

Pension Application for Ensley Simmons

W.19032 (Widow: Lydia) Married October 18, 1773, by Elisha Colver, Justice of the Peace.
Private, Captain Ray, Col. Humphrey. Ensley died Oct. 31, 1832
State of New York
Chenango County SS.

On this tenth day of November 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Honl Robert Monell, Vice Chancellor of the 6th circuit of the State of New York at a Court of Chancery held at the residence of the Vice Chancellor in the town of Greene in the County of Chenango and State of New York, now sitting Lydia Simmons, a resident of the town of Smithville, in the County of Chenango and State of New York aged 77 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That she is the widow of Ensley Simmons, late a resident of Smithville aforesaid, who attended this court on the 13th day of August 1832, as appears by the declaration then made by the said Ensley Simmons, which is hereunto annexed. That her said husband Ensley Simmons died at Smithville aforesaid, on the morning of the 31st of October 1832, aged 87 years. That they were married before the Revolutionary War, and that they lived at the town of Northeast in Dutchess County and State of New York, at the commencement of the Revolutionary War, and that she lived at Northeast during the said War, and that her husband lived in the same town during the Revolution except the times herein after mentioned, when he was absent in the service of his country. That her said husband enlisted in the month of October 1775, in Captain Hugh Rays Company and Colonel Cornelius Humphreys Regiment of New York state Malaita, for the term of three years, and that he was from home in active service from the said month of October 1775 until in December 1778 except during two winters and in June 1776, he was home on furloughs and that during one of the said two winters he was at home in consequence of sickness. That y reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, she cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of her recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades: From October 1775 until May 1776, in the company aforesaid for seven months he served as a private in Captain Morehouse' Company from May 1778 until the 25 Decr 1778, for seven months he served as a private in Captains Hunphreys and McKinstens Companies and that he served during the terms above at least two years one month and fifteen days, and that afterwards during the tour he was in service not less than one year as a private and that he was absent in active service during the Revolution not less than three years and for such services I claim a pension to the day of his death. That when her husband made the declaration hereunto annexed his mind was considerably impaired from old age, and that from her knowledge of his services, she believes that the declaration made by her said husband, when living, which is hereunto annexed is all respects true. (Signed) Lydia Simmons

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Robt Morell Vice Chancellor

State of New York
County of Chenango SS.

On this 13th day of August 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Honl Robert Monell, Vice Chancellor of the 6th Circuit of the State of New York at a Court of Chancery, held in the residence of the Vice Chancellor in the town of Greene in the County of Chenango and State of New York, now sitting Ensley Simmons a resident of the town of Smithville in the County of Chenango and State of New York, aged 86 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress, passed June 7th 1831, That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated, that he living in the town of North East, in Dutchess County and State of New York, the County Committee having formed a Regiment of Volunteers, he in the month of October 1775 enlisted in the

Regiment under Captain Hugh Ray (Lieutenant & Ensign forgot) and Cornelius Humphrey was the Colonel of the Regiment, and he with the company was constantly employed from the time of his enlistment until the month of May 1776 in disarming the Tories and in bringing offenders before the County Committee, and on or about the first of July again joined Captain Hugh Hays company and was constantly with the company employed in the same service as the year before from the first of July to the last of December 1776, and was at that time in constant service for the term of six months, that he on or about the 1st of June 1777 joined Captain Morehouse Company and with the company marched to Peekskill and during this summer saw six brigades of Continental troops encamped in the Highlands, and from Fishkill went with the troops to West Point and there remained some time guarding the chain and when Fort Constitution was evacuated he went with the troops under General Putnam to Fishkill, and when the British burnt Kingston he was at Red Hook with the troops and several buildings were burned on the east side of the river, that they had a slight skirmish with the enemy in which one man was wounded, afterwards in the same year went to Dover in Dutchess County to guard the stores (Military Stores) and about the middle of November 1777 released home. That he in May 1778 went with the troops to Fishkill and in September went up to Saratoga and there arrived under the command of Captain Henry Humphrey and at Saratoga Charles McKinster took the command of the company and they took about 300 women and children, families of deserted Tories and carried them to Skeensborough where the American flag met the British flag, and after the women and children were given up to the British he with the troops returned to Saratoga and from thence to Albany and from thence with the company went up the Mohawk River to Fort Stanwix and from Fort Stanwix after remaining there sometime he with the company under the command of Capt. Henry Humphrey before mentioned, returned to Albany and at Albany lay in the barracks, with Colonel Cortland's Regiment of Troops and after the middle of December 1778 got a discharge from Colonel Livingston and returned and arrived home on Christmas Day (1778)—That when he enlisted in 1775 he enlisted for the term of 3 years, and that from the time he enlisted to the time when he was discharged more than 3 years had passed away, and that he was in active service during the time for which he had enlisted except that two winters he was home on furloughs, and that he was at home during one of the said two winters in consequence of sickness. That after he obtained his discharge he was frequently called out in the militia and was in the service more or less every year until the close of the Revolution and was in active service more than one year after he obtained his discharge at different times, but that the officers under whom he served he cannot now recollect, neither can he recollect with any degree of certainty the places in which he was with the troops after he obtained his discharge, but that he was in actual service with the troops during the Revolution more than 3 years, that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

To the 1st Interrogatory prescribed by the War Department he answers that he was born in Woodbridge, New Jersey in the month of October of 1746?

To the 2^d answer, that he has no record of his age it was left in Doors.

To the 3^d answer, that he lives in North East in Dutchess County and State of New York when called into service and that after the Revolution he lived in Nine Partners in the same county until he moved to Catskill where he lived until about 1806 he moved to Oxford in Chenango County where he lived until February 1831, where he moved to Smithville in Chenango County and State of New York, where he has since lived and now lives.

To the 4th answer that he always volunteered his service as a soldier of the Revolution.

To the 5th answer that Generals Putnam, Sullivan, Gloveils & Poor were regular officers with the troops where he served and that he recollects Colonel VanCortland's Continental Regiment and Colonels Lumden? and VanNess Militia Regiments, and that the general circumstances of his service are above given.

To the 6th answer, that he received but one written discharge from service and that was given him by Colonel Livingston in December 1778, that he having lost all his property in the Revolution, sold his discharge to one Mott of Poughkeepsie for Eleven Dollars.

To the 7th answers. That he is know in his present neighborhood to the Revd Nathaniel Kellogg, William Knowlton, Justice of the Peace, Philip Bartle, John Lawton, who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

That in consequence of infirmities arising from old age, he has been unable to labour for 6 or 7 years, and that he is wholly destitute of property, and is dependant upon his friends for support, that where names are omitted above they are forgotten and that owing to the weakness of his memory the above is as full and account of his services as he can possibly give, at this late day.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Ensley Simmons.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid, Robt. Morell, Vice Chancellor