

Pension Application for Adam Frank

W.16996 (Widow, Catharine)

State of New York

Montgomery County SS.

On this 26th day of September A.D. 1832 personally appeared before me John Hand one of the Judges of the Montgomery County Courts (the same being a Court of record) Adam Frank of the Town of Glenn, County and State aforesaid aged eighty nine 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, in the year 1775 whilst residing in the then Mohawk District County of Tryon, now Town of Glenn, County of Montgomery aforesaid. He was drafted in the Militia service in a Company Commanded by Captain Jacob Gardinier (1) and Lieut. Quackenboss (And Col. Fisher's Regiment as he thinks) met at Captain Gardinier's House in the early part of the summer and was marched twice to Johnstown to guard that place before he returned home, and according to the best of his recollection remained at Johnstown and Captain Gardinier's two months performing guard duty. After which he was called out again by Captain Gardinier and went to Johnstown and remained there a fortnight guarding that place. And then marched with Captain Gardinier to Stone Arabia remained there a day or two, and from there marched to Fort Plain and remained there guarding that Fort nearly a fortnight, and then returned home with the permission of his captain, after which he was called out by Captain Gardinier and marched to Fort Herkimer to guard that place, remained there about a month and with permission of the Captain returned home.

In the spring of the year 1776 he was called out under the command of his Captain or Lieut. Which he does not recollect and remained two months at Johnstown and Butlers, a place on the North side of the Mohawk river guarding those places, returned home. And after harvest in the same year was called out twice by Captain Gardinier to guard Fort Hunter and remained there at least a month each time, but who commanded at the Fort whether it was his Captain, Lieut. Quackenboss or Ensign Marlatt He cannot now recollect.

In the year 1777 after having been called out and remaining a while at Captain Gardinier's House, and Caughnawaga doing duty as to time he cannot recollect but should judge at least a month. He was then marched by Captain Gardinier with the company to Oriskany (2) and was at that battle in which engagement he had a brother killed and one wounded, recollects very well that Captain Gardinier was also wounded, he was at least two months under duty during this time before he got home again. After which he was called out again under the Command of Captain Gardinier and remained two months in actual service first a while at Johnstown, and from there was marched to Stollers on Tripes Hill, then to Guy Johnson's Stone House, and from there to the Meeting House at Ballstown where he remained until the end of the two months according to the best of his recollection, and with permission of his officers returned home.

In the spring of the year 1778 he was called into service again under the command of Captain Gardinier, and was at Johnstown Caughnawaga and Captain Gardinier's House and Fort Hunter guarding those places about three months, according to the best of his recollection and with permission of his officers returned home. And was immediately called out again went to Johnstown and from there to Sacondaga and assisted in building a Fort (3) at that place, he recollects very well that Col. Willett was there. He was in actual service about two months during this tour and then returned home.

In the spring of the year 1779 he was called out and remained a few days at Captain Gardiniers House, then was marched to Johnstown and from there to Sacandaga, guarding those places the officer in command he cannot recollect, he was out during this tour about two months—after which the company was marched to Cherry Valley remained there a few days and returned home he should judge that he was out at least a month during this tour.—

In the year 1780 he was also called out at various times under the command of Captain Gardinier and the other officers of his company and laid at Johnstown Caughnawaga, Fort Hunter, VanOlindas in Warrensbush guarding those places, the time he cannot state, but should say at least three or four months—he has also been called out in actual service at various other times and places, not above specified during the revolutionary war, for shorter periods and frequently in pursuit of Tories as to the precise time he cannot recollect. That according to the best of his opinion should think that his whole service during the revolutionary war would be between two and three years.—

Answer to Interrogatories

First—He was born at Stone Arabia, County of Tryon, now Montgomery County in the fall of the year 1743, the day or month he does not recollect—

Second—He has no record of his age.

Third—When called into service he resided in the then District of Mohawk County of Tryon but now Town of Glenn County of Montgomery as set forth in the foregoing declaration, and has resided at that place since the revolution where he now resides.—

Fourth—He was called into service by draft and otherwise as he has set forth in the foregoing declaration.

Fifth—The highest officers whom he recollects was General Herkimer (4) who was wounded in the knee whilst commanding at Oriskany battle—Col. Fisher and Col. Willet, as he has set forth in the foregoing declaration, the general circumstances of his service are also set forth in the foregoing declaration, according to the best of his recollection.—

Sixth—He never received a written discharge, but from time to time received verbal discharge from his officers as is mentioned in the foregoing declaration.—

Seventh—The persons in his neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his service as a soldier of the Revolution are the following, Abraham Covenhoven, Isaac Covenhoven, John McConkey, and Cornelius A. Putman. The clergyman who resides in the limits of his Congregation has recently moved in, who would be unable to state any thing in relation to his service or character as he has no acquaintance with him.

