

Pension Application for William Jones

W.20983 (Former Widow: Elizabeth Denison) William Jones married Elizabeth Spencer Nov 17, 1783.

Elizabeth Jones born 31 August & 2 day of week 1784.

Henry Jones born May 30th 3d day of week 1786.

William Jones died March 24, 1788, 29th year of his life.

B.L.Wt.5103-160-55

Sergeant for 2 years.

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by an act of Congress, passed July 7th 1838 entitled "An act granting half-pay and pensions to certain widows."

State of New York

City & County of Albany SS.

On this twenty first day of July in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty five personally appeared before the Albany Justices Court now sitting Elizabeth Denison a resident of the town of Bern in the County of Albany and State of New York, aged 79 years & upwards who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by an act of congress passed July 7th 1838, entitled, "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows."

That she is the widow of Ebenezer Denison late of the town of Stillwater in April State of New York who departed this life on the seventh day of December 1843.

That her husband the said Ebenezer Denison was her second husband, she having previously been the wife & widow of William Jones for whom she now applies for a pension.

That in the spring of the year 1778 Declarant moved with her father's family from the State of Rhode Island to Stephentown N.Y. That shortly after arriving at Stephentown, declarant became acquainted with the family of Henry Jones who lived a nigh neighbor & declarant in Stephentown aforesaid less than a mile distant from them.

That in the fall of the next year 1779 said Henry Jones' son William returned from the army. Declarant then first became acquainted with him, she had known his father's family for more than a year during which he had been in the service, not having once visited home.

That said William is the identical William Jones who was afterwards Declarants husband as aforesaid. That Declarant was then & there & has often since been informed by her said husband & others that he had completed an enlistment in the New York Line of Continental Troops. That he had with him his discharge from the service which Declarant often saw & which before his death he gave to Captain Shaw of Stephentown to endeavor to obtain for him bounty land.

After his discharge from the service her said husband William Jones served upon numerous occasions with the militia of that section until the close of the war.

And declarant further saith, that she was married to said William Jones on the seventeenth day of November seventeen hundred and eighty three by Elder Joseph Barnes at Stephentown aforesaid; that the following persons were present at her marriage, to wit: her brother George Spencer still living & others whom she believes are all now deceased.

That previous to her said marriage she resided in the town of Stephentown as aforesaid and bore the maiden name of Spencer.

That her husband the said William Jones died on the twenty second day of march seventeen hundred & eighty Eight since which time she has continued to reside in Albany County NY, with the absence of two or three years only. That the accompanying record is in the hand writing of the said husband William Jones made by him before his death & which declarant has preserved ever since. (Signed) Elizabeth Denison

Subscribed and sworn the day and year aforesaid, before said Court. D. Holt, Clerk

Letter in folder dated September 17, 1934, written in response to an inquiry.

The record of William Jones, who married Elizabeth Spencer, is given herein as shown in the papers on file in pension claim, W.20983, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

William Jones, the son of Henry Jones, was a resident of Stephentown, Rensselaer County, New York, at the time of the war.

He enlisted and served three years as sergeant in Captain Leonard Bleecker's company, Colonel Gansevoort's New York regiment and was discharged in the fall of 1779; he served subsequently on numerous occasions in the militia until the end of the war, dates and officers not shown.

The soldier married November 17, 1783, Elizabeth, the daughter of John Spencer; the ceremony was performed by a Baptist Elder at the home of her father in Stephentown, New York, about one mile from the home of William Jones' father. Said John Spencer had moved with his family in the spring of 1778 from Rhode Island to Stephentown, New York.

William Jones died March 22, 1788, in Stephentown, New York, in the twenty-ninth year of his age.

Elizabeth Jones, his widow, married Ebenezer Denison, who resided in Stephentown, New York; the date of their marriage is not shown. They moved from there and resided in Albany County, New York; he died December 7, 1843, in Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York.

William Jones died March 22, 1788, in Stephentown, New York, in the twenty-ninth year of his age.

Elizabeth Jones, his widow, married Ebenezer Denison, who resided in Stephentown, New York; the date of their marriage is not shown. They moved from there and resided in Albany County, New York; he died December 7, 1843, in Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York.

Elizabeth Denison applied on July 31, 1845, for pension on account of the service of her first husband, William Jones, in the Revolutionary War. She was then a resident of Berne, Albany County, New York, aged about seventy-nine years; the date and place of her birth are not shown. Her claim was allowed. In 1850, said Elizabeth Denison was a resident of Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York; in 1855, she resided in Berne, New York.

William Jones, the soldier, and Elizabeth, his wife, and had two children: Elizabeth, born August 31, 1784, and Henry, born May 30, 1786. In 1845, this daughter, Elizabeth was a resident of Knox, Albany County, New York, her name then Elizabeth Crary; the name of her husband is not shown.

It was not stated that Ebenezer Denison and Elizabeth (Jones), his wife, had children. However, in 1849, Elizabeth Denison, the widow, was referred to as at the home of her son "on the old battle ground, Bemis Heights"; shortly after, one William Denison was a Justice of the Peace for Saratoga County, New York, and signed an affidavit of said widow in Bemis Heights, Saratoga County, New York; one William Denison also was there, also Margaret E. Denison. No relationship of these persons with surname Denison to the widow was stated.

In 1845, George Spencer was a resident of Salisbury, Herkimer County, New York; he stated then that he was born in the year 1768, in Rhode Island, moved with his father and father's family in the spring of 1778 to Stephentown, Rensselaer County, New York, and was present at the marriage of his sister, Elizabeth, to William Jones, The soldier.