

Pension Application for John Carman

W.16885 (Widow: Galetta)

(This file is 101 pages in length.)

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefits of the third section of the act of Congress of the 4th July 1836.

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State of New York

County of Tompkins SS.

On this sixth day of February 1841 personally appeared before the subscriber of Justice of the Peace in and for the aforesaid County, Galetta Carman, a resident of Ulysses in the county and State aforesaid, aged eighty four years, who, being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the act of Congress, passed July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of John Carman of Ulysses who was a soldier & an officer in the war of the Revolution.

That her husband John Carmen entered the service in the war of the Revolution in April 1776 in orange County & State of New York was stationed at Fort Put near West Point & that he served more under the immediate command of Genl Washington than any other one, that on the arrival of the Declaration of Independence, the said John Carman red [read] by order of Genl Washington said Declaration of independence before the regiment, that he was in the battle of White Plains, this service was called the minute service & it was before there was much of a settled rule as to officers, or rather when soldiers took hold & served as did John Carman above named one year from April 1776 to April 1777 as a private—

When in April 1777 he was transferred into the quartermaster department & served under Col. Dubois or Col. Platt, that in this service he served as quartermaster & a part of the time did the duties of Commissary that he thus serviced one year & three months, when he was transferred or ordered by Washington to repair to Poughkeepsie N.Y. being a ship carpenter to assist in building & repairing ships & water crafts, that he continued in this employment mostly till the summer of 1779 but that he did occasionally serve as a soldier & that this deponent well recollects of her husband John Carman coming home from fort Put where Genl Arnold was the very night before the attempted surrender of said fort to Maj. Andrie & told to this deponent the story that he was fearful that something was about to take place at the fort, that quite a move had been made there, that the said John Carman returned back to the said fort & was there when Maj. Andrie was taken, was at the execution of Maj. Andrie, that the said John Carman, entered the service in Sept 1779 under Col. Zeph Platt in the state of New York & served at that time three months, that he again entered the service of the revolution in April or May 1780 as a soldier under Capt. Arthur Smith & Col. Johnson & served in Ulster Co., New York one month, and that he again entered the service of the Revolution the last of June or first of July 1780 served under Col. Lewis Dubois one month, when he again entered the service of the Revolution the middle of Augt 1780 under Capt. John McHoght, or Hoght & Co. Lewis Duboys and that he served as a soldier in that tour four months in Ulster, Orange & Dutchess Co., New York, and this deponent finally declares upon her oath that her husband John Carman entered the service in the spring of 1776 and that he continued in it till the close of the Revolutionary War, that he was absent from home & only occasionally returning home on a visit for the whole of seven years, or the whole of the time after she became the wife of the said John Carman and that during the whole of that time he was either engaged in the war of the Revolution as a private or an officer, or in the building, repairing, signing & navigating sloops, schooners &c on the Hudson River in the State of New York under orders of Genl Washington.

That the said John Carman was in two other engagements, other than the one at White Plains but this deponent cannot recollect distinctly where &c. That his services were all performed not far

from the borders, or on & along the margin of the Hudson or North River, in the Counties of Orange, Ulster, Dutchess, Westchester, Rockland &c—in the State of New York.

She further declares that she was married to the said John Carman on the first day of June seventeen hundred & seventy seven at Stoning Creek in the County of Dutchess in the State of New Your.

That her husband, the aforesaid John Carman died on the fifth day of June eighteen hundred & twenty three; and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

That she is & has been confined to her house & have not having the use of her legs for seven years and upwards. (Signed with her mark) Galletta Carmon

Sworn to and subscribed, on the 6th of Feby and year above written before me. Luther Lewis J.P.

Letter in folder dated November 15, 1933, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of John Carman (John C. Carman), who served in the Revolutionary War from Ulster or Dutchess County, New York.

You are furnished below the history of John Carman (also referred to as John C. Carman), as found in the papers on file in pension claim, W.16885, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

The date and place of soldier's birth and names of his parents are not shown in the claim.

While residing in Dutchess County, New York, about six miles from Poughkeepsie, he enlisted in April 1776, and served at various times until the close of the war, possibly as much as four years in all, as private, commissary in the Quartermaster Department and ship carpenter; his service was in the New York troops under Captains John drake, Thomas Lee, Arthur Smith, John M. Foght, Lieutenant John McBride, Colonels VanSchaick, Samuel Drake, Lewis DuBois, Zephaniah Platt, and Johannes Johnson; he was in the battle of White Plains and others not named, and was present at the execution of Major Andre; it was stated that he also served as an officer. There is on file an official New York State Report, on which the name of John Carman is borne as ensign, but no proof was established that he was the same John Carman who rendered the service shown.

It was stated that John or John C. Carman was a large man and a good reader, that he was in service in the Revolutionary War the time the Declaration of Independence was received by the regiment and that he was selected to read it before the regiment.

He died June 5, 1823, at the age of seventy-two years, in Dutchess County, New York, at the home of his son, Cornelius.

Soldier married June 1, 1777, at Stony Creek, Dutchess County, New York Galetta Swarhout.

Soldier's widow, Galetta, was allowed pension on her application executed February 6, 1841, at which time she was aged eighty-four years and a resident of Ulysses, Tompkins County, New York.

The following children of John or John C. Carman and his wife, Galetta, were referred to in the claim:

Elizabeth and John Carman (twins) born January 22, 1778; John died August 24, 1782, and Elizabeth who in 1843 was living in New York City, but was formerly of Lone (or Low) Point, Dutchess County, New York, then signed as Betsy Thompson but did not state the name of her husband; Cornelius Carman born July 21, 1779, in 1842 referred to his own daughter and her family, his brother and to a sister of his mother, but gave no names; in January, 1843, he gave as his address, Fishkill Post Office, Dutchess County, New York, while on April 3, same year he gave as his address, Oaks Corners, Phelps Town, Ontario County, New York; Mary Carman born October 27, 1780; James Born April 4, 1782, and died March 29, 1823; John born August 13, 1787, and in 1843, a resident of Ulysses, New York; Hanah born May 23, 1789, and died August 4, 1798. It is not stated whether Mary Carman, soldier's daughter was ever married, nor is the surname Purdy shown in this period.

The following data are also shown with no explanation of their relationship to the family:

Hannah Carman deceased September 30, 1766.

Anna Carman deceased October 13, 1799.

John H. Carman deceased May 31, 1809.

In 1842, Mary Phillips, born 1763, a sister of soldiers wife, Galetta, Made affidavit in Ulster County, New York, in support of the widow's claim for pension; in the same year Catharine Harris born in 1758, another sister of soldier's wife, was living with her son-in-law, Henry Andrews, in New York City (the name of her daughter who married Henry Andrews not stated).