

### Pension Application for Sylvanus Simmons

S.14484

Continental (New York) Artillery, Artificer, Captain Young, Col. Baldwin. Died Nov 11<sup>th</sup> 1839.

State of New York

Cattaraugus County SS.

On the 3<sup>d</sup> day of October 1832 personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for said county now sitting Sylvanus Simmons a resident of Ellicottville in the said county & state aged eighty one 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 provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1777 with James Youngs and served in a Regiment of Artificers commanded by Col. Baldwin New York Line under the following named officers. That he entered the service in August in the year 1777 for three years under the said Captain James Young and served under him about nine month when the said James Young was taken sick & left the army, and Nathaniel Purdy was assigned to the command of the company, and had the command of the same about one year when Capt. John Shepard was appointed to command under whom this deponent served until August 1780 when he was discharged at Fishkill by Capt. Shepard and afterwards received a written discharge from Col. Baldwin who was stationed on the North River below the highlands the names of the place not recollected, that the whole three years service was performed in Col. Baldwin's [sic] Regiment. That the company was stationed on the North River, and was marched from that station only once which was as follows. The deponent with about one hundred artificers were detached from Newburgh & went into the State of New Jersey to build a bridge for the accommodation of the army in their march towards Philadelphia that deponent thinks it was in the summer of the year 1778, and from thence they returned back to Fishkill.—During the service above mentioned the deponent worked on Stoney Point fortification, West Point, Kings Ferry at Verplank's Point Fort and Bom proof, which was taken by the British soon after it was built, he assisted in sinking the Shevan ade frize [cheval de frise] in the North River at [Polissers?] Island above the Highlands and in putting the great chain across the river at Fort Montgomery. That Genl George Clinton was commander in chief of the forces on the North River Station. Col. Dubois was stationed at Fort Montgomery, that he was in no battles. That Fort Montgomery was taken while he was in the service, and the company to which he belonged were ordered to march for the defense of the fort, but the fort was taken before they arrived, that they met Col. Dubois with a part of the troops which escaped from the fort.

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

Sworn and Subscribed the 3<sup>d</sup> day of October 1832 before me. Dan Allen Senior Judge.

Letter dated August 22, 1932.

Reference is made to your letter requesting information relative to Increase Jackson and Sylvanus Seaman, 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 fails to show such claims on file on account of the service of Increase Jackson.

You are furnished herewith the record of Sylvanus Simmons. This is the record of the only soldier by that name (searched under all the spellings of the surname), found on file in the Revolutionary War records of this office.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, S.14484, based upon the Revolutionary War service of Sylvanus "Simmons" his personal signature.

He enlisted sometime in August, 1777 and served in Captains James Young's, Purdy's John Shepard's company in Colonel Baldwin's Regiment of Artificers, until discharged sometime in August, 1780.

He was allowed pension on his application executed October 3, 1832, at which time he was living in Ellicottville, Cattaraugus County, New York, then aged eighty-one years.

He moved from Ellicottville, to Erie County, New York, from there to Newport, Herkimer County, New York, where he was living in 1834 and stated that his wife and children lived there.

The soldier, Sylvanus Simmons, died November 11, 1839, leaving a widow, her name not given.

In 1851 the following children survived, Thomas "Symmons" (his personal signature), Polly Vedder, Abigail Hall, Sally Perry, Ambrose Simmons, and Noah Simmons. The personal signatures of Ambrose and Noah not shown in the claim.