

Pension Application for Ezekiel Harris

S.9914

State of New York

County of Saratoga SS.

On this 9th day of April 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas in & for the said County now sitting, Ezekiel Harris of Greenfield in the County aforesaid aged seventy 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.

1st Question. To the question where and in what year were your born? He answers and says in Bedford in the County of Westchester in the State of New York, November 26m 1754.

2nd He has no record of his age.

3. To the question, Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live? He answers and says. That during the Revolutionary War he lived in PhilipsTown in the County of Albany (now Rensselaer) & State of New York, where he lived until 1789 when he moved to Greenfield in the County of Saratoga, State of New York, where he has lived ever since and where he now lives.

4. To the question, How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer were you a substitute and if a substitute, for whom? He answers and says that In June or July 1777 when he lived in Philips town in the then County of Albany now Rensselaer and State of New York.

No (1) He was enrolled in Captain John Schermerhorn 'scompany of Infantry in Colonel K. VanRensselaer's Regiment for New York Militia, when a draft was made on account of the rapid movements of Burgoyne's Army down from the Lakes, land he this deponent was drafted and went on the first tour (but after marching the whole Regiment was called & marched) under the command of the said Captain Schermerhorn in the following manner to wit, he with the company to which he belonged met at Green Bush under immediate command of the said Capt. Schermerhorn, and joined our Regiment crossed to Albany & from there marched up on the west side of the Hudson River six miles & crossed to the east side where the City of Troy now is, & marched on the East side of the River and crossed to Half moon & marched through Stillwater to Fort Edward, where we were stationed in open field in Tents where he this deponent performed duty on Guard & also he was detached & went to guard the teams to & from Lake George in order to bring off the public stores, he also went to Kingsbury where he served on guard under the command of the said Captain Schermerhorn and then returned to fort Edward when he this deponent was with a part of said company was permitted to return home to Philips Town having served in this first tour not less than one month & served under the

aforesaid Captain Schermerhorn when he return[ed] home with the said Captain.

No (2) In 1778 or 9 when he lived at the place aforesaid a draft from our Regiment was made for every third man to turn out for one month, the companies were divided into three Classes, he was again drafted (in the 2nd Class) that soon after the first class had entered on duty, there was an alarm for the remainder of the Regiment, he was ordered & turned out on the said alarm & joined his said company at Philips Town & marched to Green Bush under the said Captain Schermerhorn, crossed to Albany our company put up for the night at a private house between Albany & Troy; from there to Half Moon & marched (8 days) up towards Stillwater, when an order was rec'd to return home & our Regiment returned, he returned home having served at least eighty days.

[No.] (3) That not many days after his said tour of 8 days as aforesaid he received orders from his said Captain Schermerhorn to serve his tour of one month as a draft & according to orders he with other drafts of the said company repaired to Schoharie when he with his associates were attached to Capt. Niles Company; (Capt Niles was an officer of our Regiment) who commanded a company of Drafted man. ___ Staats was Lieutenant & a resident in Green Bush we marched to Cobuskill [Cobleskill] the 9 mo. Men were there in the Barracks, our company was stationed in private Houses where he served on guard at Cobuskill & as aforesaid for at least one month and were dismissed by the said Capt Niles at Cobuskill & returned home.

No. (4) In 1779 or 80 he was again called with the company to which he belonged on alarm & marched through Albany to Schenectady & were stationed in private houses, where he performed duty on guard under the said Capt. Schermerhorn 15 days & Lieutenant ___ Husted that from the time he left home on this tour, he was in constant service at least fifteen days & was discharged by the said Capt Schermerhorn at Schenectady and returned home.

No. 5 At the time Schoharie & on the Mohawk River was destroyed by the enemy, he was again called out on alarm and went to Green Bush under Capt. Schermerhorn and continued there two days & returned home, that immediate after his said return, he was again called to GreenBush to join his company, but arriving there they had marched to Schenectady & from there up the Mohawk, that he and about 30 others who had not reached our company were under the command of Ensign Judd of our Regiment and were employed under the said ensign Judd, having served as aforesaid for at least one month.

No (6) He was again called out & went to Schenectady & were billeted out under the aforesaid Captain Schermerhorn, mustered under the said Capt. & Lieut Husted at Philips Town & marched to Lansing Burgh & crossed to Halfmoon & marched up the river 2 or 3 miles and scouting through the woods west, staid at Niskauna [Niskayuna] from there to Schenectady and did duty for

several days & were discharged at Schenectady & returned home having served at least one month on this tour.

No. (7) In [blank] he was again called into service under the said Captain Schermerhorn & repaired to Stillwater at the time Warren's Bush was destroyed by the enemy, went the east side of the river nearly opposite to Stillwater and were stationed in a private House. Capt. Woodworth's company of our Regiment was there, where he continued on roll call and every other duty required to do, as a private soldier, we crossed the River to Stillwater and returned home having served at least one month as aforesaid, and was discharged by the said Captain Schermerhorn at Stillwater, and returned home.

No. (8) He was again called out on alarm and went to Albany under the said Capt. Schermerhorn where he with his company where we continued for several days, doing duty as a private (5 days) & having served at least five days.

No. (9) And that soon after his said return home he was again called out on alarm and served five days at Albany under the said Capt. Schermerhorn & served as a private. In 1777 he was called out on scout in order to detect Tories going to Burgoyne and together the cattle left by them and drive them towards New Lebanon to keep them from the enemy this duty was performed under Lieutenant Hubbs & he served for three days as a private on this tour and returned home.

5. To the question, state the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and Militia Regiment as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service. He answers and says that at Kingsbury he thinks about 1500 Troops of Militia were there as his stay there was short does not recollect the names of their officers (if ever knew), la Regiment of Continental Troops was there & he thinks under the command of Col. Nicholson he recollects at and near Stillwater the following Continental Officers, Generals Schuyler, St. Clair, Arnold and Gates, he does not recollect the names of any other officers except as herein stated.

6. To the question did you ever receive a discharge form the service; and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it? He says that during his services in the Revolutionary [War] he never received any written discharge.

7. State the names of person to whom you are known in your neighborhood; and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution. He states the following names—Elder Timothy Day a Clergyman, Jesse Manson, Howel Gardner, a Justice of the Peace Henry Peacock, Mark A. Child, Salmon Child & Richard Hewit all of Greenfield aforesaid.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except presents and declares his name is not on the pension list roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Ezekiel Harris

Subscribed and sworn this 9th day of April 1834. In open court, A. Goodrich Clerk.