

Pension Application for Adam Shafer

W.24948 (Widow: Delia)
State of New York
Herkimer County SS.

On this twenty-third day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty four before the under named a Judge of the Court of Common pleas of the said County of Herkimer the same being a court of record, personally appeared Delia Shafer a resident of the Town of Stark in the said County of Herkimer aged seventy five 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 Adam Shafer who was a private and served in Col. Clyde's Regiment in the Revolutionary War.—that he was in the service in said Regiment at Fort Plain & Fort Plank and in that vicinity, that in the year 1780 in the fall he was taken prisoner and remained in captivity between two and three years—and as near as she recollects he was in captivity little over two years and a half. She further declares that she was married to the said Adam Shafer in the spring of the year seventeen hundred and ninety three. She cannot recollect the month but it was ten years after he returned home from captivity—that the marriage was solemnized by the Rev'd Mr. Weiting the minister of the Lutheran Church in Minden in the now County of Montgomery—that after the marriage took place at the house of Leonard Ackler who was also in the same service with her husband and was taken prisoner the same time and remained in captivity about the same length of time. That she does not know whether the Rev'd Mr. Weiting kept any record of marriages. That her husband the aforesaid Adam Shafer died on the twenty Eight[h] day of September in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty one. 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 one thousand seven hundred and ninety four viz: at the time above stated. (Signed with her mark) Delia Shafer.

Sworn and Subscribed on the day & year above written before me. J. W. Beckwith Judge of Herkimer County Courts.

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On this 23d day of August 1844, before the undernamed Justice of the Peace of the said County personally appeared Richard Shimmel of the Town of Stark aged eighty years, who being first duly sworn according to law does on his oath say that at the close of the Revolutionary War he was well acquainted with said Adam Shaver and continued acquainted with him up to the time of his death that it was the current reputation in there [sic] neighbourhood that the said Adam was in the Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War in Col. Clyde's Regiment stationed at & near Fort Blank this deponent then resided in the vicinity that it was always currently reported and believed that the said Adam was taken prisoner by the enemy and kept in captivity for about two and a half years that Leonard Ackler and Peter House and Adam Shaver where [were] taken prisoner at one time further states that the said Adam Shaver ws married to Delia Countryman with whom this deponent was also well acquainted that the said Adam & Delia were married at the house of Leonard Ackler on the Osquack [Otsquago?] by the best of his knowledge and recollection it was in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety three in the spring of the year that the marriage was solemnized by the Rev. Mr. Weiting that he well recollect time and facts and the said Adam died some years ago fifteen or eighteen years ago leaving the said Delia his widow who resides in the Town of Stark in the said neighbourhood where she presently resides in said County of Herkimer. (Signed) Richard Skimmel

Subscribed and sworn before this 23 day of August 1844. Thomas Suits, Justice of the Peace.

Letter written May 14, 1930 in response to a request for information.

I advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.24948, it appears that Adam Shafer (the name also appears as Schafer and Shaver) enlisted, date and place not stated, served in Colonel Clyde's New York Regiment, was at Fort Plain and Fort Plank or Blank, was taken prisoner in the fall of 1780 and held between two and three years when he was exchanged.

He died September 28, 1831. His age is not shown.

The soldier married in the spring of 1793, in Minden, Montgomery County, New York, Delia Schimel, widow of Jacob Shimel, whose maiden name was Delia Countryman.

She was allowed pension on her application executed September 23, 1844, at which time she was aged seventy-five years and resided in Stark (formerly Danube), Herkimer County, New York.

No reference is made to children.