

Pension Application for Johannes Sammons

W.18998 (Widow: Margaret)
State of New York
Orange County SS.

On this sixth day of March eighteen hundred and thirty nine personally appeared before the undersigned a Judge of the court of common pleas in and for the said county Margaret Sammons a resident of the town of Deerpark in the County of Orange aged eighty years who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 4, 1836, entitled an act providing half pay and pensions for certain widows. That she the widow of Johannes or John Sammons late of the County of Orange aforesaid who was a private & Sergeant in the Militia of the State of New York and served as hereinafter stated according to the best of her recollection as she had been informed by her said husband and verily believes to be true.

That in the latter part of the month of July 1776 her said husband enlisted and volunteered with a company that was raised for the term of four months. The same company was raised in the Town of Rochester, in the County of Ulster and in the State aforesaid and rendezvous ?? at the landing on the Hudson River near Kingston under Captain Benjamin Kortright (1), Lieut. Nath'l Pitter [Potter] esq.,(2) Frederick Westbrook and went from thence to Fort Montgomery from thence they went to Kingsbridge and remained there until New York was taken - They removed? to White Plains and was there at the time of the battle (3) from thence they marched to Peekskill where the said John Sammons she believes was discharged on or about the first day of January 1777, this service was rendered in the regiment commanded by Col. Levi Pawling and under General George Clinton. (4)

She further declares that on or about the first part of January 1777 the Committee of Safety called out a number of men from the county of Ulster to be raised by volunteering or draft and that Benjamin Kortright should take charge of a company of those men as captain and that her said husband Johannes Sammons volunteered into the said company under Capt. Benjamin Kortright and went from Rochester to Fort Montgomery about the middle of January and served until the last day of March 1777 being a service of at least ten weeks when he returned home, this service was done in the Regiment then from Ulster County at Fort Montgomery under Col. Snyder (5) and Lieutenant Col. McClaghry. (6)

That in the month of August 1777 her said husband Johannes Sammons was drafted from a company of Militia then under Capt. Kortright and was placed in a company of drafted Militiaman under Captain Benjamin Kortright and in the Regiment commanded by Col. Morris Graham (7) and went to the north to meet General Burgoyne and was in the battle (8) at the taking of Burgoyne and served three months the time for which he was drafted and was discharged at the expiration of his term of service.

That her said husband Johannes Sammons in the spring of 1778 was appointed a Searjeant [Sergeant] in the company under Capt. Benjamin Kortright and that he served until the end of the war as such that she is unable to state the different times that her husband was out in service during the year of 1778, 1779 and 1780, excepting a service of nine days as a Sergeant in the company of Johannes Hardenburg (9) and in the Regiment under Co. Cantine on the western frontier in the months of November 1778 as will appear by the roll of Capt. Hardenburg now on file in the pension office.

That sometime in 1779 or 1780 her said husband Johannes Sammons was out as a Sergeant out serving on the western frontier as a Sergeant for twenty three days as will appear from the accompanying roll kept by Capt. Kortright and lately found in his family this service was under Capt. Kortright and under Col. Cantine.

That according to the best of her recollection in her said husband Johannes Sammons entered the Levies in the Spring of 1781 and served for the term of Nine months on the western frontier as a Sergeant in a company of Levies and according to the best of her recollection in the company of Captain Henry Pawling. (10)

That in 1781 her said husband was out several times upon alarm but she is unable from old age and loss of memory unable to state the particulars. That she has no documentary evidence written of her husband's service in her possession except that which is herewith produced.

She further declares that she was married to the said the said Johannes Sammons at her father's house in the town of Rochester in the County and State aforesaid by the Rev. Derick Romeyn Pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church in the aforementioned place on the thirteenth day of March Seventeen Hundred and seventy eight and that her name before marriage was Margareta Wynkoop that she has no record of her said marriage nor does she believe there is any in existence nor has she any other proof that she knows of except the baptism of her oldest daughter Jane or Jenneka Sammons which took place in the church at Rochester in the county and state aforesaid and that she held the said child in her own arms when she was baptized and that the aforementioned Jenneka was baptized on the 6th day of May seventeen hundred and seventy nine Just eighteen days after she was born and she further declares that the said [?] is the lawful [?] of the marriage of Johannes Sammons and Margareta Wynkoop. That her husband Johannes Sammons died on the first day of August Eighteen hundred and thirty and that she has

not since intermarried but still remains the widow of Johannes Sammons. (Signed with her mark) Margaret Sammons.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year above mentioned before me. By making her mark because she cannot see to write. Hulet Clark a Judge of Orange County Co. Common Pleas.

