

Pension Application for William Lawrence

W.20390 (Widow: Elizabeth)

William Lawrence was born March the 8th 1754.

Elizabeth Stewart was born March 31, 1751 and was married January 6th 1774.

William Lawrence died the 7 of July 1833 aged 79 years three months and thirty day

Mary Bellinger 1774

Betsey Mills 1776

Daniel Lawrence 1778

State of New York

Allegany County SS

On this thirteenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen personally appeared before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Allegany in the State of New York William Lawrence aged sixty four years Resident in the Town of Pike in the said County who being by me first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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.

That the said William Lawrence enlisted sometime in the month of April in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six into a certain company commanded by Capt. James Rosekrans for one year stationed at Fort Montgomery in the State aforesaid near the close of that year the New York Line being established under the Command of Brigadier General James Clinton consisting of Five Regiments the fifth commanded by Col. Lewis Dubouis, in this fifth Regiment on the Twenty fifth day of December one thousand seven hundred & seventy six this deponent enlisted in Capt Thomas Lees company for three years, that he continued to serve in the said Corps or in the Service of the United States until the twenty fifth day of December one thousand Seven hundred and Seventy Nine when he was discharged from service in Newburgh in the State of New York. That he was in the Battles of White Plains and Fort Montgomery.

And that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support, and that he has no other evidence now in his power to his said services. (Signed) William Lawrence

Sworn to and declares before me the day and year aforesaid. Thomas Dole.

Letter in folder dated September 19, 1939, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter of September 11, 1939, in which you state that the John Lawrence, whose Revolutionary War record you requested, was married January 14, 1773 to Catharine Cain in Montgomery, Ulster (later Orange) County, New York, that she died in 1812, and that their first son, Robert, was born September 19, 1773, and that William Lawrence served from Newburgh, New York, in the Revolutionary War.

Another search of the Revolutionary War records of this office has been made and there is no claim for pension or bounty land on file based upon service of the John Lawrence cited by you, under any spelling of that surname. The record has been found of a William Lawrence who served from Newburgh, New York. The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, W.20390, based upon his service in that war. It is believed that his record may aid you in your research.

William Lawrence was born March 8, 1754 in New York State; the names of his parents were not given. Some years before the beginning of the Revolutionary War, he resided in Newburgh, Ulster (later Orange) County, New York. He was one of four brothers, three of whom "turned out and fought the battle for our country"; William was the only one living in 1819, the names of his brothers not given.

Early in the Revolutionary War, William Lawrence belonged to Captain Samuel Logan's Company of Minute-men and served six months, a part of the time assisting in transporting arms to Albany. He enlisted in April 1776, served as private in Captain James Rosekrans' New York Company until December 25, 1776, at which time he enlisted for three years, served in Captain Thomas Lee's company, Colonel Lewis DuBois' 5th New York regiment, was in the battles of Fort Montgomery and White Plains and was discharged December 29, 1779 at Newburgh, New York, subsequently, he was engaged with Deputy Clothier, General Brooks, and continued in that service until "near the time that the army was disbanded".

William Lawrence moved from Newburgh in 1787 or 1788 to Geneva, Ontario County, that same state, after about two years moved to Canajoharie, Montgomery County, thence in 1802 or 1803, to Hartwick, Otsego County, remained about four years, afterwards moved to Middleburg, Schoharie County, thence to Aurora, Cayuga County, from there to Auburn, in that same county, and in 1818, in Newburgh or in New Windsor, New York, Elizabeth Stewart; she was born March 31, 1751 and resided in New Windsor some time previous to said marriage. The names of Elizabeth's parents were not given., to Pike, Allegany County, New York.

He was allowed pension on his application executed July 13, 1818, at which time he resided in Pike, New York. He died July 7, 1833 at the home of his married daughter, Julia Ann Pierce, wife of Jonathan Pierce, in Hume, Allegany County, New York.

William Lawrence married January 6, 1774, in Newburgh or in New Windsor, New York, Elizabeth Stewart; she was born March 31, 1751 and resided in New Windsor some time previous to said marriage. The names Elizabeth's parents were not given.

Elizabeth Lawrence, the soldiers' widow, died February 21, or 22, '837, in Hume, New York, at the home of her daughter, Julia Ann Pierce.

The following data pertaining to the children of William Lawrence and his wife, Elizabeth, are shown:

Mary (called Polly) Lawrence born July 21, 1774.

Elizabeth (Betsy) Lawrence born February 26, 1776.

Daniel Lawrence born November 7, 1778.

Ann Lawrence born-----1782.

William Lawrence born -----1786.

Benjamin Lawrence born ----1789.

Julia Ann Lawrence born (the youngest child) in Canajoharie, New York.

The sons, William and Benjamin, served in the War of 1812; said Benjamin was taken sick at Fort Erie and died in 1813 or 1814. The names of the husbands of soldier's daughters were given as follow: Mary (Polly) married in Hartwick, New York, Mr. Eggleston, who was her second husband, name of her first husband not given; Julia Ann married August 6, 1812, Jonathan Pierce.

In 1846, the soldier's son, Daniel Lawrence, resided in Pike, New York; he was administrator of the estate of his father. He applied March 12, 1846 for the pension which was due his mother at the time of her death on account of the service of his father in the Revolutionary War. He applied in behalf of himself and the five other surviving children, namely, William Lawrence, Mary Bellinger, Elisabeth Mills, Ann Eggleston, and Julia Ann Pierce. Pension was allowed. Said Ann Eggleston was then a widow.

In 1847 Daniel L. Bellinger, the soldier's grandson, resided in Eagle, Wyoming County, New York. On[e] Henry Mills resided in Hume, New York, in 1847, and was present at the funeral of Elizabeth Lawrence, the soldier's widow: his relationship to the family was not stated. One William Eggleston (Egleston) resided in Pike, New York, in 1847, and stated that he went for the minister who "preached the funeral sermon when said Elizabeth Lawrence died; his relationship to the family was not stated.

In 1846, Jonathan Pierce, the soldier's son-in-law, was a resident of Hume, New York, aged fifty-seven years. William and Elizabeth Lawrence lived and died at his home.

In November 1846, the soldier's son, Daniel Lawrence, referred to his cousin, Mrs. Ann Halsey, the wife of Luther Halsey, who resided in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, two years previously. Said Ann's mother was a sister of William Lawrence, Daniel's father; Ann's parents had lived in Newburgh, New York.