

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Andrew Michael (Andreas Michler): R7150

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Capitalization and punctuation partly corrected]

State of New York }

Montgomery County } SS On the 13th day of January in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty five, personally appeared before me Abraham Morell First Judge In and for the County of Montgomery,

Andrew Micheal of the Town of Oppenheim, in the County and State Aforesaid, 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 the 7th 1832. That Claimant was born on the 24th day of April 1759. Now Aged Seventy five years past, which he Recollects from his Fathers Family record, that he was born in Elsas [sic: Alsace], a German Empire [sic], belonged to the French Government, that he was an Enlisted Soldier in the French Army, at the time of the American Revolution, Vizt at the time of the Revolutionary War Between the British Government and the Colonies of America, and that Claimant came into this Country with the French Army at Newport Rhode Island, some time in July he believes on the Tenth 1780, when they had started from Prest [sic: Brest] seaport, france, in Spring May [the 2nd] Previous with an army consisting as understood of 8000 Men under the Command of Gen'l Rush Shambo [sic: Jean-Baptiste-Donatien de Vimeur, comte de Rochambeau], calculated to aid and assist the army under the command of Gen'l. Washington, and then after joining, all under the Gen'l command of Gen'l Washington. and claimant was enlisted and served under the field and company officers in rendering such services as hereafter mentioned, as follows —

A Statement Shewing the Service rendered by Andrew Micheal, Montgomery County

[Information originally in a nine-column table is here reorganized]

Rank of the Claimant: Private Soldier

Names and rank of Company officers: Under Capt. Heno [probably Hainault]/ Leut Depesha/
Ensign Roof

Names and Rank of Gen'l. and Field Officers: Gen'l. Rush Shambo/ Col Christian Graff/
Maj'r East Peck

Country through which he Marched: Landed at New Port, State of Rhode Iland, in July 1780

Place of Abode where he entered the Service, and his age at the present period: Entered at Press
Seaport, France sometime in April or May 1780 bound for America with the Army. Under
Gen'l Ruch Shambo. Aged Exceeding Seventy five years

<u>Period when Service</u> was rendered	<u>duration of claimants service</u>			<u>Battles in Which Claim't was Engaged</u>
	years	Months	days	
1780 May	0	2	10	On Sea from France
10 July, say until 10 th May 1781 not certain what time in Spring	0	9	0	
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1781 & 1782	1	7	0	
Total	2	7 [sic]	10	

Proof by which the Declaration is Supported:

The only Possitive Witness, who was one of his Associate fellow Soldiers who belonged to the same Reg't. but not to the same Company but not personally known and Acquainted with each other, until the arival of the Army from France, at Newport Rhode Iland, after which time Claimant and the Witness became personally acquainted, whose name is Reynold Traugott, and who residing in the Town of Root Montgomery County, Aged about Seventy four years.

And as for Traditionary Testimony, beg leave to mention the names of John J Nellis & Peter Fox, and as many more as his Hon's the Pension Commissioners should deem expedient or feel desirous to have — beg leave to mention the names of Jack H Failing, Gen'l Fox, Esq'r Louner[?]

Judge Harring[?], John C Nellis, Jacob Nellis, William W For[?], A Number of others which I could mention to prove as to his being a man of truth and veracity.

Left France with the French Army under command of Gen'l Rush Shambo, and the same officers as stated before, and while on Sea, to America, met with British Frigate, engaged in battle but after dark departed

