

Pension Application for Conrad Getman

W.19,497 (Maria)
State of New York
Herkimer County

On the 11th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Herkimer now sitting Conrad Getman of the town of Columbia in the County of Herkimer and State of New York aged sixty 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—

That as soon as he attained the age of sixteen years and after the Oriskany Battle he was enrolled in a company of Militia commanded by Captain Frederick Getman (1) who was his father, Lieutenant John Roof (2) and Ensign Jacob Myers (3)—that in obedience to the orders of his commanding officers he armed and equipped himself as the said Militia was then required and with the exception of the time of his enlistment and other service as herein after mentioned kept himself in readiness at all times until the close of the Revolutionary War to march at a minutes warning—that after his enrolment the year he does not particularly recollect but believes it was in the year [1778, 1779, 1780 are all crossed out] or he enlisted for the term of three months into a company commanded by Captain John Smith (4) and fully served for the said term of three months under said John Smith—

That the service under said Smith was wholly performed at Fort Herkimer in the Town of German Flatts County of Tryon now Herkimer County where said John Smith and his company were stationed during said period guarding and defending said Fort—that he does not remember who were the other officers in said company—that said company was under the command of Colonel Peter Bellinger as he now thinks who was a Colonel of the Militia of the County of Tryon and General Herkimer (5) was the General—that afterwards in the year 1782 he again served as a substitute in a company of nine months men commanded by Captain French (6)—that he served as such substitute in the place of Henry Van Derwerken (7) who had enlisted into said company for nine months—that six months of said service of nine months had already been served by said Van Derwerken and that the residue of said term of nine months being the period of three months were fully served and completed by him—that he does not remember who were the Lieutenant and Ensign under Capt. French—

That said service of three months was rendered altogether at Fort Herkimer where said French and his company were stationed during his said period of service—that said Captain French and his company belonged to the Regiment of Colonel Willet—that besides his said Two Terms of enlistment and service aforesaid he served in the Militia of Tryon County from the time of his enlistment the Militia until the close of the Revolutionary War—that prior to his enrolment all the houses and dwellings at German Flatts where he resided had been burnt by the enemy—that from the time German Flatts (8) was burnt to the close of the war the Inhabitants of German Flatts residing near Fort Herkimer and who did not remove to other parts were collected and lived in Fort Herkimer—that the parents and family of him said Conrad were among the number living and said fort—that with the exception of his absence from said Fort on other duty which was frequent and for short periods only he was stationed at said Fort Herkimer from the time of his enrolment as aforesaid until the close of the war—that whilst so stationed at said Fort he and the rest of the Militia stationed there with occasionally some Regulars stationed at said Fort were almost constantly engaged in guarding and

defending said fort and the Inhabitants collected there—that whilst he was stationed at said Fort he frequently turned out as a volunteer in pursuit of the enemy—

That at one time he was in pursuit of the enemy when they had a skirmish with the enemy on the north side of the Mohawk River near Fort Dayton (9)—that he was with the Americans also in pursuit of the enemy when Butler (10) was killed on the West Canada Creek—that he was at other times in pursuit of the enemy whenever attacks were made upon the Inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Fort Herkimer (11)—that he was in Fort Herkimer when an attack was made upon the said Fort by the enemy—that he was very often upon duty in the fields to guard the Inhabitants of said Fort when employed in the usual farm labour upon their lands in the vicinity of Fort Herkimer. That sometimes the Regular troops stationed at said Fort were also employed in guarding the Inhabitants when laboring upon their lands—that he was himself at times engaged in laboring on the fields when others were on guard around him and those employed in labouring with him—that from the time of his enrolment until the spring of the year 1782 he was in the company under the command of his father Captain Frederick Getman (12)—

That in the spring of said year 1782 his father Captain Getman was taken prisoner and carried to Canada when Captain Frederick Frank came to the command of the company and commanded the same until the fall of the same year when his Father returned home and resumed the command again—that the Inhabitants so collected at Fort Herkimer—remained at said Fort at all times as well as winter and summer and that the Military force at said Fort from the State of alarm constantly prevailing and the apprehensions of attacks from the enemy were required to perform guard duties as well in the winter as in the summer seasons—

