

Pension Application for John Shaver

S.22978 (Captain Hersted, Col. Graham. Fifer and private.)

State of New York

County of Delaware SS.

On this eighth day of October 1832, personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the court of common pleas now sitting in and for said county John Shaver a resident of the town of Andes in the County of Delaware & State aforesaid aged sixty nine years and upwards 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 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was born in the county of Dutchess in the town of Rhinebeck on the 19 May 1763, as he is informed and verily believes and as so [?] from the family record. Soon after the Revolutionary war he removed from the county of Dutchess to the place of his present residence & have resided at that place ever since which is about forty eight years. During the Revolutionary War he thinks in the year 1777, when he was fourteen years of age his father Jacob Shaver was drafted in the Militia to go to Fishkill. He the said applicant entered the service as a substitute for his father he went and served as fifer in Captain Husted company, one Elmendorf was Lieutenant in Colonel Graham's Regiment. Marched from Rhinebeck flats in the fore part of August 1777 according to his best recollection to Poughkeepsie [?] at Poughkeepsie two or three days, we mustered at Poughkeepsie. And from Poughkeepsie, marched to Fish Kill Flatts & there encamp. Were stationed at Fishkill Flatts six or eight weeks. The regiment were then removed about two miles nearer the North River on account of word the weather becoming more cold. We were stationed there until the fore part of November when he was discharged did not receive any written discharge was in this campaign three months. And it was understood that he was to serve three months when he first engaged.

In the summer of 1778, about the last of July or first of August, his Uncle John Lewis was drafted in the Militia and he the said applicant engaged as a substitute for the said John Lewis and served as musician (fifer) in Captain Andrew Hermance's company, Jacob Hermance was Lieutenant, Colonel Henry Livingston commanded the Regiment was engaged for three months, mustered at Rhinebeck flatts, went down the North River by water to West Point. Was stationed at West Point six or seven weeks. The Regiment was ordered from West Point to the north. We embarked on board of Sloops for Albany. When a little above Crumelbow we met the ebbtide. A being a calm the sloops came to an anchor and it appeared likely that the vessels would remain there until the flood tide. He got liberty of Colonel Livingston to go home to his father's who then lived within about three miles from where the vessels lay at anchor. He went home & his father joined the regiment in his place and went to the north & served out the residue of the campaign. Understood that his father went as far north as Fort Ann.

He claims to have served in this campaign seven weeks.

In the summer of 1779 in the month of June his father was drafted in the militia and he engaged or went as substitute for his father engaged as a private (being tired of serving as a musician) in Captain Hermance's company in Colonel Dubois Regiment at Fishkill. Benschoten was Major. Was mustered at Poughkeepsie and marched from there to Verplanks Point. Was stationed at Verplanks point during the campaign except a short time which we were sent on the west side of the North River above Verplank's Point and afterwards returned to Verplanks point where he was discharged. Was in this campaign three months.

In the fall of the year 1779, should say the latter part of September or fist of October a few days after he returned from the campaign last mentioned, he volunteered & entered the United States service in a Battallion of Militia commanded by Major Woolsey. The name of Captain or Lieutenant he does not recollect. Marched from Staatsboring? In the town of Rhinebeck aforesaid on foot to Fishkill landing, from Fishkill in boats to Dob's Ferry from Dob's ferry we marched to Haverstraw and from down

the river the distance do not recollect and there built a breastwork while at work at the breast work three British armed vessels came up the river & fired at us while at work. We returned the fire having two or three pieces of cannon & after firing several shots the vessels returned down the river. Should say we staid where the breast work was made ten or twelve days. Marched from there down on the west side of the river towards Kings ferry above Kings ferry the distance or name of the place I do not recollect. We were encamp & for three nights were required to lay upon our arms expecting the enemy as was said moved again still farther down the river & encamp again but how long cannot recollect. And from there marched on & crossed the North River at Kings ferry. Marched up the river & were discharged at Peekskill or a little below. Cannot recollect the place where he was discharged and not receive a written discharge at the close of either campaign. [n] this last campaign should say was engaged six weeks. Served as a private soldier in this last campaign were a great part of the time on the march from place to place and for reasons unknown to me at the time .

He has not documentary evidence and that he knows of no person living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services as a contemporary.

He the said John Shaver hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension list of the agency of any state.

(Signed) John Shaver.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. C. B. Sheldon, Clerk

Letter dated March 17, 1939, written in reply to a request for information.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request information in regard to John Schefer or Johannes Shefer, private in Albany County, New York Militia, during the Revolutionary War.

The Revolutionary War records of this office fail to show a claim for pension on file on account of the service of a soldier whose name appears "John Schefer" or "Johannes Shefer".

The record of a John Shaver is furnished herein as found in papers on file in claim for pension, S.22978, based upon his service for in the Revolutionary War.

John Shaver (as his signature is shown in the claim) was born May 19, 1763 in Rhinebeck, Dutchess County, New York. He was the son of Jacob Shaver, name of his mother is not given.

John Shaver served as substitute for his father, from early in August, 1777, three months as fifer in Captain Husted's company, Colonel Graham's New York regiment. He served in the summer of 1778, as substitute for his uncle, John Lewis who had enlisted for three months, as fifer in Captain Andrew Hermance's company, Colonel Henry Livingston's New York regiment, and when on board a sloop for Albany, a little above "Crumelbow", the sloop anchored, and he obtained a furlough and went home to see his father, who lived about three miles from where the sloop was anchored, and his father joined the regiment in his stead and served the remainder of the three months; length of the service of John Shaver was about seven weeks.

John Shaver served in the summer of 1779, a substitute for his father, three months as a private in Captain Hermance's company, Colonel Dubois' New York regiment. He served in the fall of 1779, six weeks as private under Major Woolsey, and was in a skirmish with the British.

John Shaver moved, soon after the close of the Revolution from Dutchess County, New York, to Andres, Delaware County, New York. He was allowed pension on his application executed October 7, 1832, at which time he was living in Andres, New York.

Philip Shaver was living in 1832, in Andres, New York, and was well acquainted with the soldier, John Shaver, it was not stated that they were related.

The papers on file in this claim contain no further discernable family date.