

Bounty Land Warrant Record Card

Gideon Simpkins
Warrant number 7826
October 12, 1790 to Isaac Bogart, assignee
Private--New York

Pension Application for Gideon Simpkins

R. 9589
State of New York
County of Rensselaer SS.

One this 30th day of November 1839, personally appeared before me the undersigned, Gideon Simpkins, a resident of the town of Berlin (26 miles from Albany) in said County, aged eighty 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed May 15th 1828.

That he entered the army of the United States in the year 1779, (1) & according to the best of his recollection under the following named officers Lt. Colonel Marinus Willett, & Colonel Gaansvoort [Gansvoort]. The name of his captain he cannot recollect—but thinks Philip Conyne (2) and—Burhons were officers of his company. He served in this engagement until the ensuing spring, when he enlisted again, but the names of his officers he cannot remember. He thinks however that his Captain's name was Sites (3)—and his Colonel's Goosin Van Schaick—During the engagement last referred to, he belonged to the New York line, but this Declarant's memory does not serve him sufficiently to state the number of the Regiment and in fact is not certain that he served all the time in the self same Regiment—but this Declarant remembers well that he served until the fall and & [sic] close of the war of the revolution. The principal part of the fort or garrison at which he served, was West Point—That Declarant remembers the names of-----

When he entered the service he resided in the County of Dutchess in said State of New York. That he never moved out of said State since the termination of said war and now lives in said town of Berlin.

That he was not informed of his right or title to a pension until about three years ago, when some papers were prepared for him in the matter of his application for a pension, but he never received any returned thereof & does not know what was done with them.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.—He further declares that his written discharge from the service as well as all his other papers were together with their house in which he lived destroyed by fire in 1791 or 1792— This Declarant does not know of any revolutionary soldier now living who can testify for him. The following are the names of some of his fellow soldiers who if living, will he thinks, remember him & become witness for him, but this Declarant has been informed and believes that they have long since departed this life & if living does not know where they reside. If their names are on the pension roll of any State, this Declarant prays that reference may be made to their papers, and would like to receive from them such information, as may be serviceable to establish his identity, should the proof he now furnishes not be sufficient, viz—Thomas Allen (4), George Shell, George Shift, Peter Little, Jacob Bakehorn, Abraham Tompkins, Andrew Robinson, Abram Groat, James Patterson, John Boice, Stephen Barker, Joseph Clinton, Henry Wimfords, Peter Ostrander, John Hills. And this Declarant further saith, that he received bounty from the United States in land, and a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars. And this declarant further saith that he never learned to write never went to school any in his life. (Signed with his mark) Gideon Simpkins. (5)

Subscribed and sworn this day & year first aforesaid before me, and I certify that said Gideon Simpkins is unable to attend Court by reason of old age, and bodily infirmity, and further that there is no Judge residing within twenty two miles from the residence of said Gideon Simpkins. Geo. T. Denison Justice Peace.

Josiah Simpkins, Joanna Potter, Elisabeth Safforrd, Amy Lillibridge, Cornelius Simpkins, Augustus Simpkins and Avis Dymond, against the United States in the matter of the Pension of Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife, life residents of Rensselaer County deceased,
State of New York
County of Rensselaer SS.

Be it remembered that on the nineteenth day of May A.D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty six personally appeared before me, a justice of the peace within and for the county and state aforesaid, John Harrington, aged sixty one years, and Polly Harrington aged fifty nine years, both residents of the County of Renssalaer in the State of New York, who being duly sworn according to law, declare that from and early period of their lives they were well acquainted with Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife, who was reputed to be, and we have no doubt was, (as we were acquainted with her father and mother,) before her marriage, Mary Marvin, and that we who well knew the children of the said Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife, the names of the survivors of whom now as we believe to be living and Josiah Simpkins, Joanna Potter, Elizabeth Safford, Amy Lillebridge, Cornelius

