

Pension Application for Silas Ball

W.3542 (Former Widow: Rhoda Graves)

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the 3d Section of the Acts of Congress of the 4th July 1836, & March 3, 1837.

State of Massachusetts SS.

On this eleventh day of May 1837 personally appeared before the Judge of the court of Probate in & for the County of Franklin Rhoda Graves a resident of Sunderland in the County of Franklin and State of Massachusetts aged eighty three years, 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 Acts of Congress passed July 4, 1836 & March 3, 1837.

That she is the widow of Dr. Silas Ball late of Leverett in said County who was a Surgeon's Mate in the Army of the Revolution that he enlisted with the army, at said Leverett in the latter part of April a fort part of May 1775 for the term of 9 months and served the army at Cambridge near Boston in this capacity of Surgeon's mate, in the Regt. Commanded by Col. Benjamin Ruggles Woodbridge, & that he remained in the said Regt & served in the capacity of Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid, during the term for which he enlisted, when he was discharged & returned to Leverett.

He had no written discharge, to my knowledge. After his return to Leverett as aforesaid he commenced the practice of medicine & continued in it till the summer of 1780 when I thing in the month of July he again enlisted at said Leverett into the army for the term of three months. He went to West Point where he was placed in the Regt commanded by Col. Murray, as Surgeon's Mate in which capacity he served the whole term of three months aforesaid, when he again returned to \$500)where he continued in the practice of medicine till his death & know of no documentary evidence in support of the claim.

He died July 15 in AD 1807. I was married to s'd Ball at Tewksbury in the State of Massachusetts on the 6th day of April AD 1775.

She further declares that she was married to the said Dr. Silas Ball on the sixth day of April in the year seventeen hundred & seventy five; that her husband the aforesaid Silas Ball died on the fifteenth day of July eighteen hundred & seven.

That she remained a widow until the third day of March eighteen hundred & Eighteen—when she married Amasus Graves of Middlefield in the County of Hampshire and State aforesaid—that said Graves died on the seventeenth day of November eighteen hundred & twenty—that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Since my husband Dr Ball first joined the army & never resided in Leverett[?] Hatfield, Amhurst & Tewksbury in the state of Massachusetts. (Signed) Rhoda Graves.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written Before. R. E. Newcomb Judge of Probate

Letter in folder dated December 4, 1923, written in response to an inquiry.

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W.3542, it appears that Silas Ball enlisted at Leverett, Massachusetts, the last of April or first of May 1775, and served eight months as a private in Captain Reuben Dickenson's Company, Colonel Benjamin Ruggles Woodbridge's Massachusetts Regiment.

He enlisted in July 1780, and served three months as surgeon's mate in Colonel Murray's Massachusetts Regiment.

Soldier married at Tewksbury, Massachusetts Regiment.

Soldier married at Tewksbury, Massachusetts, April 6, 1775, Rhoda Griffin. He died at Leverett, Massachusetts, July 15, 1807, and she married March 3, 1818, Amasa Graves, of Middlefield, Massachusetts, who died November 17, 1820.

She was allowed pension as the widow of Silas Ball, on her application executed May 11, 1837, while a resident of Sunderland, Franklin County, Massachusetts, aged eighty-three years. She died February 1842, leaving two children, Dr. Silas Ball of Sunderland, Massachusetts, and Hannah Hilliard.