

Pension Application for Nicholas P. Bovee (Bovie)

“Scapled Nick”

W16916 (Polly Cole, Former Widow) This woman’s other husband was a pensioner also. See claim of Benjamin Cole R.I. #S.43387. She received \$80 per annum.

Declaration of Polly Cole in order to obtain the benefits of the third section of the Act of Congress of 4th July 1836, and of the first section of the act of 3d March 1837.

State of New York

County of Genesee SS.

On this ninth day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, before the Court of Common Pleas, in and for said county, now sitting at Batavia, being a court of record and having a seal, personally appeared Polly Cole, a resident of the town or Gainesville, in said County aged seventy eighty 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 act of Congress, passed July 4, 1836, and the act explanatory of said act, passed March 3, 1837:--That she was married to Nicholas Bovee, (called to distinguish him from others of the same name, Nicholas P. Bovee) who a private soldier in the War of the Revolution, and served as follows;--

1. At the commencement of the war, then residing with his father, at the town of Hoosick in the County of Rensselaer, in the State of New York, the said Nicholas enlisted at Albany, in said state for nine months, and served the period of his enlistment; but this declarant cannot recollect the names of the officers under whom he enlisted or served; she however thinks that the name of the officer under whom he enlisted, the first or second time was VanRensselaer. (1)
2. Immediately after the expiration of said nine months service, the said Nicholas enlisted for three years (2) or during the war. While in service under this enlistment, he was stationed at Fort Stanwix, and while on fatigue duty, with a party, about a mile from the Fort, the party being suddenly attacked by a party of Indians, (3) who killed and wounded a number of the soldiers, he was wounded by two balls which passed through his right arm, by a tomahawk in the hip, which disabled him from running, when he was overtaken, scalped, and left for dead; -- the soldiers from the Fort found him then barely alive;-- he was carried to the Fort where he lay about three months;--he was then carried to Schenectady, where he remained for several months in the hospital;--thence he was carried to Albany, where he remained a short time, when his mother and uncle went after him, and carried him home on a bed. In consequence of his wounds and disabilities he was placed on the Pension Roll of the New York agency as an invalid pensioner. She further declares that she was married to the said Nicholas Bovee, (otherwise called Nicholas P. Bovee) at Whitecreek, in the County of Washington in the state aforesaid, on the fifteenth day of April in the year seventeen hundred and seventy-nine, by Rev. William Waite;--that her husband, the aforesaid Nicholas Bovee (otherwise called Nicholas P. Bovee) died at Schenectady on the eleventh day of March, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-six;--that she was afterwards to wit, on the tenth day of September in the year eighteen hundred and one, married to Benjamin Cole, a pensioner of the United States under that act of Congress of March 18, 1818, who died at Franklinville in the County of Cattaraugus and state aforesaid, eighteen hundred and thirty-one;--and that she was a widow on the 4th day of July, 1836, and still remains a widow, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. (Signed with her mark) Polly Cole

Sworn to and Subscribed in open court, the day and year above written, before W. Saper, Clerk of said Court in open court.

Supplemental Declaration

State of New York

County of Wyoming SS.

Polly Cole of the Town of Gainesville in said County aged Eighty one years & upwards being duly sworn maketh the following supplemental declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed July 4, 1836, and of March 3, 1837.

That at the time of her marriage as set forth particularly in her original declaration, to wit on the 15th day of April 1779, she resided in the town of White Creek in the County of Washington & State aforesaid, That Nicholas Bovee was then a Soldier of the army and on duty therein but unable to perform active service in consequence of wounds previously received in said Service while on duty about a mile from Fort Sanwix [sic] in said State being suddenly attacked the Indians he received a wound by the passage of two balls through his right arms by a tomahawk in his hip and being scalped was left on the field as dead. That during the remaining part of his said enlistment he was unable to perform active duty but continued in the service and at the close of the War received an Invalid's Pension.

And that she this Declaimant during the time that he the said Nicholas remained in the service she this deponent resided in the town of Mapletown in said State. After the close of the war they removed to Schenectady where she continued to live with him until the day of his death which took place on the 11th day of March 1796, he having never recovered from the dreadful wounds which he received during the war of the Revolution.

