

Pension Application for Joseph Passage

W.17043 (Former Widow: Hannah Harwick)

State of New York

Hewrkimer County SS

On this first day of October 1838 personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of the said County Hannah Harwick a resident of Stark in the said County & State aforesaid aged seventy eight years on the 13th day of March last past, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath on her 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 and the act explanatory of said act passed March 3, 1837—

That she was married to Joseph Passage who was a private soldier in the army of the Revolution and performed several tours of srevcie one tour previous to her marriage with him and one tour of nine months duration after the marriage making altogether a period of over five years service the particulars of which are not fully known to her but are more particularly stated in the affidavits hereto annexed to which she refers and upon which and her own recollection she relies as the testimony and proof hereof.

She further declares that she was married to the said Joseph Passage on Sept. Tuesday in the month of February 1780 as she believes but having no record of her marriage and relying wholly upon her memory she cannot state positively whether it was in the year 1780 but believes it was in that year and of which she has no doubt—the day of the month she does not remember but knows it was on Tuesday which in those days was observed as a holy day by the people in her neighborhood and which always comes in February.

That her husband the said Joseph Passage died having been killed in the woods by a wild beast as is believed, shortly after the war and more than fifty years ago the precise day is not remembered by her.

That she was afterwards married to Philip Harwick who died the 20th day of February 1810 and that she was a widow—as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed—

She further states in relation to the service of the said Joseph Passage that before she was married to the said Passage he was an enlisted soldier and absent from home in the service of the United States—that she always after their marriage understood from the said passage that he enlisted in the early part of the Revolution and served in the regiment of Col. Gansevoort but she does not remember any of his company officers—that he enlisted as he always stated for three years only and was compelled under his said enlistment to serve and did actually serve five years.

That this deponent knows of his absence and service from the fact that she and the said Passage before the war became acquainted with each other, they lived about four miles from each other he living at Andrewstown & she at the [?] settlement, that he paid his [?] to her before the war, that at the beginning of the war he enlisted and was absent until a short time before their marriage when his time of enlistment and

service expired as she understood—that during the whole of this period he was at home but once when he came to see her this deponent and visited her as a lover—

That the occasion of his coming home at the time was that he the said Joseph & about thirty more men were sent as a scouting party by Col. Gansevoort from Fort Stanwix to Fort Plain when he called to see her this deponent who had at the time with her family moved to Fort Plains for safety.

And she further states that about eighteen months being several months after the birth of her first child by said Passage, which child was born eleven months after their marriage.

That said Passage again enlisted for nine months but she does not remember any of his officers nor does she know that she ever heard them named by him, but knows that he was enlisted at Albany and served nine months which she doubts is not the service referred to & stated in the affidavit of Adolpheus Pickard hereto annexed and to which she refers.

And she further states that the nuptials between her and the said Joseph Passage were celebrated by the Rev. Abraham Rosecrantz who has been dead many years and that she has no record of her marriage. (Signed with her mark) Hannah Harwick

Subscribed and sworn to in open court before the Court of Common Pleas of the said county this 1st day of October 1838. John Dygert, Clerk

Letter in folder dated October 31, 1932, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information in regard to John and Joseph Passage (Bassage, Basachi), soldiers of the War of the Revolution.

Revolutionary War data furnished by this office are obtained from claims made to the United States for pension and bounty land based upon the military service of soldiers in that war.

A search of the records has been made in your behalf and fails to such a claim on file on account of the services of John Passage, similar spellings of the surname searched.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, W.17043, based upon the Revolutionary War service of Joseph Passage.

He enlisted early in the Revolution and served in Colonel Gansevoort's New York regiment, dates of enlistment and discharge not stated. He enlisted at Albany, New York, sometimes in May, 1782 and served nine months as a private in Captain Peter Tearse's company, Colonels Weisenfels' and Marinus Willett's New York regiment.

He married in February 1780, Hannah (Anna) Bronner, who was born March 13, 1760.

The soldier died about the year 1788, and his widow, Hannah (Anna) married (date not given) Philip Harwick, who died February 20, 1810.

She was allowed pension, on account of the services of Joseph Passage, on her application executed October 1, 1838, then a resident of Stark, Herkimer County, New York.

Children by her husband, Joseph Passage, are referred, the oldest being born eleven months after their marriage. Names of children not stated.