

### **Pension Application for Abraham Letts**

W.20449 (Widow: Abigail) Married January 25, 1781. Abraham died June 13, 1827.  
State of New York  
County of Orange SS.

On this tenth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the county of Orange aforesaid now sitting and being a Court of Record Abigail Letts a resident of the town of Monroe County of Orange and State of New York, aged seventy four years the fourteenth day of August last past 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 4<sup>th</sup> 1836.

That she is the widow of Abraham Letts deceased late of the town of Monroe aforesaid who was a private soldier in the Militia during the revolution and served as follows.

That he entered the service in the year 1779, in the month of August as near as she can recollect. She does not now recollect where he joined his company, thinks the Captains name was MacKinnester, the Major Benschoten, the Colonel of the regiment, Malcom, she is not able to state where said Letts first marched after he joined the company to which he belonged or was attached but she recollects that he was at Fishkill in the County of Dutchess, he was also at Albany and German Flatts, she recollects frequently to have heard the said Letts speak of the scarcity of provisions among his company while at German Flatts. That upon one occasion Colonel Malcom had purchased some corn and carried along with him for the use of his horse. That some of the soldiers being pressed by hunger took it from the horse and eat it.

That while at German Flatts, the said Letts recognized some soldiers from Virginia, that he went to them and they gave him bread, which he shared with Colonel Malcom.

That said Letts returned home in the cold weather, when there was snow on the ground. That he was at this time in the service three months and was called "a three months man".

That deponent has heard said Letts say that while at German Flatts he was one of a party who volunteered upon the request of Colonel Malcom to go in pursuit of a party of Indians which had been committing depredations in the neighborhood. That they pursued the Indians one day until night, but where unable to come up with them. They encamped in the woods for the night and in the morning returned to join the other soldiers she cannot now the names of other officers or what other forces were at the various places named with the said Lett.

That in April 1782 when the Militia were called out to guard the frontier of Orange County against the Indians who were committing many depredations. The said Abraham Letts went again into the service as a private in the Militia.

That he was when married to this deponent.

That he joined his company at Chester in the town of Goshen & in the County of Orange.

That his Lieutenant was Albert Rose, his Captain Abraham Westfall, the ;Major of his regiment Dewitt, the Colonel Wisenfelt. Than he was at Peenpack, at the residence of Colonel Wisenfelt, at Dewitt's Fort, Mamakating and various other places along the frontier of Orange, Ulster and Sullivan Counties. That three soldiers stationed at various places along said Frontier but who they were, or by whom commanded this deponent cannot now state.

That while said Letts was stationed along said Frontier line and in the neighborhood of Mamakating. This deponent visited him to carry him cloathes, if he was accompanied by his Levies and this [?] whose husbands were in the same service.

That to cross the Neversink river which was swollen by heavy rains which they did by swimming their horses. She met her husband the said Letts at Baskers Land, she remained three days and then returned home. That said Letts returned home between Christmas and New Years, after having served the term of nine months, he was called a "nine months man".

And this deponent saith that said Letts was in service at other times but she cannot now by reason of old age and imperfect recollection state the particulars of time and place, and other attendant circumstances.

That when the services in this declaration stated were rendered by the said Abraham Letts he resided in the town of Goshen in the County of Orange aforesaid and that this deponent then lived in the said town of Goshen in the said County of Orange.

This deponent further declares that she was married to the said Abraham Letts on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of January 1781. That her husband the said Abraham Letts died on the Thirteenth day of June 1827 of old age and debility and that she has remained a widow ever since as will more fully appear by the proof hereto annexed.

That she has no documentary evidence in support of her claim. (Signed with her mark) Abigail Letts.

Sworn before me in open court this 12<sup>th</sup> day of February 1839. A. L. Benton Clerk.