That he has no documentary evidence of his services—that he thinks he had discharges although his is not certain and that if he has had discharges the same are now lost—that he has no record of his age—that his service he can prove in no better way—that he is aware of those by the testimony of Jacob D. Ittig & Conrad Hess—whose affidavits are hereunto annexed—that the Regiment to which the company in which he was enrolled and served as a militia-man was attached to & was commanded by Colonel Peter Bellinger as he believes who was a Colonel in the Militia, then County of Tryon—and Denis Clapsattle (13) was their Major—that he does not know who were the field Officers of Captain French under whom he served for three months as aforesaid except Colonel Marinus Willet—that Captain French and his company were the only men of the Corps of nine months were stationed at Fort Herkimer at the time of his service under him—that Colonel Willet and the other field Officers were not at any time at said Fort during said service—that Colonel Willet at the time was stationed at Fort Plain—that said French was at the time detached from the said Regiment and Stationed at said Fort Herkimer—

That he was born at now town Frankfort then in the County of Tryon that he never had any record of his age but determined his age from the ages of some of his neighbors who pictured & know there [their] age and whom he believes and has no doubt that he is sixty nine years of age—that he does not know the year or month or day of the month in which he was born—

That he was living at German flatts aforesaid when he entered the service as above stated.

That since the Revolutionary War he has lived in Frankfort in German flatts and Columbia in Herkimer County.

That he now lives in Columbia in the County of Herkimer—

That he once enlisted into the service for the term of three months and that his said Militia service was performed under orders from his officers. And at one time served as a substitute in the room of Henry Van Derwerker for three months—

That he does not recollect the names of any of the Regular officers with whom he served although there were occasionally regular troops stationed at Fort Herkimer where he served during said War.

That he served in the Militia Regiment Commanded by Colonel Peter Bellinger, Lieutantant Colonel Frederick Bellinger (14) and Major Dennis Clapsattle—that Captain Moody (15) and Lieutenant Waldron he thinks were stationed at Fort Herkimer whist he served there—

That he does not know that he ever had any written discharge or any of his services—that if has had any the same are lost.

That he is known to Henry S. Orendorff and Henry Helmer & John Shoemaker of Columbia who reside in his present neighborhood & who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

And her 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) Conrad Edick (16)

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court Julius C. Nelson Clerk

State of New York

County of Herkimer SS

On the 14th day of February one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Herkimer in open court before the Judges of the same being a court of record. Maria Getman aged seventy three years the last of May next, a resident of the Town of Columbia in the County and state aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July 17th 1838 Entitled “an act providing half pay and pensions to certain widows.” That she is the widow of Conrad Getman who was a private in the Revolutionary Army. That the said Conrad Getman her husband after the Revolutionary War and after their marriage informed her of different services that he performed during the said war in the Revolutionary Army but she cannot now recollect all the said services that he was at Fort Herkimer and was out on different tours. That he went on an excursion to what was called the Carr (17) place.

That he was in the Service the year that Butler was taken and was in the pursuit of Butler when he was taken that he was on excursion to Oneida and to Fort Dayton—that she does not recollect who his officers were but recollects that he often spoke of Capt. Dooty [sic Moody] and Col. Van Ransaselaer (18) that he was a pensioner under the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832 at the rate of Twenty dollars per annum that his pay certificate bears the date of 7th day of August 1833—that her maiden name was Maria Frank and she further declares that she was married to the said Conrad Getman on the Eighth day of November in the year seventeen hundred and Eighty five that her husband the aforesaid Conrad Getman died on the Twenty ninth day of March in the year one thousand Eight hundred and thirty six. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred and ninety four viz. at the time above stated. That they were married at the house of Frederick Frank in the town of German Flatts and that the Rev’d. Abraham Rosencrantz who [page ends here and writing is not continued on any other sheets].

State of New York

Herkimer County SS

Abraham G. Rosegrants of the town of Little Falls in said County being duly sworn says that he is nearly 35 years of age that he is the son of the late George Rosegrants deceased and the grandson of the Rev. Abraham Rosegrants who in his life time was the minister of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church at Herkimer and German flatts. And solemnized marriages and kept a book of Records of Marriages and baptisms which said book of records as this deponent was always informed and believed and now believes was kept by the said Rev'd Abraham Rosegrants in his lifetime and which records were afterwards in the possession of the late George Rosegrants, the father of this deponent until his death which event happened on 21st of December 1838. Since then the said Book of Records have been and were in the possession of this deponent he being the son and executes [executor] of the said George Rosegrants.

