

**Pension Application for Richard Shimel or Shimmel or Shimmell**

W.11434 (Widow: Maria or Mariah Nestle)

B.L.Wt.39221-160-55

Richard died about the 15<sup>th</sup> November 1849. They married at the town of Stark, Herkimer County August 4, 1833 by C. T. E. Van Horne a Justice of the Peace.

German Flatts May 12, 1846.

Mr. Abm A. VanHorn.

Sir I wish to inform you that the [?] of Thomas Shoenmaker was informed of Mr. Ittig of a letter from you dated Feb 8<sup>th</sup> stating about the persons that were taken prisoners in the Revolution War Thomas Shoenmaker was taken prisoner & was married previous to the war. His first wife died Feb 1815 or 16, and then married a second wife on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1817 and is now living she died Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 1837.

The children wish to know if the 2 [?] widow has not the right of coming in before them, if not they wish to employ you for their council, as they can prove the time of his marriage, deaths, &c, if you will given them a statement how to proceed and the charges you have for getting the pension if any. And the time of his being prisoner they can prove. If you think it of use to take the case in hand, please so to do. Yours Respectfully, Frea F. Bellinger.

State of New York

Herkimer County SS.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace, of the County of Herkimer aforesaid, Richard Shimel, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he can not swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades—For one year, and two months I served as a private, and for such service I claim a pension.

And this deponent further says that nine months of said service was in Abner French's Company, he being captain thereof in Col. Marinus Willett's Regiment that three months of said service was in Captain Joseph House's Company of Militia in Col. Clyde's Regiment in constant and actual duty in the Forts and that he was engaged in the last year as such militia man and done actual duty at least two months in same company of Militia—and further this deponent says not. (Signed) Richard Shimel

Sworn & Subscribed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833 before me. Nicholas Smith Justice.

State of New York

Herkimer County SS.

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February one thousand eight hundred that thirty [three?] personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Herkimer in the State aforesaid now sitting Richard Shimel, a resident of the Town of Stark in the said County of Herkimer, aged sixty seven years on the nineteenth day of May last part, 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 7, 1832.

That in the year 1781 this deponent was sixteen years of age and was enrolled in the militia in the month of May or June of that year in Capt. Abraham House' Company in Col. George Clyde's Regiment that Abraham Copeman was the Major it was a Regt of Militia of the State of New York. The Lieut of the company was named Jacob Snyder cannot recollect the ensign's name that deponent then resided at Fort Plank where he done duty as a soldier the summer before he was taken—That deponent had been under the [?] of doing duty to defend themselves against the Indians that Major Copeman ordered the boys to do duty in the Fort as Guard that the men were taken out occasionally a corporal or

Sergeant remained to take command of the boys and old men left in the forts. That he went out once as a scout with the Capt. in that year Col. Roof was along but he was not then an officer—That they went out towards Schuyler Lake that Baltis Sitts was along as a pilot and they were one out two days there was about fifteen men along they went through the woods and were out as spies, cannot tell how far they traveled that when they were not out as spies and in doing other duty, they were on duty at the fort keeping guard. They were always actively employed in preparing for and defending themselves against the enemy—that this deponent thinks the whole time employed that season in the fort and one other duty would be at least three months.

And this deponent further says that his brother Jacob enlisted in Col. Willett's Regiment of "nine months men" so called in Capt. Frenches company Christopher Peak was Lieut, that his brother was not of age to go, being only fourteen years old, and deponent was two years and a half older—that deponent thinks it was in march or April in the year 1782, he went in his brother's place a few days only after he had enlisted as aforesaid, that deponent joined the company at Fort House and remained there a short time, but he can not say how long they then marched up to Fort Herkimer where they done duty until the expiration of the nine months which was late in the fall or in the month of December—there was snow on the ground, and it snowed when he went home.

Deponents father was also a private in this same company and done duty as a baker for the company & sometimes in the ranks.

And in the next spring which was in the year 1783; deponent was in the same company then commanded by Capt. House, and the old Captain Copeman got to be a Major—that House's first name was Joseph—Deponent done duty most of this season as a guard, in Fort Plank, that he done duty as regularly went as often while he was in Fort Plank in this year, as he had done before when he was a nine month's man in Fort Herkimer—that he was out twice this summer, that he can recollect & for less oftener as a scout—that they went out wist in the woods as a scout a day or two at a time—that he remained in the Fort until the fall, when the news came that there was peace—that they had great rejoicing, and there was a fat ox roasted, and a great many eat of him, but deponent does not know who paid for him—that deponent got a piece but it was rather raw, not half cooked—that in this last year deponent was in the Fort and on duty from spring until the news of Peace came; and that he think in this last year he done actual duty about two months—that deponent was not engaged in any battle. That deponent saw some continentals at Fort Plain, & that saw some of the officers, but did not know any of them—but never had any written discharge.

And to the several questions put by the court this deponent says that he was born at Caughnawaga in the County of Tryon now Montgomery County. I was born on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 1765. The he has a written statement made by himself from what his parents informed him of his age.

That when deponent first done duty he lived in Canajoharrie, now Minden Montgomery County. Since the war he has lived seven or eight miles from this place & has lived there ever since. [?] a division of the town & county he now resides in the town of Starks Herkimer county—and that he knows of no clergyman who can certify for him as required.

That deponent was ordered out part of the time by his Capt. and was once substitute in the place of his brother Jacob Shimel as above stated.

That deponent was not acquainted with any officer in the Regular services—that he has [not?] done duty in company with any other regiment to his recollection – that the principal duty was on guard in the Forts.

That this deponent never rec'd any discharge form the company in writing – and that he expects to prove the above services by Henry Shaver & Jacob Knouts—and that he can prove his reputation as a soldier by Jacob Knouts and Henry Eckler.

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. (Signed) Richard Shimel

Sworn & Subscribed to the day & year aforesaid in open court. Julius C. Nelson, Clerk