

Pension Application for Selah Belding

W.1130 (Widow: Lydia)

Letter in folder dated December 23, 1935, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War records of Silas Belding, Junior, who enlisted from Dutchess County, New York, and Selah Belding who served in the Massachusetts militia.

The date and place of this soldier's birth and names of his parents are not given.

While residing in Conway, Massachusetts, Selah Belding volunteered in April, 1775, immediately after the battle of Lexington, served as private in Captain Robert Oliver's company, Colonel Doolittle's Massachusetts regiment, and was discharged in January, 1776. He enlisted in January, 1776, served as a private in Captain James Wilkinson's company, Colonel James Reed's New Hampshire regiment, stationed at Ticonderoga and Montreal, Canada, remained in the north until November, following, then marched to New Jersey, was in the battle of Trenton at the capture of the Hessians, also in the battle of King's Bridge and was discharged in February, 1777. He enlisted in July, 1777, served as private in Captain Abel Dinsmore's company, Colonel Woodbridge's Massachusetts regiment, was present at the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga and was discharged after having served four months. In addition to the above-described tours, he was out at different times on short tours of duty, no details of which were given.

Selah Belding applied for pension November 17, 1829, at which time he was aged seventy-two years and residing in Ontario County, New York. His claim was allowed. In 1832 he was residing in Seneca, Ontario County, New York, where he died July 3, 1838.

Selah Belding married February 15, 1820, in Phelps, Ontario County, New York, Lydia Peck; at the time of their marriage they were both residents of Ontario County, New York. The date and place of her birth and names of parents are not given. No reference was made to any other marriage of the soldier, or of his wife.

Soldier's widow, Lydia Belding, was allowed pension on her application executed April 16, 1853, at which time she was aged eighty-six years and a resident of Seneca, New York. She died February 14, 1855.

In 1828, the soldier, Selah Belding specified that his son, Selah Belding, Junior, then of Seneca, New York, should furnish out the soldier's estate gravestones for him (the soldier), his wife, Lydia, and the following all deceased, whose relationship was not shown:--Noah, Rebecca, Ester, and Julina Belding. In the same year, reference was made to one Clarra Belding, of Seneca, New York her relationship to soldier's family not stated.

In 1832, Horace Peck and William Ottley, both of Phelps, Ontario County, New York, made affidavit jointly in behalf of the soldier, Salah Belding, no relationship shown to him or to his wife, Lydia.

In 1853, Ira Peck, aged fifty-one years, and Polly Peck, aged forty-five years, residents of Seneca, Ontario County, New York, made joint affidavit in behalf of soldier's widow, Lydia, but did not state their relationship to her or to each other.