Simpkins, Augustus Simpkins and Avis Dymand; that always, from the time of their youth, they have been residents of the County of Rensselaer and were always well acquainted with Gideon Simpkins until the time of his death, that the said Gideon Simpkins was always reputed to have been a Revolutionary Solider, and for his services in the war of the Revolution to have had a very considerable grant of land from the State of New York but we do not now remember the exact quantity that the said Gideon Simpkins, has always been reputed to have sold the land, this by the State granted to him when very much intoxicated for the mere trifle of five dollars, that the Gideon Simpkins to whom these reputed things belong as we have no doubt, was a resident of Rensselaer County in 1830 and until 1842 at which time he died in Berlin in said county and states as they doubt not: and that they have no doubt but the Gideon Simpkins who was a resident of Rensselaer County in 1839 was the identical Gideon Simpkins who for his services in the Revolutionary War had the grant of Land from the state of New York above mentioned, and sold it when intoxicated some person whose name they do not remember for five dollars, as people have always treated it as a fact in blaming his folly in the transaction. (Signed) John Harrington. Polly Harrington

State of New York

Rensselaer County SS:

Amy Lillebridge of the Town of Berlin, said County and State, daughter of Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife, being duly sworn deposes and saith that she had seen the Family Bible of the said Gideon Simpkins, and that the same recorded the marriage of the said Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife: and that the said record also contained a record—of the births of this deponent, and of all her brothers and sisters, all children of the said Gideon Simpkin and Mary his wife—And this deponent further saith that in the year Eighteen Hundred and Twelve, or thereabouts the said Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife and their family consisting of this Deponent among other children, lived at the Town of Stephentown said County and State—And that the family bible before referred to, and containing the record of marriage of the said Simpkins and wife was kept in the house by them, the said Simpkins, wife and family as before specified, occupied, in the said Town of Stephentown—That at the time and while the said Simpkins and wife and family lived at the said Town of Stephentown the house by them occupied was burned down and wholly destroyed by fire, together until the contents thereof consisting of, among other things, the Family Bible of the said Gideon Simpkins, containing the record of marriages of the said Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife as herein before mentioned—And this Deponent further saith that the name of one Elder David Mudge appeared by said Bible record of said Simpkins to have been the person who performed the ceremonial of marriage of the said Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife—which said Elder Mudge as this Deponent is informed and believes to be true is now and has been long since dead and gone – And this Deponent further saith that she had of ten [?] and read the said Record of Marriage, contained in the said Family Bible of the said Simpkins, prior to the time the same was burned, having always until that time lived in the family with her parents the said Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife, and being at that time about sixteen years of age—And this Deponent further saith that the said Record in the said Bible recorded the marriage of the said Gideon Simpkins and Mary his wife to have taken place some time in the month of March of the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty four; the exact day of the month on which the said marriage occurred, as appeared by the said record, having been forgotten by this deponent—And further this Deponent saith not. (Signed with her mark) Amy Lillebridge sworn to before me this 29th January 1853 [?] Justice Peace.

End Notes—R.9589—Gideon Simpkins

1. Gideon enlisted as a private on May 1, 1778 in Captain Abraham Swartwout's Fourth Company in Colonel Peter Gansevoort's Third New York Continental Regiment for during war. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 70, folder 47, National Archives, Washington, DC.
2. Philip Conine was the lieutenant and John Burhance was the ensign.
3. On January 1, 1781 the First New York Continental and the Third New York were consolidated into one regiment. George Sytez transferred to the First New York along with many other enlisted men like Gideon that had enlisted for during war. Goose VanSchaick remained the Colonel of the First New York. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 66, folder 14, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
4. Many of these men served in the Third New York and in 1781 transferred to the First New York.
5. Gideon while in the Third New York would have been in the Sullivan-Clinton Campaign in 1779 and would have been in the Battle of Newton, or present Elmira, NY on August 29, 1779. While in the First New York he would have been in the Yorktown Virginia Campaign, from September 28 to October 19, 1781.