

Pension Application for Abraham Camer

W.3593 (Elizabeth (Link) Poucher or Boucher, Former Widow) Abraham was born April 16, 1751, son of Paulus Camer & Elizabeth Camer, baptized Reformed Dutch Church in Claverack in Columbia County. Elizabeth married Anthony Poucher or Boucher July 8, 1839, who died January 21st 1857.

B.L.Wt.71231-160-55

State of New York

Columbia County SS.

On this twenty second day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared before John J. Miller Esquire first Judge of the County Courts of the court of Columbia & State of New York Abraham Camer a resident of the town of Copake in the County of Columbia and State of New York 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

This Deponent Abraham Camer says that he was born as he is informed and believes in the year 1751 in the town of Claverack and the Record of his age may be found in the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack.

That this Deponent resided with one Abraham Funda in said town of Claverack until his Deponent arrived [arrived] to the age of thirteen years when this Deponent was bound out as an apprentice to learn the shoemakers trade with one Nicholas Perry of the town of Coxsackie in the County of Green in the State of New York—That this Deponent continued to reside with said Perry in the said town of Coxsackie for a number of years and as this Deponent believes until he was upwards of thirty years of age—That this Deponent resided with said Perry in Coxsackie during the whole of the Revolutionary War. This Deponent says that from Coxsackie he removed into the then town of Toyhkanie now Copake in the County of Columbia where this Deponent now resides and where he has resided for nearly fifty years.—

This Deponent says that he entered the service of the United States under the command of one Samuel VanVechten as Captain who resided at the time in Catskill [Catskill] in said County of Green—

This Deponent says that about the first service so rendered by him as such soldier of the revolution was on a tour of Duty to the North.

That this Deponent was called out on the first of April and returned on the first of January the following making nine months that this Deponent remained on duty at one time during which time this Deponent lay at fort Ticonderoga.—

And this Deponent says that one Colonel Wyncoop and one Colonel Cortland commanded or were at said fort. This Deponent thinks the given name of Wyncoop was Cornelius and of Cortland was Philip.—That Deponent cannot recollect dates distinctly but thinks it was from April 1776 until January 1777. This Deponent says after his nine months expedition he remained at home until the next spring when he was again called out to march to the north to join the northern army and this Deponent went and remained from home six months. That this Deponent marched under the command of the said Captain VanVechten and went to Skeensborough and remained there eight weeks or more.—

This Deponent would state a circumstance which he will recollects viz That this Deponent's Captain VanVechten lay with some other officers in the House of one S. Keen a Tory who had fled to Canada it was a large stone house as this Deponent thinks—That said Captain VanVechten requested this Deponent to cook for him and those officers who were stationed with him in said house and this Deponent did cook for said officers sometime and while lying at Skeensborough this Deponent fell sick with the ague and fever & remained sick for a few weeks—

This Deponent would further state that he also was at Saratoga and at Fort Edward and also lay with the American Army at Stillwater but how long this Deponent lay at each of said places he cannot state particularly but thinks and believes four months in all this Deponent also recollects that he assisted

in driving cattle through whole fields of grain which was ripe and fit to cut in order to destroy the same and prevent the enemy from getting any of it. This Deponent thinks General Schuyler ordered this to be done. And he also thinks and believes that it was destroyed for a number of miles south and east from Saratoga wherever there were clearings and crops put in—This Deponent recollects of seeing General St. Clair while this Deponent was on one of his Northern Expeditions he believes that General St. Clair was at Ticonderoga a part of the time this Deponent lay there and that he also was at Fort Edward and at Skeenesborough—

This Deponent recollects that General Schuyler commanded a part of the time while this Deponent lay at Stillwater and on VanSchaack's Island.—This Deponent also says that he lay at short time at Cohoes falls but under whose command he does not remember—

This Deponent says that while engaged in the service of the United States of America as such volunteer soldier he was requested to take charge of a team belonging to one Cornelius Spoor of Coxsackie which this Deponent says he took under his charge and returned said team and wagon to said Spoor of Coxsackie and again returned to the army as such volunteer as aforesaid that while this Deponent had charge of said team he was under no contract with government or with any other person to act as such teamster in returning said team but was at that time a soldier in the service of the United States—This Deponent further says that he was under the command of General Gates a part of the time while this Deponent lay at Stillwater.

This Deponent says that he returned home from the army according to his recollection sometime in September 1777, and was again called out on an alarm at the time Kingston or Esopus was burnt by the British. This Deponent says that he went down the river he thinks below Catskill [Catskill] with a party of the Militia he thinks under the command of Captain VanVechten but is not certain of this fact and were posted in the House of Bogardus on the west bank of the Hudson River and while there a party of the British came on shore and were fired at by one of the guard stationed at the house of said Bogardus which caused them to take to their boat and escape back again to their shipping—This Deponent remained there some eighth or ten days with said troops. This Deponent further says that he was frequently called out with the militia to march to various places to guard the inhabitants from the enemy during the whole of the Revolutionary War and particularly during the years 1778, 1779, 1780, 1781 this Deponent lay with the American Army as above stated—and this Deponent would further state that he has frequently been on duty with the militia to Schoharrie [Schoharie] flatts to Heldebergh [Helderberg] and in various places through the County of Green (then Albany) where this Deponent then resided.

This Deponent says that he always went whenever called out, either as a volunteer or drafted soldier in the Service of the United States—

That he has served under General St. Clair, Genl Schuyler, Genl Gates, as commanding Generals. He also recollects the names of a General Nixon of a Colonel Morgan of a Colonel or General Arnold who was with the Northern Army of the United States of America when this Deponent was such soldier he also thinks that Colonel Cortland and a Colonel Wyncoop were at Ticonderoga while this Deponent lay there.

This Deponent says that he is confident he has been in the service of the United States as such soldier during the Revolution either as drafted or as a volunteer for the space of nearly three years and is certain that he said service exceeds two years—

And this Deponent would further state that he has no knowledge of any written documentary proof of his services as a soldier of the Revolution that he can produce.—

This Deponent further says that he always went whenever drafted or called out as a volunteer and that he always remained as long as his services were required and generally served under the command of said Captain VanVechten above mentioned.—

This Deponent further says that he has understood and verily believes that all the officers of the company to which this Deponent belonged are dead and gone and this Deponent knows of no person who is now living who can testify to the services so rendered by this Deponent as above set forth and expressed.—

This Deponent further says that for upwards of two years this Deponent has been confined to his bed in consequence of bodily debility during which time this Deponent has been unable without help to get in or get out of his bed.—

This Deponent would refer to one William Lynk as a person who has known this deponent for upwards of forth years and to whom this deponent is well well [sic] acquainted and who has resided in the same neighbourhood with this deponent during the whole period above mentioned and this deponent would also refer to one Herman Vedder who has been for twenty five years the minister of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church of the town of Copake to which church this deponent belongs as a member thereof—both of the Gentlemen above referred to may have heard of the rendering of the said services above set forth and both are acquainted with the general character of this deponent and can if called on state the same—

This Deponent further says that he went on an expedition with the militia of the United States to Sandy Hill and there had a skirmish with the enemy and in said skirmish some of the enemy were killed tow as this deponent thinks this deponent also would state that the active duty performed by this deponent during the years 1778, 1779, 1780, & 1781, would yearly amount to three months and more as this Deponent verily believes in the service of the United States—which with the service performed in the years 1776 and 1777 exceeds two years—This deponent 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 with his mark) Abraham Camer

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. John J. Miller, first Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of the said County of Columbia in the said State of New York.