

Pension Application for Mikel Rogers

R.8955

State of New York

Columbia County SS

On this tenth day of December the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two personally appeared before the Justices of the Justices Court of the City of Hudson now in Session Michael Rogers of the Town of Chatham County aforesaid aged seventy three 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 June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States at the times and manner following to wit.

That he enlisted as a regular soldier in the army of the United States under Captain Hugh Ray in the New York line for the term of three months—was stationed opposite West Point—Enlisted in Dutchess County marched to a fort opposite West Point served his term and was discharged—Remembers Morris graham Colonel and one Sergeant Kinney. This was in the fall of the year 1775.

In the month of March 1776 this declarant again enlisted as a regular soldier under Captain Hugh Ray for the term of six months marched to Hudson, embarked on board a [ferry auger?] was stationed at or near [Fly?] Market—from there was again marched to Hurlgate up the East River and while there helped build a [?] battery, recollect going nearly a mile after brush, put them on wagons and drew them with long ropes to the fort, by hand. Recollects digging up an old burying ground while in the operations of building the fort. Served his term and was discharged. Thinks Captain Thom and Lieutenant Stevens commanded here. General Lee was in command about here at this time. Enlisted in the New York line.

Again enlisted as a private soldier in the early part of the spring of 1780—marched through the county from Dutchess County the place of his enlistment to Dobs ferry was stationed on the west side of the river near Stoney Point, was on duty there till after harvest—was then ordered up the river.

Colonel Harry Livingston chose this applicant for one of his batteau men to row him up the river to his manor-house. Stayed there several days—then the army came up in slops and with Colonel Harry Livingston as their commander sailed up to Albany was marched from there under the command of Major Wiltsey to Schoharry and was stationed in the middle fort, had a battle with the Indians and torys drove them off, pursued them to the Mohawk river.

The Indians in advance had a battle with Colonel Browns detachment—and Colonel Brown was killed. After the battle the army under Major Wiltsey came up where the battle was (at Stone Arabia) the day before—was at the funeral of Colonel Brown—remembers firing over his grave—from thence marched after the Indians – crossed the Mohawk pursued after the Indians through Fort Plain and into the wilderness till the provisions failed and they were obliged to return. This was late in the fall. After serving his time was discharged and sent home. George Clinton was in command at this time. John Livingston was his aid. Recollects no officers but the

Livingstons, Major Willtsey, and George Clinton during these marches—during these enlistments this applicant when at home resided in the town of North East Dutchess County. Enlisted in the New York line the several times. Never took a written discharge as he recollects. Enlisted at this period for six months and returned home after serving his time.

This applicant hereby relinquishes his every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. (Signed) Mikel Rogers. John D. Parker, Clk

This applicant further declares that he entered the service of the United States as a substitute in the champaign [campaign] against the British in the attempt to take Fort Washington, this was in the early part of the spring of 1777—was on duty a month and returned home. General Fish, Captain Johnson and Ensign Ely were the officers commanding on this expedition that this applicant recollects. Ely was killed in the battle (was a private).

The same spring this applicant was called out to oppose the British then at Danbury, Connecticut—marched towards the State of Connecticut but having learned that the British had retreated returned home—was on duty a week at this time—Captain Hartwell commanded at this time—was a soldier.

After Harvest in the year 1777 this applicant was called out as a militia soldier with a the rest of Colonel Grahams regiment to march to Redhook on the North River to oppose the progress of the British fleet was on duty one month at this time and dismissed. The officers were Colonel Graham, Captain Hartwell and Surgeon Bull recollects no others.

This applicant farther states that during the war he was often ordered out at intervals when at home to repel the aggressions of the tories, sudden incursions of the enemy and in the frequent alarms in a great many instances—frequently for two days a week, and fortnight other than those periods above set forth but cannot recollect the exact time or precise period of service of those several duties which were performed more or less at intervals through the whole war of the revolution. But he is positive the aggregate of the whole time of these last mentioned services amount to at least six months—served as a private during all the aforesaid time.

This deponent further declares and makes oath that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of the different services in the capacity of militiaman but according to his best recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned in the above declaration and for such service together with that in which he served as a regular soldier he claims a pension—the whole amount of which time for which this applicant claims a pension as a soldier of the Revolution under the act of June 7th 1832 is twenty-three months and one week. Eight months as a militiaman.

Answers to the interrogatories

1st This applicant was born in Fishkill Dutchess County in the year 1759.

2d He has no record of his age.

3d When called into service this applicant lived in Dutchess County—but for the last thirty-nine years has lived in Columbia County State aforesaid where he now resides.

4th Was called into service as a militia soldier and was drafted for all those periods of service in the second declaration mentioned except on the tour of duty to attempt to take Fort Washington when he was a substitute for his brother Joseph Rogers.

5th Some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where this applicant served were General Lee—Captain Hugh Ray—Captain Thorn. Major Wiltsey—Colonel Harry Livingston. But this deponent on account of impaired memory cannot be positive that those officers were all regular officers—the militia regiments were Graham's Regiment of Northeast Dutchess County In which this applicant served, this applicant cannot recollect the different regiments by any description other than by the officers who commanded them as set forth in this his declaration. The general circumstances of his service were that he enlisted in the service at the age of 15 at the instigation of his father a Whig of the first [?] and served every season more or less through the whole war—endured every hardship and at the close of the war found himself a poor soldier with nothing to support him except a roll of Continental money and his own hands—during the time in the first declaration this applicant was a Regular soldier.

6th Cannot recollect of ever taking a written discharge from service. L Except when discharged as a regular soldier but does not recollect any thing distinct about it.

7th The names of the persons to whom I am known in my present neighborhood and who can testify as to my character for truth and veracity and their belief as to my services as a soldier of the revolution are Martin VanDeusen and William Wheeler.

This deponent farther states that he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person who can testify to his service whose testimony he can procure.

He 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. The persons to whom I am known and who can testify as to the common report of my revolutionary services and my character for truth and veracity are Martin VanDeusen and William Wheeler.

This applicant further declares that there is not clergyman in his vicinity and that he knows of no one who can testify or certify as to his revolutionary services as a revolutionary soldier and his character for truth and veracity – consequently he cannot obtain testimony of revolutionary service. Nor is any documentary evidence to be had. (Signed) Michel Rogers.

Sworn and subscribed and sworn the day and year aforesaid. John D. Parker,
Clk.