

Pension Application for Samuel Delamater

S.12749

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

State of New York

City and County of New York SS.

On this fourteenth day of November one thousand and eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open court, before the Court of General [?] of the Peace, in and for the City and County of New York now sitting, Samuel Delamater, a resident of the City, in the County and State of New York, aged seventy three 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.

That he was born at Harlam, City of New York 28th day of March 1759, that this record of his age he had seen in his father's Family bible, but what has become of it, he does not know. That he was living in the City of New York when called into service, where he has lived since the Revolutionary War, and where he continued to reside.

That he entered into the service of the United States, as a volunteer, in the year 1776, and to the best of his belief in the month of June; in the company of Captain Dickinson, in the regiment of Colonel Lasher, and brigade of General Scott, (who was a Ranger); the Lieutenant Colonel being Stockholm, and the Major, Abail:[?] being what was called the New York Line, and for a service of six months. That his immediate duty was in putting up defences for the City. That he assisted in seeking chevaux de frises for the City. That he assisted in sinking chevaux de frises, consisting of ships, between York Island and Governor's island, by which the passage between the two islands was intercepted. The stones being first thrown, from the shore, upon bateaux, and from them, into the ships which were then scuttled and sunk. That he assisted in blocking up the streets with timber. Such work being done, by turns by separate divisions of the company, which were called, fatigue parties. That General Washington was here at the time of his enlistment, his head quarters being at Richmond Hill. That an attempt was made to [person?] him by his Life Guards. That about twelve of them were taken up. That they were under his guard did sentry, for his tour, 24 hours at the Court House, afterwards, the Old Federal Hall. That one of them, an Irishman was hung, who, it was said, would not solicit a pardon. That this occurrence must have taken place a short time after his enlistment.

That after the British had landed at Staten Island, he with his company, went over to Long Island and assisted in building the breast works on the lines, which extended from the Red Mills to the Whaaleboght, with forts at each end. That when the British landed at the Narrows, he was on duty, on the Heights, at the Fort, which, he thinks, was called the Cockpit, that is to say, when the main body of the enemy landed, for when the first went over, the Hessians were laying at Flat Bush and sleeping near them, in the woods, they, i.e. our men, were fired at and one of them wounded.

That he was on the lines all the time of his day on the island, with the exception just stated. That he was on guard every other day and sometimes, more frequently, when [?] guards were necessary. That the main body landed in the night time, and he was then on guard at the fort, but of the fact he was not aware, till the day began to break. When an express came up for a reinforcement. That eight pieces of artillery were sent out.

That he knows nothing of his actual knowledge, of the going out and capture of Stirling and Sullivan at the Fort was about in the middle of the line, but he thinks it was after Stirling was taken, that the British came up to the Fort. That being fired upon by the cannon, they fell back. That our men gave three cheers, when General Putman ordered his regiment to attack them.

That they went out but General Washington halted us, when we had got only 200 or 300 yards from the fort. That he stayed on Long Island eight days. That he, ie, his company received orders to go to Brooklyn, where they did not stay long, when they were ordered back to the lines again. That after a stay of about one hour, they were ordered back to Brooklyn again where he embarking in a flat bottomed boat, arrived at New York at about 2 o'clock in the morning. That it was then for the first time he knew.

That they and retreated, the fact having been kept so secret. That it was a very [nasty?] night, the troops being citizens, every man went to his own quarters, except two companies from the country, (but where from he does not know), who went into barracks, about four miles out of town, near general Scotts residence.

That they rendezvoused twice a day in Broadway near Cortlandt street, their Captain Major and Colonel above named appearing, when the roll was called, and guard and fatigue new appointed that they erected breast works about the City.

That at about 12 o'clock of the day, the British landed at Kipps Bay, and that at about 9 or 10 o'clock of the same day, eh with his company, marched out of New York, being the last of the troops going out, that they went out by the Bloomingdale road, making a holt this side of Manhattanville the next morning. They went on towards Kings bridge. The British had come up about nine miles, and our men, returning engaged them and drove them up the hills, taking two previous though sixty of our men were wounded. That they moved on their way to Kings Bridge where they built barracks. Before Fort Washington was taken, he went to White Plains, laying in camp on the heights, when the British were on the plains. The British made a feint attempt on the left line, but at lacked the order being as he thinks, McDougals regiment from White Plains he with his company moved to Peekskill, where they pitched their camp, being after Fort Washington was taken.

That from Peekskill, they moved to Haverstraw, where his time expired, being just before Washington took the Hessians and Trenton.

That he got his written discharge from Captain Dickinson, but the same is now lost.

That his discharge was about 1st December 1776. That before his enlistment, as related above, he frequently assisted, at a volunteer, in erecting breast works around the City, recollecting particularly those around the Hospital and Battery.

That he frequently saw General Lee, with his company of Lifeguard, his quarters immediately opposite the Bridewell, which he thinks, was then erected. That General Wooster, with troops from Boston, was also in New York, encamped at the two mile stone.

That he served six months, as a soldier, and for such service, he claims a pension.

That he has no documentary evidence but that Charles Dickinson, a resident of Tappan Rockland County, State of New York. His Captain, as above mentioned is the only person now living to the best of his belief, who can testify to his actual service.

That the Reverend George Dubois, and John Quackenbush, both residents of the City of New York, can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

That 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) Samel [sic] Delamater

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. Richard Hatfield Clerk

Letter in folder March 2, 1928, written in response to an inquiry.

I advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, S.12749, it appears that Samuel Delamater was born March 28, 1759, in Harlem, New York city.

While a resident of New York City he enlisted in June 1776 and served six months as private in Captain Charles Dickinson's Company, Colonel Lasher's New York Regiment.

He was allowed pension on his application executed November 14, 1832, while a resident of New York where he had always lived.

There are no data on file as to his family.