

Pension Application for Thomas Foster

W.24222 (Widow: Hannah

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

State of Vermont

Washington SS.

On this 6th day of February 1821 personally appeared in open court being a Court of Record to with the Hon. Supreme Court of the State of Vermont holding a session for the County of Washington afores'd—Thomas Foster aged 65 years resident in Calais in s'd County who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows to wit: enlisted about the 15th day of March 1776 for one year & belonged to Capt. William Pierce's Company & Col. Swartwout's Regt of the New York line & served therein the full term of one year & was discharged at Fishkill New York in the Spring of 1777.

In 1778 served six months more in the company commanded by Capt. Pierce & performed several other tours of duty.

That my original declaration for a pension is dated April 2d 1818 on which no certificate has issued.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the united States on the 18th day of March 1818 & 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 & navel service of the United States in the Revolutionary War", passed on the 18th day of March 1818, & 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 any income other that what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed & by me subscribed viz.—

4 old chairs \$1

1 old chest of drawers \$1

Old shovel, tongs & handirons [Andirons?] \$1

1 Loom \$3.

\$6.

I am by occupation a farmer but am a cripple & cannot labor much. My wife Hannah is of the age of 65 years & not able to labor.

I have a son who is blind & entirely dependent on me for support & has been all his days, being 37 years old. (Signed) Thomas Foster.

Sworn to & declared on this 6th day of February 1821. Attest. Geo. Rich, Clerk

State of Vermont

County of Washington SS.

On this 11th day of August AD 1832 personally appeared before the Honl Warren Ellis one of the Judges of the Honl County Court within and for the County of

Washington and State of Vermont said County Court being a Court of Record, Hannah Foster a resident of Calais in said County of Washington and State of Vermont aged 77 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 Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That at Warren in the State of Connecticut formerly [?] in the month of April 1780, she was lawfully married to Thomas Foster late of Calais in Washington County and State of Vermont deceased by the Revered Peter Starr of said Warren that she became acquainted with her said husband about one year previous to her intermarriage with him during her first acquaintance with him she learned that he had been a soldier of the Revolution. I also believed that he had been a Sergeant in the service and he was called a Sergeant Foster.

He then sated that according to my best recollection that he entered the service in the spring of 1776, that he served one full year under Capt. Brown of the New York Line enlisted into the same company and served six months under the same captain and he spoke of being discharged from the service at Fishkill—and told his having been a sergeant which he kept until his death –and which Certificate now marked A, she has caused to be annexed to this declaration.

She declares that when she first knew her late husband he had one course pair Pantaloon which he said was made [?] cloth but from the army and had a pocket handkerchief for which he said he paid forty dollars on this return from the service and that the money was a part of his wages.

She declares that her late husband Thomas Foster died at Calais in the County of Washington and State of Vermont on the 9th day of July in the present year 1832 and that from the day of her marriage before mentioned to the day of his death she lived with him as his wife and was never separated from him by divorce—and tht her husband was called 76 years of age at his decease that after their intermarriage in 1780 my resided in Warren before mentioned about two years then removed to Strafford Vermont and resided there about 17 years – Then to [Orshire Vt.] and resided there 6 or 7 years and then removed to Calais Vt. where they continued to reside until the said Thomas deceased and she now continued to reside.

In answer to questions proposed by the Hon^l Secretary of War. She states that she supposes he was born at Warren in the State of Connecticut on the 9th day of June 1755, that her name before marriage was Hannah Bliss.

That she understood that said Thomas Foster her husband was born at a place called the Oblong in N. York formerly a part claimed by the State of Connecticut. ; She does not known in what year he was born only as he was called one year younger than herself she has no knowledge of there being any record of either of their ages.

She always understood that her husband entered the service by enlisting—and that she has no knowledge of his ever having received a discharge from the service.

She refers to Jonathan Herrick Shubael Wheeler Esq residing in Calais in the County of Washington who among others she thinks can testify as to the character both of herself and Her late Husband for truth and veracity and also of their belief of his having been a soldier of the Revolution.

She further declares that she verily believes that he late husband did serve in the Army of the Revolution the years 1778[?] the full term of 18 months and I further certify that it appears to me that Shubael Wheeler and Jonathan Herrick who have signed the preceding Certificates are residents of the Town of Calais in Washington County and State of Vermont are credible person and that their statements are entitled to credit.

I Warren Ellis Judge of the County for the said County of Washington do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings before me in the matter of the Application of Hannah Foster for arrears of pension due her late husband for services in the War of the Revolution.

And I further certify that from bodily infirmity and old age the said Hannah Foster is unable to appear in Court at Montpelier where the Court holds its sessions.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of August AD 1832. Attest. Warren Ellis Ast. Judge of W. C. Court.