

Pension Application for John Brown

W.27481 (Former Widow: Mary Rider) John died in October 1795, he was born in Scotland and was 16 when he came to this country. He worked as a clerk in Samuel Mabbet's Store in Nine Partners. John's description is very light complexion, sandy hair, sandy whiskers, light blue eyes, middling stature, sound in limbs, temperate man, correct in language, religion-Lutheran. He was in 12 battles, wounded at the taking of Burgoyne, was wounded in the calf of the left leg & in his right shoulder. Twice taken prisoner by the Indians. John was on a horse going to the village of Poughkeepsie, distance about 2 miles, he was thrown from the horse and injured; he died the same day.

State of New York

City and County of New York SS.

On this nineteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty seven personally appeared before me Richard Riker Recorder of the City of New York, Mary Ryder a resident of the City, County and State of New York who will be if she shall so long lived, seventy eight years of age on the twenty second day of February next, having been born on the twenty second day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty, and 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 4th 1836, and the act supplementary of said act passed March 3rd 1837. That she was lawfully married in her Father's house in Roxbury in the present State of Massachusetts on the Fourth day of August 1777 to John Brown Junior while the said John Brown Junior was attached to the military service of the United States in the War of the Revolution he being then a soldier in the 2nd New York Regiment of Artillery under the command of Colonel John Lamb, and she believes in the Company of that Regiment commanded by Captain Doughty. That the name of the Clergyman who officiated at and performed the said marriage ceremony was Gordon who is and has been long deceased. That Andrew Kelly the Brother in Law, Abigail Kelly his wife, the sister of deponent, with several other persons whose names she does not now remember were present at her said marriage.

That she believes all the said persons who were so present are now deceased or if any of either of them be alive she cannot state the present residence of either of them. That such marriage occurred after the bans had been duly and according to usage in New England published for three successive Sabbaths. That it took place in the middle of the afternoon and deponent was not particular in obtaining a certificate of said marriage, relying upon easily procuring it at any time if necessary and resting satisfied in the interim with the notoriety and publicity of her said marriage.

And this deponent further saith that her first child born after said marriage with whom a sense of truth and candour compels her to admit she was pregnant at the time of said marriage was a daughter, (now the wife of William Dayton) who was born on the thirty first day of January 1778 at the house of deponent's Father at Roxbury aforesaid and was Christened by the name of "Polly" in Trinity Church in Boston Massachusetts, on the first day of March in the same year, the said John Brown Junior her father being present with others at such Christening he having obtained a short furlough or leave of absence from the American Army at the time, for that purpose. That deponent became the mother of eight other children by the said John brown Junior, during the said marriage whose names and the order in which they were born are as follows to wit, John Brown, Abigail Brown, Nancy Brown, Rachel Brown, Sylvester and Sylvia Brown Twins, Elizabeth Brown, and Aikman Brown. That three of the said children to wit: John, Abigail, and Aikman are dead with the survivors reside indifferent part of the state of New York. That deponent cannot with confidence state the time or place of their respective births, as her family Bible in which a registry of her marriage and of her children's births was kept is lost.

And this deponent further saith that the said John Brown Junior was a soldier in the War of the American Revolution as before stated. That he enlisted as he often informed her at the Town of Nine Partners in Dutchess County in the present state of New York where he then resided in the latter part of

the year 1776 in the 2nd New York Regiment of Artillery commanded by Colonel John Lamb and she believes in the company commanded by Captain Doughty. That he remained under the one engagement or enlistment during the entire war, and was honorably discharged at the close thereof in 1783 when he joined deponent at Roxbury aforesaid. Deponent having often said he said discharge which in the casualties of housekeeping has since been lost. That deponent has frequently heard the said John Brown Junior relate many circumstances of his services during the said War but does not a this distance of time, remember particularly the battles in which he was engaged except that she believes he was at the battle which resulted in the surrender of General Burgoyne commonly called the battle of Saratoga, and also at the capitulation at York Town, acting in and with the American Army.

