

Pension Application for Ebenezer Stephens or Stevens

W.2018 Widow: Rachel. Rachel Stevens died August 27, 1848.

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the 3d section of the Act of Congress of the 4th July A.D 1836. Made by Rachel Stephens.

Luzerne County, State of Pennsylvania. SS.

On this fourth day of August, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and forty, personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, in and for said County, Rachel Stephens, a resident of Nicholson Township in said County & State, of the age of eighty two years and upwards, 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 fourth 1836.

That she is the widow of Ebenezer Stephens, who was a private in the Revolutionary War and to whom the annexed pension certificate (numbered 2067, and dated third day of March 1834) was given by the War department. She further declares that she was married to the said Ebenezer Stephens on the sixteenth day of May (A.D.1780) in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty; that her husband the aforesaid Ebenezer Stephens, died in the Township of County of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, on the fifteenth day of November one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine, and that she has remained his widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the said marriage, with the said Ebenezer Stephens, that it took place at Ulster County in the State of New York, that they were married by a Presbyterian clergyman; that she has no certificate [certificate] or record of her marriage; nor does she know of any person who was actually present at her wedding, and who are now living. (Signed by her mark) Rachel Stephens.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court this 4th of August 1840. Jasper Fassett, Prot. By E. L. Davis.

State of Pennsylvania
Luzerne County SS.

On the first day of February A.D. 1834, personally appeared in open court before the Hon. David Scott president and his associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, aged seventy four 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers; and served as hereinafter stated—to wit. That in the month of May in year 1775, at the town of Goshen in the County of Orange, and State of New York he enlisted in a company Commanded by Capt. John Wood for the tour of nine months, marched to New Winsor [Windsor] in said county, remained there about then days, returned home and there received a discharge from Capt. John Wood. We were called minute-men.

And the said Ebenezer Stephens further states, that in the spring of 1776, at the Town of Peanpack in the County and State aforesaid, he enlisted in a company commanded by Capt. Abraham Westfall, for the term of nine months as an Indian Spy. Said company was attached to a Regt, under the command of Col. Newkirk, was stationed at Fort David, served his term of enlistment & received a discharge from Capt. Abraham Westfall.

And the said Ebenezer Stephens on his oath further states that in the month of February 1777, at the Town of Newburgh in the County and State aforesaid, he entered the service of the United States under and insitment of six months as a waggoner, in a company commanded by Capt. Stead, said company was attached to a Regt commanded by Col. Taylor. Served as a waggoner about one month, rode express about five months, and received his discharge from Col. Taylor.

And the said Ebenezer Stephens on his oath further states that at the Town of New Winsor [Windsor] in the county and state aforesaid, in the summer of 1778 or 9, he entered the service of the United States on a draft, for the term of three months, in a company commanded by Capt. McBride. Said Company was attached to a Regt commanded by Col. Folkner, was stationed at New Winzer [Windsor]. Served three months and Rec'd a discharge from Capt. McBride.

And the said Ebenezer Stephens on his oath further states that in the year 1781 at Peanpack in the County and State aforesaid, he enlisted in the Militia for the term of nine months, in a company commanded by Capt. Abraham Westfall. Said company was attached to a Regt commanded by Col. Newark. Served nine months and received a discharge from Capt. Abraham Westfall. Declarant further states he has record of his own age among others of his family at his residence in Tunkhannock, that he continued to reside in Orange County after the Revolution, until he removed to the place where he now lives which was forty seven years since.

And the said Ebenezer Stephens on his oath further states that all discharges received by him, was lost, in the fall of 1786, at which time his dwelling house was swept away by the waters of Tunkhannock Creek in the great pumpkin freshet.

He further states that he does not now recollect the names of regular officers under whom he served, (other than herein stated), and further, that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services, other than Eliphalet L. Stephens and Thomas Hawkins.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State to his knowledge. (Signed) Ebenezer Stephens

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. H. Pettebone. Prot.

Letter in folder dated January 3, 1925, written in reply to a request for information.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.2018, it appears that Ebenezer Stephens, while residing in orange County, New York, enlisted in May 1775 and served ten days as a private in Captain John Wood's New York Company.

He enlisted in the spring of 1776 and served nine months as Indian Spy in Captain Abraham Westfall's Company, Colonel Newkirk's New York Regiment.

He enlisted in 1781 and served nine months as a private in Captain Abraham Westfall's Company, Colonel Newkirk's Regiment.

He was allowed pension on his application executed February 1, 1834, while a resident of Nicholson Township, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, aged seventy-four years, and he died there November 15, 1839.

Soldier married May 16, 1780 in Ulster County, New York Rachel (maiden name not stated), she was allowed pension on her application executed August 4, 1840, while living at Nicholson Township, Pennsylvania, aged eighty-two years. She died August 27, 1848.

Their children were—

Elsey born May 16, 1781.

Ebenezer born April 9, 1783.

Saley born March 30, 1785.

Jacob born November 30, 1797,

Holliday born June 29, 1789.

Poley born September 12, 1794.

Abigail born January 20, 1796.

William born April 18, 1798.

Ebvenezer born August 13, 1800.

Amey born January 4, 1802.

In 1848 the following children were alive—Elsy Jane, Mary Wilber, Abigail Felton, Amey Coil, and William.