Emediently[?] after the Army landed at Newport, Rhode Iland there encamped, and engaged in actual service on behalf of the United States, and there stationed and encampd. during the remainder part in sumer, fall, winter, and sometime in spring [1781], when left Rhode Iland, & marching into the State of New York, following Gen'l Washingtons Army at West Point, where and then considering the whole Army both the French and American under the Emedient Command of Gen'l Washington - and from thence the whole army marching to Kings Bridge, there encamped for about three weeks. and thence marching by Land with the Army through the different and respective states out from Rhode Iland to New York, New Jersey, Pennslvania, Maryland, and Virginia. Arrived at York Town with the American & French Army under Gen'l Washington, Rush Shambo, and claimant believes Gen'l Laveyette [sic: Marquis de Lafayette] and other Brave Gen'ls on the 19th [sic] day of October same year, and there engaged in battle, against the British Army, who were there under the command of Lord Cor Walles [sic: Cornwallis], and continued for a number of days in battle [Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. Particular number of days claimant doth not recollect, but believing at least nineteen days, being engaged in battle before the surrender of L. C Walles with his army, where after taking of the British Army, again ordered to march to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] there stationed for and during winter and until late in Spring, when again ordered to Newport Rhode Iland when marching and returning gradually to Newport, where claimant obtained his discharge or permit, given to him by Gen'l Rush Shambo late in fall, — Claimant says that the lenght of time for which he hath been enlisted, had expired, in consequence, his General giving him a general discharge, claimant preferring becoming a resident of these United States in the Land of Liberty and Independence — but it is with regret, that claimant has been unmindful and regardless of his discharge or permit that he has to acknowledge, that the same, Vizt his discharge got lost, and is not to be found, but that he honorably has discharged his duty. After strugling in aiding and contending for the blessed American Cause of Liberty and Independence, conjuring your hon'r the Pension Commissioner to be placed on the Pension list, equal with many others, although not born in this Country.

That claimant is aged exceeding seventyfive years, himself & his old [illegible word] friend aged helpless, and in a state of dependency. Although claimant has three children two sons and one daughter having families of children, on which a dependence for support can be expected, they having more than able to support themselves & family, one other son his youngest undertaken upon himself to study divinity promising fair with the blessing of God to be successfull

That claimant states that after joining Gen'l Washington's army at West Point as stated in the foregoing until discharged late in the fall 1782 the lenght of his service will at least amount to one year & 7 months, so that the total lenght of service, from the time of starting from press sea port in France until legally discharged, amounts to the lenght of service or time of two years, seven months & ten days.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a Pension or Anuity, except the Present, and declare that my name is not on the Pension roll of any agency in any state

Claimant beg leave to refer his Hon'r the Pension Commissioner, to papers and documents accompan[page torn] with applications heretofore presented at two different sessions of Congress. Claimant beliefs the one in the session of 1831. and the next in Eighteen Hundred & thirty Three. At the former, your Applicant was instructed had passed the House of Congress and then no further progress made in Senate, being late in session

Claimant further beg leave to remark, that emediantly after The Revolutionary War, he went up the Mohawk River and to the Town of Palatine now County of Montgomery and State of N York and within about 7 or 8 years joined in lawful wedlock with a M's[?] Helmer, Daughter of Philip Helmer, and after a lapse of 7 or 8 years removed with his father in law to Susquehanna where resided for about three years, when again returned with his family to Palatine, and therein

continued to reside until part of Palatine was set off, by name of Oppenheim, and therein continued ever since to this present day —
[signed illegibly] Andre Michle[?]

State of New York }
Montgomery County } SS

On the 28th day of October 1834 personally appeared before me, Cornelious I Wessler a Justice of The peace of the Town of Root in and for the County of Montgomery aforesaid Reinhold Traugott of the said Town County and State aforesaid who being duly sworn, according to Law, deposes and saith, that he is aged Seventy three years & ten months past, and that he is personally acquainted with Andrias Micheal, and has known him personally in the Revolutionary War, more particularly, since the arrival at Newport State of Rhode Island sometime in July. Started from press port in France, with the French army, saith and so understood with an army of Eight Thousand men, that both deponent and the aforesaid Andrias Micheal were enlisted in a Reg't commanded by Col. Graff Christian [sic]. deponent enlisted under the command of Capt Cawans Company. And that deponent is personally known that the said Andrias Micheal vizt a claimant for a Pension, did belong to a different company, commanded by Capt Hew [or Heno], belonging to the said Reg't. with him said Deponent.

