

Pension Application for William Stevens

W.9294 (Hannah Skinner, former widow) William died April 7, 1780.

State of Ohio

Ashtabula County SS.

Harpersfield Township

On this 21st day of August AD 1838 personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for Harpersfield Township County & State aforesaid Hannah Skinner a resident, of Harpersfield County & State aforesaid aged eighty seven 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836.

That she was married to William Stevens in the month of March 1773, who enlisted in the New York Levies at Harpersfield in the then County of Tryon under Captain Fink as a sergeant in the month of April 1776.

The he, William Stevens, was mustered at Albany in the month of May following and for nine months following did duty at Fort Edward, Fort George, & Ticonderoga and was discharged either in the latter part of December 1776 or first of January 1777.

That the aid William Stevens was killed in Harpersfield the morning of the 7th of April 1780 by a party of Indians & Tories commanded by Capt. Brandt.

That she was afterwards married to Nathaniel Skinner on the 27th day of April 1783 who died on the 11th day of September 1795. And that said Hannah has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof annexed. (Signed) Hannah Stevens.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written. Before me. S. P. Collar, a Justice of the Peace.

State of Ohio

Ashtabula County SS.

Harpersfield Township

On this 21st day of August AD 1838, personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for Harpersfield in the County & State aforesaid, Joshua O. Daniel, a resident of Harpersfield aforesaid and first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration concerning the within named William Stevens. That he recollects that the said William Stevens in the year 1776 enlisted in the New York Levies in the town of Harpersfield in the then County of Tryon. That he recollects that he came home in the winter in a deep snow at the time he was discharged in December 1776 or in the month of January 1777—That he always understood that he was engaged in the service at Fort Edward, George, & Ticonderoga and that he was killed by a party of Tories & Indians under Capt. Brandt in the 7th of April 1780—That he well knows that the said Nathaniel Skinner was married to the said Nathaniel Skinner in the year 1783 & that she the said Hannah Skinner was before that time the widow of the said William Stevens. He also further declares that the said Nathaniel Skinner died on the 11th day of September 1793 being present when he died—He also further declares, that the said Hannah Skinner has remained a widow ever since that period. (Signed with his mark) Joshua O. Daniel.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before me. S. P. Collar a Justice of the Peace.

I do hereby certify that the reason of the within named Joshua Odaniel making his mark was from the loss of sight and could not attend court. S. P. Collar, Justice of the Peace

I do also certify that the within named Hannah skinner could not attend court by reason of her infirmity. S. P. Collar, Justice of the Peace.

Letter in folder dated December 27, 1933, written in response to a request for information.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim, W.9294, based upon the military service in that war of William Stevens.

The date and place of birth and the names of the parents of William Stevens are not shown in the papers in the pension claim.

He enlisted in April, 1776, at Harpersfield, Tryon County, New York, and served nine months as sergeant in Captain Finck's New York Company. In the years 1777 and 1779, he served as a ranger under Captain Alexander Harper in the New York Troops: length of this service was not shown.

The soldier married in March 1773, Hannah Bartholomew, who was born April 19, 1751; the place of her birth and the names of her parents are not shown: William Stevens was killed on the morning of April 7, 1780, at Harpersfield, New York by a party of Indians under command of Captain Brant: his widow married April 27, 1783, Nathaniel Skinner, who died September 11, 1795.

Hannah Skinner was allowed pension on account of the service of her former husband, William Stevens, on her application executed August 21, 1838, while residing in Harpersfield, Ashtabula County, Ohio.

She stated that she had one child by her husband, William Stevens: said child died when very young: the name of the child and date of birth were not given. There is no reference to any children by her husband, Nathaniel Skinner, and no further family data.