And Declarant further saith that she is the mother of Ten children by said Nicholas Bovee. The names of said Children are Elizabeth, Daniel, Jacob, Catharine, Sally, John, Harper, Esther, Isabel, and Phillip who died in infancy who was the oldest or first child.

The eldest living is Sally who resides in the town of York Livingston County in said state and is 53 years of age. (Signed with her mark) Polly Cole

Subscribed and sworn this 28th day of November 1842 before me & I certify that said Polly Cole is unable to attend Court by reason of old age and bodily infirmity. Alonzo R. Rose, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace of Wyoming County.

Reply to a letter of inquiry, dated August 22, 1938

The data which follow were obtained from the papers filed in pension claim under W.16916, based upon the service of Nicholas P. Bovie (the name appears, also, as Bovee) in that war and upon disability resulting from his service in said war.

The date and places of birth and names of the parents of Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee are not shown. It was stated that he was called Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee to distinguish him from others of the same name.

While residing at the home of his parents in Hoosick, Rensselaer County, New York Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee enlisted at the commencement of the Revolutionary War and served nine months in in Captain Garrett S. Veeder's (4) New York Company: immediately after the termination of this service for which no dates are given, he reenlisted for three years or during the war, served in Captain Aorson's Company, Peter Gansevoort's New York Regiment, and while stationed at Fort Stanwix (also known as Fort Schuyler), in July, 1777, went out with a party on fatigue duty, was surprised by Indians, had an engagement with the savages in which engagement a number of the soldiers were killed and Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee wounded by two balls which passed through his right arm and by a blow

from a tomahawk in the hip which prevented him from escaping, was seized by the Indians, scalped and left for dead, but was found by some of the soldiers from the fort, who took him to the fort, after which he was in hospitals at Schenectady and Albany and was finally carried home on a bed by his mother and uncle. He served also, at one time in the company of Captain Bradt, no date given for this service.

[In the margin, hand written: Sol. In NY book in Gansevoort's Regt. also in Bradt's Co. This Sol. on NY burned list in 1835.]

He was allowed pension on account of disability resulting from the above noted wounds from April 1, 1779, at the rate of \$60.00 per annum. In 1786, he was aged about twenty-nine years. He was called "Sculpennick", "Scalpie Nic" or Scalped Nick" by his Dutch associates and friends.

Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee married April 15, 1779, at White Creek, Washington County, New York, Polly Cotrel (the name appears, also, as Cotwell and Cotter.) She was of said White Creek, date and places of her birth and names of her parents are not given. They were married by the Reverend William Waite.

In 1787, they were residing in Montgomery County, New York; they resided, also, in Mapleton, New York and in Schenectady, New York in which place the soldier died March 11, 1796. It was stated that he never recovered from the effects of his wounds received while in the service in the Revolutionary War. September 10, 1801, his widow, Polly, married at Broadalbin, Montgomery County, New York, Benjamin Cole. They were married by the Reverend Adnathan Finch. Benjamin Cole died December 16, 1831, at Franklinville, Cattaraugus County, New York.

Polly Cole was allowed pension on account of the service of her former husband, Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee, on her application executed February 9, 1839, at which time she was aged seventy-eight years and resided in Gainesville, Genesee County, New York.

Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee and his wife, Polly, had ten children as follows.

Phillip Bovie or Bovee. . .date of birth not given, died in infancy.

Elizabeth Bovie or Bovee. . .born April 12, 1782, married date not given, Daniel Cargill, born September 17, 1773.

Daniel Bovie or Bovee. . .date of birth not given.

Jacob Bovie or Bovee. . .date of birth not given.

Catharine Bovie or Bovee. . .date of birth not given.

Sally Bovie or Bovee. . . in 1842, aged 53 years and living in York, Livingston County, New York.

John Bovie, or Bovee. . .date of birth not given.

Harper Bovie or Bovee. . .date of birth not given.

Esther Bovie or Bovee. . .date of birth not given.

Isabel Bovie or Bovee. . . date of birth not given.

