

Pension Application for Isaac Nichols

W.1986 (Widow Elizabeth)

Continental Army

B.L.Wt 19904-160-55

Inscribed on the Roll of New York at the rate of 320 Dollars per annum, commence on the 4th day of March 1831. Arrears to 4th Sept. 1832 \$480, semi-amt allowance ending 4 Mar. 33 \$160. Total \$640.00

State of New York

County of Kings. SS

On this twentieth day of July in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Two, personally appeared before the municipal Court in the Village of Brooklyn County of Kings and State of New York (said Court having common Law Jurisdiction and being a Court of Record) Isaac Nichols a resident of the Village of Brooklyn aforesaid aged Eighty Three years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Five with Captain Ambrose Horton (1) and Served in the fourth Regiment of the New York Line under the following Named Officers James Holmes (2) Colonel & Pierre Van Cortland (3) Lieut. Colonel thereof first as a private then promoted to a Sergeant and then promoted to Adjutant of said Regiment and Served until the fifteenth day of April in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Six in Said Regiment before the walls of Quebec in Lower Canada where said Regiment was on said Fifteen day of April aforesaid deranged when orders were received from the Continental Congress to recruit a Regiment out of the Remains of the Four New York Regiments which was so recruited and Commanded by Colonel John Nicholson (4) & Lieutenant Colonel John Fisher (5) in which said Regiment he the said Isaac Nichols received a first Lieut's Commission (6) which was dated on the fifteenth day of April in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Six and Served in said Regiment until the Latter End of December in said year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Six when said Regiment was deranged and a New Regiment ordered to be raised in Albany in the State of New York which was done and commanded by Colonel James Livingston in which said Regiment said Isaac Nichols received an appointment as a first Lieutenant (7) and Served as such in Said Regiment until the beginning of the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty (1780) The first of the Entering the Service of the United States the said Isaac Nichols resided at TarryTown in the County of Westchester and State of New York. The said Isaac Nichols was at the Siege of Quebec (8) and the taking and Surrender of General Burgoyne and after the taking of General Burgoyne (9) said Isaac Nichols was Stationed at Johnstown in the State of New York and in the year of One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight in the Spring of said year then the Regiment which the said Isaac Nichols was attached to was ordered to Albany and from thence to Fishkill and from thence to Peekskill and from thence to the White Plains and from thence through certain other Towns to Rhode Island being at the time the French Fleet arrived at New port in Rhode Island at which place the said Isaac Nichols was engaged in a Battle with the British on the 14th day of August 1778 between Butts Hill (10) and Quaker Hill at which Battle said Isaac Nichols was wounded Twice and the second time he was wounded was carried off the Field of Butts from Dead but soon after recovered, and after that the Regiment to which the said Isaac Nichols was attached as a first Lieutenant as aforesaid got reduced down to the number of Seventy Two Rank and file and in consequence of the depreciation of money called Continental Money was unable to procure a Breakfast for two day's pay and was in consequence compelled to go to Morristown in the State of New Jersey in the beginning of the year (1780) where General George Washington held his Head Quarters and there with others resigned his Commission which said Commission was burnt at a fire which took place in the City of Philadelphia just before the close of the Revolutionary War. He the said Isaac Nichols hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on a pension Roll of any agency in any State only on that of the pension office or Agency in the city and State of New York. (Signed) Isaac Nichols (11)

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

State of New York

County of Kings

City of Brooklyn SS

On this 12th day of May A.D. 1855 personally appeared before me a Commissioner of Deeds within and for the City, County and State aforesaid Elizabeth Nichols aged sixty nine years, a resident of the said City of Brooklyn in the State of New York, who being duly sworn according to law declares that she is the widow of Isaac Nichols, Esquire deceased who was a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War the Company in which he was she hath not the knowledge nor any means of ascertaining, but was in the regiment commanded by Gen. Montgomery at the expedition to Quebec in said War; that her said husband enlisted at Newark in the State of New Jersey in the year A.D. 1775 and continued in actual service in said war till the close thereof and was honorably discharged after the Close of said War but what place this applicant hath no knowledge or information. She further says that her said

husband was for the last fifteen or Eighteen years of his life a pensioner. This applicant further says that she the said Elizabeth is also a pensioner, that her pension commenced on the 3d day of Feb. A.D. 1853 in Volume A. Page 80 to which for evidence of her title to "Bounty land" she begs leave to refer as she is unable to furnish any other or better proof of service of her said husband &c in said war. And as the papers and all her memoranda in relation thereto were forwarded to the Pension office at Washington on her application for a pension.

She further states that she was married to the said Isaac Nichols in the City of New York on the tenth day of November A.D. 1807 by one Rev. Mr. Waln a clergyman and that her name before her said marriage was Elizabeth Van Drisen; that her said husband died at Brooklyn aforesaid on the 23d day of Nov. A.D. 1835 and that she is not and ever since the death of her said husband has been a widow.

She further states that to the best of her knowledge information and belief there is no public or private record of her said marriage in existence.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Bounty Land to which she may be entitled under the Act approved March 3d 1855. (Signed) Elizabeth Nichols

End Notes—W.1986—Isaac Nichols

1. Isaac enlisted as a private on July 4, 1775 in Captain Ambrose Horton's Company Colonel James Holmes' Fourth New York Continental Regiment. Isaac was appointed Adjutant of the regiment on November 3, 1775 but several men re-enlisted and Isaac was one of them. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 70, folder 50, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. James Holmes was appointed Colonel of the Fourth New York Continental Regiment on June 30, 1775. When the regiment's time expired Colonel Holmes left the service of the Continental Army and joined the British Army.
3. Pierre VanCortlandt was not the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourth New York. Pierre was the Colonel of the Third Regiment of Westchester County Militia. He served as colonel of this regiment until his election as Lieutenant Governor of New York in 1777. Philip VanCortlandt was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the Fourth New York on June 30, 1775.
4. John Nicholson was appointed Captain of the Second Company in Colonel James Clinton's Third New York Continental Regiment on June 28, 1775. He eventually was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Third New York. On April 15, 1776 he was appointed colonel of one of the Sixteen Additional Continental Regiment.
5. Originally Frederick Weisenfels was appointed Lieutenant-Colonel but on his accepting the same rank in the Third New York Continental Regiment under Colonel Rudolphus Ritzema he left the regiment. Major John Fisher was then promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel.
6. Isaac served as a first lieutenant in Captain Gershom Mott's Company in Colonel Nicholson's Regiment. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 75, folder 131, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
7. Isaac was appointed first lieutenant on December 18, 1776 in Captain James Robichauf's Seventh Company in Colonel James Livingston's First Canadian Continental Regiment. Isaac resigned on December 20, 1779 for family reasons. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 133, folder 222, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
8. The siege of Quebec, Canada was from December 8 to December 31, 1775.
9. The Lieutenant General John Burgoyne's Campaign went from June of 1777 until October 17, 1777 when he surrendered his British Army and Allies.
10. The Battle of Butt Hill or Quaker Hill, Rhode Island was fought on August 29, 1778.
11. Isaac in his October 17, 1820 declaration states he is 69 years old, his wife is 34 years old, he has 6 children ranging in age from 13 years to ten days. He states that his trade was cabinet maker. His original claim is dated April 9, 1818 and the certificate no. is 2023.