

Pension Application for Henry Hendrickson or Hendrixon

W.19767 (Widow: Elizabeth) Married 27th of April 1788. Henry died July 19, 1825.
State of New York
Rockland County SS.

On this twenty first day of September A.D. 1838, personally appeared before me Cornelius J. Blauvelt, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas [Pleas] in and for said county, Elizabeth Hendrisson a resident of the town of Orange, in the County of Rockland, aged ninety one years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows".

That she is the widow of Henry Hendrisson who was a Sergeant during the greatest part of the Revolutionary war and before the close thereof was appointed first Second Lieutenant and afterwards first Lieutenant in a company whereof Johannis Blauvelt was the Capt. (afterwards promoted to Lieut. Col'n) in a regiment whereof A. Hawke Hay was Col'n and served in said company, during the said war, according to the best of her knowledge and belief and the information she received from her said husband as follows.

That in the month of July, in the year 1776, the British sailed up the Hudson River and anchored in the Tappan Bay and other places when Capt. Blauvelt ordered out his company, to guard along said river, to prevent their landing, and her late husband, being a Sergeant in said company, did attend to the duty aforesaid and during all the time the British lay in said river, which was nearly all the time until the last of the fall or beginning of the winter, in said year he was out on duty.

That on the last of July or the first of August, in said year, a great part of the men composing Capt. Bells company, did enlist in the five months service, which so weakened the company that those remaining in the said company had to remain constant on duty and not permitted time to attend to their domestick [domestic] concerns, that when the British did for a few days at a time said to New York, them or other ships of war soon returned, and while absent, there was so many Tories to guard against, that when the guard along the river could be spared, they had to occupy other places, and all the relief they had was when they was permitted to come home to get other cloths [clothes] and stay home for a day, or part of a day at a time, and she verily believes that she will not exceed the time in saying that her late husband did actually serve, being out on duty, not less than four months, as there was no intermission during the said time, from all the information she has ever received, that could be called the end of one period or tour, and the beginning of an other from the commencement in July until the latter part of November or first of December.

That early in the year 1777, it was concluded, that in order that the domestick [domestic] concerns might be attended to, and guards kept at the most important places, to put the militia in the different companies in Col'n Hays Regiment into classes, so that a guard to be stationed at the different places, that should be most necessary, to consist of one fourth part of the Militia, and each class to send one of

their number to serve one week at a time or to hire a man to attend to such duty as should be required, agreeable to said orders the said company of Capt. Blauvelt was classed and did serve during said year from sometime in the month of March until the close thereof serving not less than one week in each and every four weeks, but during the said year, the British being in possession of the City of New York and the Tories being many amongst us, did raise in companies under their respective officers, going through different parts of the Northern part of New Jersey, and through a great part of the town of Orange in which town the men composing Capt. Blauvelts company resided and the British ships of war occupying the Hudson River during the greatest part of the year, they had not only the British to contend with and guard against their landing but the enemy at home, arrayed in different squads, going through the country plundering and distressing the inhabitants taking the cattle and everything valuable and taking their plunder to New York and what furniture they thought worth taking away, destroying it, to prevent which, it became necessary that many small companies, called scouting parties to protect the inhabitants, intercept the illicit trade, and retake the property thus taken, which parties was selected of men composing the different companies in Col'n Hays Regiment, that was not out on guard and—willing to perform the arduous [arduous] duty, and was out on duty from one to two, three, and four weeks at a time commanded by a Sergeant or higher officer; according to the number of men that composed each squad, that her husband being single and a sergeant did serve much of his time, when not compelled to attend guard, in such duty, which service had to be performed as well during winter as during the more mild part of the year, and now precisely [precisely] to state the length of time her late husband did serve—during the said year she cannot as there was no record kept thereof but as her husband informed her he was out full half of his time and she believes she can safely say not less than four months.—

That in the year 1778, her said husband served as in the year 1777, except, that according to her best recollection in the month of August an invasion being threatened by the enemy then in New York when Col'n Hay marched with his whole army (the guards stationed excepted) into the state of New Jersey and near the lines and in the month of September, Cornwallis with a large army, with part of which he crossed the river into the State of New Jersey, and part thereof was sent up the Hudson river and landed at the Sloat with the intention to cut off the retreat of Col'n Hays Regiment, in which they did not succeed, the enemy succeeded in marching through the eastern part of Bergen County and the town of Orange, now in Rockland county and being so numerous, Col'n Hay had too few men to engage said army but continued to harass them as much as possible and being at last joined by a large body of Continental troops and Jersey Militia finally succeeded in driving them back to New York in the month of October, after losing [losing] several of his men in the different skirmishes fought, which tour of duty lasted two months and her said husband was one, and exclusive of the said last recited duty, her said husband served not less than one month and a half on guard and scouts as aforesaid.

That in the year 1779 her said husband served as in the year 1777. The Tories still keeping up their force as aforesaid, that he served not less than two months in tours of from one to two weeks at a time either along the river or in scouts through different parts of Bergen County in the State of New Jersey.—

That during the year 1780 her said husband did serve as aforesaid serving not less than one week in each and every four weeks, from early in the month of March until in the month of December and served not less than two months in weekly tours.

That in the year 1781 her husband served not less than one month and a half in weekly tours as aforesaid, commencing in March and ending in October, after the news of the taking of Lord Cornwallis and his army at Yorktown had arrived [arrived].

That early in the spring of the year 1782 her said husband was appointed second Lieutenant in Capt. Blauvelts company and what service rendered during that year she is now unable to state.

That during the service of her said husband, above set forth, he served with the guard along the river at different stations from Snedens Lansing to Nyack at Tappan town, at Closter, as Schradenburgh at the liberty pole and part of the time building the blockhouse near Fort Lee [Fort Lee].

That in setting forth his services she has endeavoured [endeavored] to point out the different periods, and the length of each tour with all the precision her memory and information would enable her at this late period to do, having no record or documentary evidence of his service to refer to and therefore must submit her claim, supported by the testimony annexed as at this late period, there being scarcely [scarcely] a single soldier of the Revolution left, and but one (as far as her knowledge extends) of all the men who served in Capt. Blauvelt's company in any part of the said war, that she is not now enabled to prove his services as she might have done ten years since, when several was yet alive, had Congress previously provided for her.

She further declares that she was married to the said Henry Hendrixson on the twenty seventh day of April in the year seventeen hundred and eighty eight—that her husband the aforesaid Henry Hendrixson died on the nineteenth day of July 1825—that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January seventeen hundred and ninety four viz. at the time above stated. (Signed with her mark) Elizabeth Hendrixson

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me. Corn'l J. Blauvelt, Judge.