Letter replying to an inquiry dated May 29, 1935.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim W.18998, based upon the military service of Johannes or John Sammons in that war.

The date and place of birth and the names of the parents of Johannes or John Sammons are not shown.

He volunteered and served with the New York Troops, as follows: from the latter part of July 1776, as a private in a company raised in Ulster County, New York, commanded by Captain Benjamin Kortroght in Colonel Levi Pawling's Regiment, marched to New York, where he remained until after that city was captured; thence to White Plains and was in the battle at that place, and was discharged about January 1, 1777; from about January 1, 1777, ten weeks as a private in Captain Benjamin Kortroght's Company under Colonels Snyder and Pawling and was at Fort Montgomery: from August, 1777, three months in Captain Kortroght's Company, Colonel Morris Graham's New York Regiment, was in the campaign against Burgoyne and in the engagement when that officer was captured; in the spring of 1778, he was appointed sergeant in Captain Benjamin Kortroght's Company and served each year from that time until 1780 on various tours; one tour in 1779 or 1780 was for twenty-three days as sergeant under Captain Kortroght and Colonel Cantine on the western frontier; and another in November, 1778, was for nine days on the western frontier under Captain Johannes A. Hardenburgh and Col. Cantine; dates and names of officers for the other tours are not shown in 1781, he served nine months as sergeant in Captain Henry Pawling's Company, Colonel Albert Pawling's Regiment and was again on the western frontier; in 1782, he was out on a number of alarms; dates and officers' names not shown.

The soldier died August 1, 1830, in Orange County, New York.

Johannes or John Sammons married March 13, 1778, Margaret or Margaretta Wynkoop. They were married at her father's house in Rochester, New York. The date of her birth and names of her parents are not shown.

Soldier's widow, Margaret, was allowed pension on her application executed March 6, 1839, at which time she was aged eighty years and resided at Deer Park, Orange County, New York.

The only name of a child that is show is daughter Jane or Janneka, who was baptized May 6, 1779, when she was eighteen days old. The baptism was recorded on the records of the Reformed Dutch Church at Rochester, New York.

In 1839, Jane Whitehead, aged twenty-nine and a resident of Deer Park, New York, stated that she was the granddaughter of the soldier Johannes Sammons and his wife, Margaret. She did not give the names of her parents.

End Notes—W.18998—Johannes Sammons

1. Captain Benjamin Kortright was appointed Captain in 1777 and was commissioned on February 21, 1778 I Colonel Levi Pawling's Third Regiment of Ulster County Militia. The following were officers in Kortright's Company: Dirck Westbrook as the First Lieutenant, Frederick Westbrook as the Second Lieutenant and Ensign Jacob Hornbeck. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 75, folder 135, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. Nathaniel Potter served as First Lieutenant in Captain Peleg Ransom's Company in Colonel Pawling's Regiment.
3. The Battle of White Plains, New York was fought on October 28, 1776.
4. George Clinton was a Brigadier General in April of 1777 he was elected as the first Governor of New York State.
5. Johannes Snyder was the Colonel of the First Regiment of Ulster County Militia.
6. James McClaghrey was the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Second Regiment of Ulster County Militia.
7. Morris Graham served as a Colonel in 1777 for 5 months in the militia that had been drafted from various regiments and sent to join Major General Philip Schuyler's Army on the North River or as it is known now, the Hudson River.
8. This probably refers to the Battle of Saratoga which was fought on September 19, 1777. A second battle was fought on October 7, 1777. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British Army and Allies on October 17, 1777.
9. John A. Hardenburgh was commissioned Captain on February 21, 1778 of the First New Paltz Company in Colonel John Cantine's Third Regiment of Ulster County Militia. Canine was appointed colonel on the same date in place of Colonel Pawling who had been appointed First Judge of Common Pleas. FROM:

Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 72, folder 76, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
The roll for this company is in this folder.

10. On searching the payrolls for Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Albert Pawling's Regiment of New York State Levies, John's name could not be found in Captain Henry Pawling's or in any of the other companies.
FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 75, folder 134 (Albert Pawling), national Archives, Washington, D.C.