

### Pension Application for James Betts

W.23598 (Widow: Vilette or Viletta) James died September 17, 1843.

I James Betts of the town of Bethlehem in the County of Albany in the State of New York, Do, according to the act of Congress of the United States of America, entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and "naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war," make the following DECLARATION under oath, that is to say: *I do solemnly declare*, that I am a resident citizen of the United States, to wit, in the town, county and state aforesaid, and that by reason of my reduced circumstances in life, I am in need of assistance from my country for support. *I do further declares*, that I was a Corporal in the *War of the Revolution*, and that I served as such in the said war of the revolution, against the common enemy, until the end of the said war, for the term of six years and upward during the said war in the Continental establishment.

That I belonged to the company commanded by Capt. Hamtrammick in Col. VanCortlandts regiment, and in the line of New York.

And I do further declare, that I entered the said service in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six and left the said service in June one thousand seven hundred and eighty three having left the same by reason of the expiration of my said term of enlistment.

And I do further declare, that I hereby relinquish all claim to every and any Pension heretofore allowed me by the laws of the United States, or of any individual state. Witness my hand, this twenty fourth day of March in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighteen. (Signed) James Betts

Witness Estes Howe, W. Barclay (March 24, 1818)

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818; and that I have not; nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts, of debts due to me; nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule thereto annexed, and by me subscribed. Viz, I have no real estate, nor have I any personal estate, but such as is exempt from execution by the Laws of this State, I have no trade or occupation and am infirm from age, I have a wife aged about fifty four years, who is in a bad state of health, I have a son named Zemry, twenty three years old who is married and hires himself out by the month to support his family, another son Elias aged seventeen, who also labours for hire, another Robert aged fourteen unable to earn his living, I have four daughters, viz, Tryphena aged thirty four years who is married and has a family, Sally aged twenty one who is also married and has a family, Maria aged nineteen years, unhealthy and Eliza aged nine years neither of whom contributed to my support or that of my family or able so to do. (Signed) James Betts

Sworn in open court on the 15 June 1825 before Henry A. Williams Depy Clk.

James Betts was born Jan 24, 1760. Vilette Murdock was born June 14, 1767. November 3d 1785. James Smith Betts was born January 13, 1787. Tryphena Betts was born December 13<sup>th</sup> 1788. John Betts was born December 12<sup>th</sup> 1790. Maria Betts was born February 22d 1780. Elias Betts was born July 20<sup>th</sup> 1802. Andrew Betts was born August 20<sup>th</sup> 1804. Robert Betts was born June 22d 1806. Eliza Betts was born Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 1809. John Betts died April 1<sup>st</sup> 1792 in the 2d year of his age. Marget Betts was born June 3d 1793. Zimri Betts was born May 26<sup>th</sup> 1795. J. Smith Betts died June 14<sup>th</sup> 1796. Marget Betts died June 21<sup>st</sup> 1796. Sarah Betts was born December 2d 1797.

Letter in folder dated May 13, 1939, written in reply to an inquiry.

Reference is made to you[r] letter in which you request the Revolutionary War records of two soldiers with the name James Betts, father and son, the younger of whom died September 17, 1843.

The Revolutionary War record of James Betts who died September 17, 1843, is furnished herein as shown in pension claim, W.23598. There is no claim for pension on file based upon service in the Revolutionary War of his father, James Betts.

James Betts was born January 24, 1760; the place of his birth and the names of his parents are not shown.

James Betts enlisted, the place of his residence not given, in 1776, served six years as corporal in Captain Hamtramck's company, Colonel P. Van Cortlandt's 2<sup>nd</sup> New York regiment and was discharged in June 1783.

He was allowed pension on his application executed March 24, 1818, at which time he resided in Bethlehem, Albany County, New York. The soldier died September 17, 1843.

James Betts married November 3, 1785, Vilettee Murdock, who was born June 14, 1767; the names of her parents and the place of her birth are not shown. They were married by Josiah Gale, or Dutchess County.

Vilettee Betts, the soldiers' widow, was allowed pension on her application executed January 15, 1844, at which time she resided in Jordan, Onondaga County, New York. In August 1848, she resided in Rushville, Schuyler County, Illinois; she was living there in March 1851.

The names of the children of James Betts and his wife, Vilettee, and other data, are shown as follow[s]:

|                   |                        |                     |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| James Smith Betts | Born January 13, 1787  | Died June 14, 1796. |
| Tryphena Betts    | Born December 13, 1788 |                     |
| John Betts        | Born December 12, 1790 | Died April 1, 1792  |
| Marget Betts      | Born June 3, 1793      | Died June 21, 1796  |
| Zimi Betts        | Born May 26, 1795      |                     |
| Sarah Betts       | Born December 2, 1797  |                     |
| Maria Betts       | Born February 22,      |                     |
| Elias Betts       | Born July 20, 1802     |                     |
| Andrew Betts      | Born August 20, 1804   | Died Aug. 20, 1805  |
| Robert Betts      | June 22, 1806          |                     |
| Eliza Betts       | September 16, 1809     |                     |

In 1830, three of the above noted children, Zimri, Sarah (Sally), and Tryphena were married and had families.

In 1843, the soldier's daughter, Sally, resided in Illinois; Elias, Mary (Maria), Tryphena, and Robert, lived near Jordan, New York. In Jan. 1844, said daughter, Maria, gave her age as forty-four years.

In March 1845, Eliza Hosmer was present when Vilettee Betts, the soldier's widow, made affidavit in regarding her pension in Onondaga County, New York. In 1851 said widow made affidavit regarding her pension in Schuyler County, Illinois, Eliza Hosmer and James Hosmer were present. No relationship between these persons and the soldier's family was stated.

In 1843, Mary Lewis, of Clyde, Wayne County, and Margrett Beers of Bridgewater, Massachusetts, were referred to as sisters of Vilettee Betts.