That this deponent further saith, that the whole Army were under the command of Gen'l Ruch Shambo, until joined the Army of Gen'l. Washington, and then continued under the general command of Gen'l Washington until and after the taking of Cor Wallis and his army. deponent believes sometime in October 1781. and both continued with the army under the command of Gen'l Washington, deponent says according to deponent's knowledge and belief, until the conclusion of the Revolutionary War. deponent further saith, that he recollects, that the army under the command of Gen'l Rush Shambo left France at press port in the year 1780. he believes in May, and arrived at Newport, Rhode Island some time in July, there Incamped, and stationed during the remainder part of summer & fall winter until some time in spring, when a selection was made out of Gen'l Ruch Shambo's Army, composing or constituting a full Reg't at which time deponent was one of those who had to stay back at Newport to defend and guard against the British, when Gen'l Ruch Shambo with the remainder part of the French Army went to West point there joined under the command of Gen'l Washington and his army and after some time, Gen'l Washington with his army by land and deponent by water, with the Reg't. aforesaid, again joined the army under Gen'l Washington. And deponent saith that himself and claimant were present at the taking of the British Army at York Town and after marched to Williams Burgh there stationed, where they had their Winter Quarters until he believes in April, then marched to Baltimore, there encamped for a considerable length of time now in 1782 from thence to Providence, Rhode Island, there encamped again for a considerable length of time, again started from thence in forepart of the winter for Boston Masechusets, but the company dep't belonging to no more gott off of the shipp or vessel until landed at the West India [West Indies?]. And finally deponent says that they had not returned to France until late in summer 1783. deponent states that claimant has at least rendered United States service for exceeding for two years, that he said claimant had been a true and faithful soldier in the American Cause, that after his return to France, and after his continuance in France for about two years, deponent again returned to America, and then went up the Mohawk to the Town of Canajoharie, said County of Montgomery, in which county said dep't logated his residence ever since

This deponent further and lastly saith that Clam't is a man of irreproachable character, truth and varacity, that his testimony is entitled to full credit, and further saith not.
[signed] Reinhold Traugott

State of New York }
Fulton County } SS

On this 6th day of April 1840 personally appeared before the Hon Henry Guile Anna Michael a resident of Oppenheim in the County of Fulton and State of New York aged seventy nine 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 7th 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of Andres Michael who was a Musician in the army of the United States during the latter part of the revolutionary war; that her husband the said Andrew Michael belonged to that part of the American Army commanded by the Marquis General De LaFayette and with that officer came to this country from France in the year 1780 [sic: see note below] That he belonged to the band of music attached to the Regiment of Colonel Groff Christian [sic]. That on his arrival in America he with the whole French Army volunteered in the cause of American Independence, from which period he continued in the service of the United States untill the close of the war

She further declares that she was married to the said Andrew Michael on the twenty fifth day of November in the year seventeen hundred and ninety That her husband the aforesaid Andrew Michael died on the third day of October 1835 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 Anna herXmark Michael

NOTES:

Michael may have enlisted with Lafayette while Lafayette was in France on a diplomatic mission from 11 Jan 1779 until 17 Mar 1780, but Lafayette did not accompany him or Rochambeau when they left for America in May.

The petition to Congress in 1831 and 1833 was not found. It may be the source for the following additional information contained in a typed summary: "he enlisted... in Captain Hainault's company, Colonel Christian de Forbach, Duke de Deux Ponts' [sic: Wilhelm von Forbach (Guillaume de Deux-Ponts)] regiment."

With Anna Michael's application is the following, which indicates that Andrew Michael was born Andreas Michler:

This may certify that I have examined the records of the Reformed Dutch St. Johns church in the County of Montgomery State of New York, as they were kept by the Rev John Henry Dyplin who it seems was the minister of said church from July 13th 1788 to sometime about 1810 or 1811. to see if I could find any record of the Marriage of Andrew Michler to Anna Hellmer. Some part of the records appear to be lost, & I find no record of said marriage. But in the record of Baptisms under date June 15, 1791 I find the following record: viz

"Parents {Andreas Michler von Palatine Anna Michler

Infant, Jacob

Testes {Johannes hellmer Ana hellmer"

From which it appears that Andreas Michler & Anna Michler were the parents of a son who was baptized by the name Jacob.

In Feb. 14 1794 The same persons had a child baptized named Philipp born the 19th June 1793.

Abraham H Myer pastor of the Ref'd D. Church in St Johnsville
Her application was supported by a deposition by Reinhold Traugott that repeated some of the same information as above.