

Pension Application for Evans Wharry

W.20127 They married September 19, 1782, he died April 17, 1831.

To the Senate and House Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled.

The Memorial of the undersigned Phebe Wharry of the town of Little Falls in the County of Herkimer and State of New York.

Respectfully sheweth:

That your petitioner was seventy six year of age on the third day of January last past and that she is the widow and [?] of Evans Wharry late of the said town county and state aforesaid and who as your petitioner has been informed by her said husband Evans Wharry while alive and which she believes to be true entered a volunteer company commanded by one Captain John Nicholson, but the name of the regiment this deponent does not now recollect, some time in the spring or early part of the summer of the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy five as an orderly sergeant in the said Nicholsons Company and that he the said Evans Wharry went with the said company into Canada that year and was at Ticonderoga, the taking of St. Johns, Chambly and Montreal and went down to Quebec but was not present at the action which took place near Quebeck as she was at that time [?] and unable to perform duty.

That soon after the said Evans arrived in Canada or which on the way there he received a Commission from General Schuyler as a Lieutenant and in that campaign was doing duty as an adjutant in Colonel Nicholson's Regiment and that said Evans Wharry remained in Canada the whole of the winter seventeen hundred and seventy five, six and returned in the spring or summer of the year seventeen hundred and seventy six.

That according to this deponents best knowledge information & belief the said Evans Wharry was in the service of the United States service a part of the year seventeen hundred and seventy six but this period of his service this year or the next he held this deponent is unable to state except from the affidavits hereto annexed and to which she refers as to the proof.

That she your petitioner has heard her said husband the said Evans Wharry often say that he was with the American Army at the time Fort Montgomery was taken in the year seventeen hundred and seventy seven and that her the said Evans was with a portion of the prisoners who surrendered with Genl. Burgoine in the same year at the time they were wounded or taken from near Albany towards New York; and she this deponent well recollects the circumstances of the surrender or taking of the places called Fort Montgomery as she at that time lived with her father Joseph Belknap four miles west of New Windsor about twelve or fourteen miles from West Point.

That she has been informed and believes that during the years Seventeen hundred and Seventy Eight and Seventy nine the said Evans Wharry was engaged in the service of the United States in some of the departments of time he served your petitioner is now unable to state with certainly or accuracy.

That your petitioner first became personally acquainted with the said Evans Wharry some time in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty and that after she so became personally acquainted with the said Evans Wharry and until her marriage with him the said Evans Wharry as herein after mentioned [?] the said Evans was continually employed in the service of United States in some capacity in the Quarter Masters or commissary Department and which she this petitioner cannot now more particularly state by reason of her advanced age and consequent infirmity in her recollection and that from the time of her marriage as hereinafter stated to the close of the revolutionary war or until the fall of the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty two or the beginning of the year one thousand seven hundred eighty three the said Evans Wharry was engaged and employed as he had been the two years previous in the service of the said United States and that from the time of her marriage until peace your petitioner remained at her fathers home her said husband being engaged & employed continuously in the service of the United States and only occasionally at home.

That your petitioner has no documentary evidence to support her claim to the [?] of Congress aforesaid.

That she has often heard her said husband often say that he had a commission in the service of the United States as a Lieutenant and had done duty as an Adjutant, but she never saw the said commission to her present recollection and she does not know what became of it or where it now is.

That she is now unable to state with more particularity the grounds of his claim or the services of her said husband on account of her age and inability to recollect facts but she refers to her affidavits hereto annexed of Daniel Belknap, William Buchannan, John McMichael, Samuel Sly, Elnathan Sears, James M. Sherwood and Samuel Weed in support of his said claims to the consideration of Congress for equitable relief in the services.

And your petitioner further request that she was duly and legally married to the said Evans Wharry on the Nineteenth day of September in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty two and continued to live with him until his death; and that her said husband Evans Wharry died on the seventeenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty one and that your petitioner has remained a widow ever since that time and in as much has said husband died before the seventh day of June A.S. 1832 it has been suggested that your petitioner has no relief under the present acts of Congress allowing half pay to widows &c.

Your petitioner therefore prays that your Honorable bodies to pass a law granting such gratuity and allowance as she would have been entitled to remain under the existing act of Congress in case her said husband had lived until after he said Seventh day of June A.D. 1832. (Signed) Phebe Wharry

Sworn and subscribed this 11th day of march 1840 before me. William Brooks, Justice of the Peace.

Note: the pages in this file seem to be mixed up and not in order.

Resolved, that the number of men destined for the northern department be acquainted to four thousand.

That a colonel's commission be immediately issued to major Dubois, with instructions forthwith to raise a regiment to serve for three years or during the war, and that the corps of officers be composed of such as have served with credit in Canada; no officer to receive his commission until his company be raised and armed; the arms of the people enlisting themselves to be valued by the committee of the counties, where the companies are raised, and paid for by the continent, on their being mustered. Journals of Congress June 15th 1776.

Resolved that the following gentlemen be appointed officers of the battalion to be raised under Colonel Lewis Dubois; their commissions to be given them as soon as their compliment of men shall be raised:

Jacobus L. Brayer, Lieutenant-Colonel; William Goforth, Major; David Dubois, Elias Van Benschoten, Thomas DeWitt, Isaac Wool, Philip D. B. Berier, Richard Platt, Albert Pawling and Cornelius T. Jansin, Captain; James Gregg, Aaron Austin, Jonathan Pierce, Evans Wharry, Garret Van Wageman, Henry Vandenburg, Nathaniel Conklin, and Henry Dodge, first lieutenants; Daniel Glans, Second Lieutenant in the first company; John Coates, Surgeon; and Henry Dubois, adjutant.

Journals of Congress June 26th 1776.