

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Stephen Howard: W8949

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Vermont        }  
Franklin County        }

On this 27th day of March AD 1818 before me William Brayton one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of Vermont, personally appears Stephen Howard aged Sixty three years resident in the Town of Swanton in the County of Franklin & State of Vermont, who being by me first duly Sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late Act of Congress entitled An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval Service of the United States in the revolutionary war, that on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of September AD 1776 in the State of Maryland he enlisted in the company commanded by Capt Roxburgh in the Regiment commanded by Colo [Peter] Adams in the first Brigade of the Maryland line of the Army of the United States on the continental establishment for the term of three years or during the war, that he continued to serve in said corps until the month of August 1780 when he was taken prisoner [at the Battle of Camden SC on the 16<sup>th</sup>] and was detained a prisoner in Charlestown [Charleston] in South Carolina in prison ship Elizabeth six months twelve days and was then pressed into the British navy was kept in service sixteen years and then deserted from the British in 1796 [sic: compare widow's application and note below] at Dutchman point [also known as Blockhouse Point on North Hero Island VT in Lake Champlain] and has ever since resided in and been a Citizen of the United States that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for Support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

STATE OF VERMONT. }        Franklin County Supreme Court of Judicature July [illegible] 1820  
Franklin COUNTY, SS. }        ON this Eleventh day of July 1820 personally appeared in open Court, being the Supreme Court of said state, for the County of Franklin and a Court of Record for said State & County having the Power of fine and Imprisonment Stephen Howard aged 65 years, resident in Swanton in said County, who being duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, declare that he served in the revolutionary war, as follows: - (to wit)  
for four years and six months from Sept'r. 17<sup>th</sup> 1776 to March 1781 in Capt. Roxburgh Company in Colo. Adams's Regiment in the Maryland line being the first Reg't. of said line my first declaration is dated March 27<sup>th</sup> 1818. my Pension Certificate is No 11,621

And I do solemnly swear, that I was a resident citizen of the United States, on the 18th day of March, 1818; and that I have not, since that time, by gift, sale, or in any manner, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it, as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress, entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States, in the Revolutionary war," passed on the 18th day of March, 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts, or debts, due to me: nor have I an income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed, and by me subscribed. 100 acres of land with five acres of improvement and a log house held by a lease at the rent of twelve dollars fifty cents per year and seventy five [page torn] the land is forfeited at Law for non payment of rent and an action of Ejectment is now pending by my landlord against me to obtain possession Value of Equity of Redemption Nothing. [illegible word] three year old Steer 40.00 one Calf 5.00, 13 Sheep 13.00, 2 Hogs 8.00 I owe debts besides the rent afore to the amount of Eighty dollars  
Stephen Howard

I am by occupation a Farmer. by reason of a wound I Rec'd. in the war and Rheumatism I not able to labour but little my family consists of my wife Elizabeth aged 52 years a cripple unable to labour and four Children towit my son Alexander aged 16 years my daughter Catharine aged 14 years and my Daughter Susan aged 12 years and my daughter Chloe aged 10 years all as able to labour as Children in general but are all small of their age.

Stephen Howard

State of New York

County of Clinton SS.

On this third day of March 1845. before the subscriber First Judge of the County Court of said County personally appeared Elizabeth Howard a resident of Chazy in said County aged Seventy Six years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain a pension under the laws of the United States. That she is the widow of Stephen Howard who was a private in the first Maryland Continental Regiment, and served therein as she is informed and believes for more than three years. She has heard him say that he was enlisted at Leonard [Leonardtown] Maryland in Sept 1776 into Col Smallwoods [William Smallwood's] first Maryland Regt. for three years or during the war, and that he served in that Company & Regiment four years less one month, and while in such service, and engaged in the battle of Camden, he was wounded and taken a prisoner by the Enemy, and carried to Charleston South Carolina, and put on board a British Prison Ship, where he remained until March 1781 seven months and a half, when he was taken to Kingston in the West Indies, and remained there about three years. During said time, viz on some day of June in the year seventeen hundred and eighty four at the place aforesaid she the said Elizabeth was married to the said Stephen Howard by a Bishop whose name she does not recollect. He gave her a Certificate of marriage which she kept until the month of October 1833. when it was burnt, and destroyed by fire together with her dwelling house at Chazy aforesaid. She also had a record of her said marriage in her family bible which was likewise burnt at the time & place aforesaid. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Ray. In the year 1786 her said husband effected his escape from the British and came into the United States where he resided up to the period of his death. She further declares that her said Husband was a pensioner under the act of March 18, 1818. at \$96. per annum, and placed on the Roll of the Vermont agency in 1819. and afterwards transferred to the New York agency. He went on a visit from his residence in Chazy to Hemmingford Lower Canada and died there at the House of his son on the sixth day of March 1843. leaving the said Elizabeth Howard a widow, and she still remains a widow & unmarried. She further declares that she has no record of her husbands service nor of her marriage, and that her marriage took place previous to January 1, 1794. viz at the time above stated.

Elizabeth herXmark Howard

NOTES:

The statement Howard escaped in 1796 is in obvious disagreement with his widow's deposition and with the note below.

On 3 Mar 1845 Jane McNamara of Hemmingford, Québec, deposed in support of her mother's application, stating that she herself was born 24 Oct 1794 in North River VT. A letter dated 22 Mar 1880 refers to a daughter, Mrs. Benjamin Chesbrough of Beekmantown NY.