That he has this day examined the said record of marriages and finds an entry that on the Eight day of November one thousand seven hundred and Eighty-five Conrath Getman was married to Maria Frank that the entry on said record of marriages is in the records and figures following" 1785 d 8 Novem. Conrath Gettmann and Maria Fr. Frank" that the foregoing is a true extract from the records of Rev. Abraham Rosegrants deceased.

The word solemnized interlined in the 8th line, the word Conrath in the 24th and the Franck in 25th line little blotted before the Execution of the above. Dated Jany 31, 1839. (Signed) Abraham G. Rosencrantz

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31 day of January 1839. John A. Rasbach Justice

End Notes—W.19497—Conrad Getman

1. Captain Frederick Getman of Colonel Peter Bellinger's Fourth Regiment of Tryon County Militia. According to a "Pay Roll for Capt. Frederick Gettman Company 1780 June the 14, 1779, Conrad served as follows: [1779] June 0; July 1780; April 10; May 9; Total 19. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 72, folder 78, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. John Roof or Ruff served as the first lieutenant in Getman's Company until June or July of 1777. Ruff who lived and ran a trading post near Fort Schuyler removed with his family to Canajoharie for safety as rumors of an impending attack by the British on the fort.
3. Jacob Meyers or Myers was the second lieutenant and John Myers was the ensign of the company.
4. As the men of Bellinger's Regiment refused to garrison Fort Herkimer, Lieutenant John Smith was appointed to raise levies from Bellinger's Regiment. They were to serve from January 1, 1780 to April 1, 1780. Conrad actually served 3 months and 15 days at £ 2. . 13. . 4 per month and was owed £ 0 . . 06 . . 8. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 72, folder 78, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
5. Nicholas Herkimer was appointed Colonel of the First Regiment of Tryon County Militia. On September 5, 1776, Herkimer was appointed brigadier general of the Tryon County Militia Brigade. General Herkimer was wounded in the leg at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777. His leg was amputated and as a result of that he died on August 17, 1777.
6. Captain Abner French of Colonel Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies for 1782. Captain French retired on November 1, 1782 and Lieutenant Jellis A. Fonda was promoted to Captain in his place.
7. Henry VanDerWerken served as a private under both captains but Conrad's name is not listed as a substitute. Several pensioners claim to have served as a substitute and their

names are not found in surviving records. So many records were destroyed by the Capitol fire in Albany in 1911 which could have proven some of the pensioners claims of service.

8. The German Flats was destroyed on September 17, 1778 by Captain William Caldwell of Butler's Rangers and Captain Joseph Brant of Brant's Volunteers.
9. There were several small skirmishes near Fort Dayton, so it is hard to pinpoint which one without any further information.
10. Conrad is referring to the skirmish at West Canada Creek on October 30, 1781 where Captain Walter Butler of Butler's Rangers was killed.
11. Conrad is referring to the July 15 to July 17, 1782 raid led by Captain George Singleton of the King's Royal Regiment of New York and Captain Joseph Brant.
12. Captain Getman was taken prisoner on June 21, 1782 and he was released on November 14, 1782.
13. Augustinus Clapsaddle was the second major of Colonel Bellinger's Regiment. He was killed at the Battle of Oriskany on August 6, 1777.
14. Frederick Bellinger was the lieutenant colonel in Colonel Bellinger's Regiment. He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Oriskany.
15. Andrew Moody was a captain in the Second Regiment of the Continental Artillery. John Waldron was the captain-lieutenant in Moody's Company.
16. Clerk Julius C. Nelson wasn't paying attention and of course Getman signed with his mark and also didn't know the difference.
17. Percival Carr lived near the Susquehanna River area. Scouting parties were constantly sent in that direction looking for signs of raiding parties.
18. Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Henry K. VanRensselaer commanded a regiment of levies in 1779 and some of them were stationed at or near Fort Herkimer and Dayton. Van Rensselaer would at times visit where the men were stationed.