. and his wife, Mary, was born in New Haven, Connecticut, in the year 1773, and resided in Hebron, New York, in 1839. He stated then that while his father was in service in the Revolutionary War, his mother fled to the woods for safety with him and her small children. This son was living in Hebron, in May of 1846.

In 1846, William Munson was a resident of Hebron, New York, aged forty-six years; he did not state his relationship to the family of John Munson, Jr.

In 1853, the names of the legal heirs of John Munson, Jr. were shown as follow, all residents of Hebron, Washington County, New York; Phebe Rogers, Mary Frasier and William Munson. The degree of relationship was not stated.

In 1840, Joseph Mansfield was a resident of Pownal, Bennington County, Vermont, aged seventy-nine years and upwards. He stated then that he was born in New Haven, Connecticut, that he was acquainted with John Munson, Jr. before his marriage to Mary Mansfield, and that Mary Mansfield was married at his (Joseph's) father's house. He did not state the relationship between Mary Mansfield and his father.