In 1827, Jacob Bovee, (as he signed), son of Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee and his wife, Polly lived in Gainesville, New York. At that time he referred to Isabel and family and to Harper and family, and referred to Ezekiel Perkins, of Salisbury, New York, as "brother", name of Ezekiel Perkins' wife not shown: in 1842, Rachel, widow of Jacob (son of Nicholas P.) , was living in Castile, Wyoming County, New York, aged fifty-six years. In 1842, daughter Sally Bovie named above, was the eldest living child, of Nicholas P. Bovie or Bovee.

In 1839, one Sarah Cole, of Erie County, New York, stated that she was present at the wedding of Nicholas P. Bovee and Polly Cotrel and in same year, one Salathiel Cole, of Aurora, Erie County, New York, stated that he was present at the marriage of Polly Bovee

and Benjamin Cole; no relationship of these two person with surname Cole to each other or to Benjamin Cole, was shown.

In 1842, Catharine Kemp, aged seventy-four years and a resident of Green County, New York, stated that she was the sister of Nicholas P. Bovee. She did not give the name of her husband.

The following names of children of Elizabeth Bovee Cargill and her husband, Daniel Cargill, are shown.

Elizabeth Cargill, Born April 4, 1802.

Daniel Cargill, Born June 25, 1803.

Mary Cargill, Born April 24, 1805.

Polly Cargill, Born April 7, 1806.

Sally Cargill, Born March 25, 1808.

Preston Cargill, Born January 6, 1810.

In 1842, Daniel Cargill and his wife, Hannah, living in Wyoming County, New York, made joint affidavit in support of Polly Bovee Cole's application for pension. The age and maiden name of Hannah are not stated.

Polly Cole (formerly the widow of Nicholas Bovie), Certificate No. 3831, issued January 28, 1843, rate of \$80.00 per annum, commenced March 4, 1831, Act of July 4, 1836, New York Agency.

Benjamin Cole. S. 43387 The data which follow were obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim, S.43387, based upon the military service in that war of Benjamin Cole.

This was included in the pension papers.

Daniel Cargill Born Sept. 17, 1773

Elizabeth Bovee Born April 12, 1782

Elizabeth Cargill Born April 4, 1802

Daniel Cargill Born June 25, 1803

Mary Cargill Born April 24, 1805

Polly Cargill Born April 7, 1806

Sally Cargill Born March 25, 1808

Preston Cargill Born January 6, 1810.

End Notes—W.16916—Nicholas P. Bovie

1. Nicholas' name appears on Captain John A. Brandt's Company of Albany County Rangers Muster Roll. He enlisted as a private on August 25, 1776. He is described as 5 feet 4 inches tall and Brown Hair. On October 10, 1776, he was issued ½ pound of powder and 1 ½ pound Lead (used to make musket balls). On October 3, 1776 Pay Roll he is to receive a half Bounty of £ 5 and full subsistence money of £ 2. . 17 . . 1 for a total of £ 7. . 17. . 1. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 72, folder 81, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
2. Nicholas enlisted as a private for during war on January 2, 1777 in captain Aaron Aorson's Fifth Company in Colonel Peter Gansevoort's Third New York Continental Regiment. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 69, Folder 41, National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. On July 3, 1777, Ensign John Spoor in command of a work detail was attacked by a party of Indians. Ensign Spoor, Privates James Empson, John Jones, Adam Shades and James Turner were taken prisoners. Aaron King and James Rogers were killed and

Nicholas was left severely wounded and scalped. Nicholas was sent to Schenectady on July 28th with the sick, women, and children of the garrison. Nicholas was eventually sent to the General Hospital at Albany. He had been so severely wounded that he remained at the hospital until about August of 1779 when he was allowed to return to the regiment. He returned to the hospital after about a month and remained listed as sick on the muster rolls into 1780. He is in 1780 listed as sick near Albany. When the First and Third New York Continental Regiments were consolidated on January 1, 1781, Nicholas was discharged.

4. Garret S. (N or I) Veeder (or Vedder) was appointed Captain on March 1, 1776 in Colonel Cornelius D. Wynkoop's Fourth New York Continental Regiment. Nicholas' name does not appear on the muster roll for this company. FROM Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 179, National Archives, Washington, D.C. Veeder was appointed Captain on November 21, 1776 in Colonel Goose VanSchaick's First New York Continental Regiment but he declined the commission.