

Pension Application for Teunis Sheffer

S.15296

State of New York, Saratoga County SS.

Be it remembered, that on this twentieth day of October 1832, personally appeared before me George Palmer, a Judge of the court of common pleas in and for the county of Saratoga aforesaid, Teunis Sheffer a resident of Stillwater in the County of Saratoga and State of New York aged seventy-six 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 7, 1832.I

That he entered the service under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he lived in Brunswick in the County of Rensselaer and State of New York when in the spring of 1775 he was enrolled in the company of Captain Cornelius Lansing, Lieutenant _____ Yates & Ensign Joseph Freehout, in the regiment commanded by Colonel Vanderheyden & Major Bunker and was born in Livingston Manor, Dutchess County, and has no record of his age in his possession. That he entered the service of the United States as a Volunteer out of said company of Militia into a company of Volunteer Militia commanded by Captain Huyke in the Regiment commanded by Colonel (whose name he cannot recollect) of the New York Troops raised in order to guard the lines, that he entered the service at Saratoga in the time of Planting Corn in the year 1775 or 1776 for six months and served under the aforesaid officers in manner following—Marched from Saratoga to Fort Edward on Scouts on the lines from Fort Edward and Skeensborough some lines at Saratoga & during the term of six months aforesaid when he was dismissed by the aforesaid Captain Huyk at Saratoga—he has not documentary evidence of the aforesaid services.

That in the month of June 1777—he entered the service of the United States as a Volunteer Sergeant into a company of Volunteer Militia under Captain John Teator or Tator & Lieut Snyder in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Vanderheyden. Joined his company and Regiment at Pitts Town in the County of Rensselaer from there marched to Fort George with his said Regiment under the aforesaid officers, at Fort George there were a considerable number of Continentals & Militia Troops but he does not recollect the name or names of their officers that on the approach of General Burgoyne's Army from the north our Troops retreated from Fort George our company was detached under Captain Teator in order to guard the Baggage Waggons at or near Fort Edward & on the way to Saratoga—that he served in said guard as a Sergeant aforesaid from there marched to PittsTown, continued there a few days and marched to Bennington & was in the Bennington Battle under the aforesaid officer—that soon after the Battle aforesaid he under Capt Harvey with his company was detached from the said Regiment to go to the East Side of the North River near Albany in order to guard against the Tories & to prevent them from passing off messassing & continued doing duty as aforesaid until after the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga that he continued as aforesaid until sometime in December following—when he was dismissed by Captain Harvey aforesaid & returned home having served six months as aforesaid that during the aforesaid term of six months he does not recollect the name or names of any Continental or Militia officers except those named above.

He has no documentary evidence of his said services. That he resided at the Town of Brunswick aforesaid when he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer Sergeant under Captain John Ross in the Regiment commanded by Col. Vandenheyden of the Militia of Rensselaer County on or about the first of June 1778—for six months and served as follows. That immediately after entering the service as aforesaid, he with the company to which he belonged under the Captain aforesaid, marched through Stillwater & Saratoga to Queensbury north of the Hudson River & about forty miles north of Stillwater in order to keep garrison that he served on guard as a Sergeant aforesaid & in scouting parties on the lines that he served in this way until about the first of December following when he was dismissed by Captain John Ross—aforesaid at Queensbury aforesaid at the Picket Fort—There were both

Continental & Militia Regiments there, but he does not recollect the name or names of any of their officers, he has no documentary evidence of his services aforesaid of the New York Militia Volunteers—

For three months and served on guard on scouts as a sergeant aforesaid at the places aforesaid under the aforesaid officers for the full term of three months when he was dismissed by his said Captain & returned home. He has no documentary evidence of his services aforesaid nor does he know of person now living by whom he can prove any part of his services aforesaid the said Nicholas and Drene are both dead.

And he further states that from the spring of the year 1780 until the Fall of 1783 he served as Sergeant under Captain Cornelius Lansing, Lieutenant Yates & Major Banker of the Militia of Rensselaer County aforesaid that he served & was in actual service for more than one months in each year in manner following being frequently called out on scouts on alarms by his said Captain Lansing he marched with a number of others of the same company to Stillwater & to Fort Miller & many other places in scouts after Tories who were Lurking about those places to take the Rebels (as they called the) to Canada that several times he went with the soldiers under his own command as Sergeant aforesaid captured & brought in to the Guard at Albany & put them in jail—Tories. Some times one or 2 or 3 & at one time brought five tories captured at Brunswick aforesaid—That he served in manner aforesaid until the fall of 1783—The names of the Tories were David Dick and John Munsey.

In answer to the Interrogatories propounded by the Honorable Court the applicant says in answer to the first question.

1. He was born in Livingston's Manor in the County of [blank] in the State of New York August—1756.
2. His age was recorded in the Dutch church record of the place called Livingston's Manor in the State of New York aforesaid of which he has no copy.
3. When called into the service he lived in the town of Brunswick in the County of Rensselaer & State of New York, where he continued to live until the year 1816 when he removed to the Town of Stillwater in the County of Saratoga & State of New York where he lived until the year 1827 when re removed to the Town of Milton in said county where he lived five years & removed from there to the Town of Stillwater aforesaid in February 1832 where he has lived ever since & where he now lives.
4. He says that he was called into the service as a volunteer as stated above at No. (1), (2), (3) & (4).
5. He does not recollect the name or names of any Continental or Militia officers as stated above at No. (1), (2), (3) & (4) above.
6. He received no discharge in writing but was dismissed as stated above.
7. He is known to Denna Andrews of Malta & Ezekiel Larwrence, Henry Andrews, John HaHames, Senter Golding, James Baker & John Hunter of the Town of Stillwater in the County of Sararoga and State of New York who can testify to his character for veracity & belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution without much expense and inconvenience and that the said Teunis Sheffer has confined the most part of the time to his house & with the Rheumatism & is very helpless & poor. (Signed with his cross) Philip Sheffer [sic]

Subscribed & sworn the day and year first written before m. George Palmer