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 with his mark) Adam Frank

Sworn to, and Subscribed, the day and year aforesaid before me John Hand one of the Judges of the Montgomery County Courts.

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

State of New York SS.

On this seventh day of June A.D. 1837 personally appeared before me John Hand a Judge of the Court of Common pleas of the County of Montgomery, the same being a court of record, Catharine Frank, a resident of the Town of Glenn, County of Montgomery and State of New York, aged Eighty one 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 is the widow of Adam Frank late of the aforesaid Town of Glenn, deceased, who was a private in the Militia in the revolutionary war, and at the time of his decease a pensioner of the United States, as may now fully appear by an examination of the pension rolls and his papers and [?] on file upon which he was pensioned reference—being thereunto had -- That the pension certificate of the said Adam Frank her deceased husband is not now in her possession as the same was left in the City of Albany in the Office of the agent for paying pensions after the decease of her said husband, at a time she made application for pay as the widow of said deceased, from the time he had last drawn his pension up to his decease—

She further declares that she was married to the said Adam Frank, on the twenty ninth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy four by the Rev'd Thomas Romeyne, pastor of the reformed Dutch Church at Caughnawaga.

That her maiden name was Catharine Moyer, formerly called by the Dutch people Catrina Meyer—That her husband the aforesaid Adam Frank died on the twenty third day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty four and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.—(Signed with her mark) Cathrine Frank

Sworn to and Subscribed on the day and year above written before me a Judge of the Montgomery County Courts. John Hand. I further certify that I am personally acquainted with the [rest cut off]

Letter in the pension folder.

June 14, 1929

Earle T. Jackson

128 Lafayette Avenue

Haddonfield, New Jersey

Sir:

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.16996, it appears that Adam Frank was born in the fall of 1743, at Stone Arabia, then Tryon County, New York.

While residing in Mohawk District, Tryon County, which was later Glenn, Montgomery County, New York, he enlisted in 1775, and served at various times as a private in Captain Jacob Gardenier's Company, Colonel Fisher's New York Regiment, was in the battle of Oriskany, (5)and served until in 1780, amounting in all to twenty-five months.

He was allowed pension on his application executed September 26, 1832, at which time he was living at Glenn, Montgomery County, New York.

He died June 23, 1834.

The soldier married July 29, 1774, at Caughnawaga, New York, Cathrine or Catrina Moyer.

She was allowed pension on her application executed June 7, 1837, at which time she was living at Glenn, New York, aged eighty-one years.

The soldier stated that he had one brother killed in the battle of Oriskany, and another who was wounded in the same battle, their names are not given.

There are no further data as to family.

Respectfully, Mark D. Ondrom? Commissioner.

End Notes—W.16996—Adam Frank

1. Jacob Gardinier was appointed on August 26, 1775 Captain of the first company in Colonel Frederick Visscher's Third Regiment of Tryon County Militia. Abraham D. Quackenboss was the first lieutenant, William Hall was the second lieutenant and Gideon Marlatt was the ensign all of Gardinier's Company.

2. The Battle of Oriskany was fought on August 6, 1777. John Frank was killed and Andrew Frank was wounded in the left thigh.
3. The Sacondaga Blockhouse was built in April of 1779. Lieutenant Colonel Marinus Willett of the Third New York Continental Regiment among others did visit the building site.
4. Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer commanded the Tryon County Militia Brigade until his death on August 17, 1777.
5. The following incident about Adam that took place at Oriskany and was written in The Frontiersmen of New York by Jephtham R. Simms, Vol II, p. 105, Geo C. Riggs, Publisher, Albany, N.Y., 1883. "Adam Frank takes a Lunch.—As I learned subsequently, Henry Thompson was not the only one of Herkimer's men who, in the Oriskany battle satisfied his hunger. Adam Frank also imitated the example of the former, by opening his Knapsack and from its eatables satisfying the craving of his stomach. After his hasty meal he was heard to exclaim in German, as he was dashing into a post of danger, "Jezt drauf auf die kerls!" -- "Now we'll give it to them!" From Cornelius H. Putman, Esquire." On September 26, 1832, Isaac Covenhoven in his supporting testimony of Adam's service relates the following: In the year 1777 he recollects of seeing said Frank at Caughnawaga and at Captain Gardiniers House on duty under the command of the captain. And also saw him in the battle of Oriskany when he marched with him. A circumstance occurred there which he thinks will never be forgotten by him after the battle was nearly ended said Frank sat down deliberately took of his knap sack and went to eating.