That she cannot state as she does not with sufficient clearness recollect, the country through which he at any time marched during said war.

That he said husband was a man of good education having taught school with great reputation and success after said war, and far as she can understand the matter, was fully competent to fulfill the duties of a sergeant in an army in making out muster rolls &c. but whether he ever acted in that capacity she cannot positively state.

That he was wounded twice during said war, from one of which wounds in his right shoulder he experienced much pain and inconvenience until his death which occurred at Poughkeepsie in the State of New York on the Fourteenth day of October 1795 from injuries received from his being thrown from an unruly horse.

And she further declares that she was afterwards to wit on the fifteenth day of July in the year 1796 married to John Ryder, who died on the fourth day of September in the year 1813 and that she was a widow on the 4th day of July in the year 1836 and still remains a widow as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. (Signed with her mark) Mary Ryder

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before me. R. Riker, Recorder of the City of New York.

Letter in folder dated November 23, 1934, written in response to an inquiry.

The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim W.27481, based upon the Revolutionary War service of John Brown.

John Brown, son of John Brown was born about 1758 or 1760, in Scotland, and when sixteen years of age came to New York City, then went to Nine partners, Dutchess County, New York where he lived five or six years with one Samuel Mabbet in whose store he clerked.

While residing in Nine Partners, New York, he enlisted in the latter part of 1776 and served as matross in Captain Doughty's company, Colonel John Lamb's 2nd Regiment of Artillery, was in the battles of Saratoga where he was wounded in his left leg and right shoulder, from the latter of which he suffered until his death, and the siege of Yorktown; it was stated that he was engaged in about twelve battles and skirmishes, was twice taken prisoner by the Indians and was discharged at the close of the war.

In 1783, John Brown moved to New Hartford, Connecticut, where he remained about a year; he had resided for two or three years previously, in Roxbury and Boston, Massachusetts; he next moved to Nine Partners, New York where he lived several years; from there to New Paltz, Ulster County, New York, where he lived about four years, and from there to Poughkeepsie, Dutchess County, New York.

John Brown died October 14, 1795, about two miles from the village of Poughkeepsie, New York; his death caused by injuries received when thrown from his horse.

Soldier married August 4, 1777, Mary Bosson, born February 22, 1760; they were married at the home of her father whose name is not given in Roxbury, Massachusetts.

After the soldier's death, his widow, Mary, married July 15, 1796, in Dover, Dutchess County, New York, John Ryder or Rider, who died September 3 or 10, 1813.

In 1820, Mary Ryder or Rider was living in Saugerties, Ulster County, New York.

On account of the service of John Brown, his former widow, Mary Ryder or Rider, was allowed pension on her application executed December 19, 1837, at which time her address was given as Vesey Street in care of Casper C. Childs, New York City.

In 1841, she was residing in Ontario County New York, and in 1848 in Dundee, Yates County, New York.

Children of John Brown and his wife, Mary:

Polly, born January 31, 1778 at Roxbury, Massachusetts, and christened March 1, 1778, in Trinity Church, Boston, married July 4, 1795, William Dayton, of Catskill, New York, born December 1, 1772, and in 1837 living in New York City.

John, who died in November 1795, unmarried.

Abigail, born at Nine Partners, New York, married about July 1802, James Cram or Krum, of Esopus, New York; she was dead in 1837.

Nancy, born in Ohlong, New York, married in June, 1800, John Adam or Adams.

Rachel or Rachael, born in Sharon, New York, married in June, 1804, Asa Mosier of Boston, New York.

Sylvester, born about July 29, 1785, at Washington, New York, and (twins) Sylvia or Sylva Armstrong. Sylvia married Sherman Armstrong.

Elizabeth or Betsey, born at Cambridge, New York, later lived at New Milford, New York, and in 1837 was deceased.

Aikam, born in 1793, at New Paltz, New York, later lived at New Milford, New York, and in 1837, was deceased.