

Pension Application for Dennis Canfield

W.6636 (Widow: Polly. Polly was the third wife. Second wife was widow: Ruth McDaniels.)

B.L.Wt.222-60-'55

Wt.6956-100

To the Sec'y of the Department of War of the United States, Dennis Canfield of Danby in the County of Rutland respectfully applies to be placed on the Pension List of the United States agreeable to the Act of Congress in that behalf passed March 18, 1818. Rutland April 13, 1818. (Signed) Dennis Canfield.

I Dennis Canfield of Danby in the County of Rutland & State of Vermont of the age of fifty five years, do depose declare & say that I served the United States on the Continental establishment ag' the Common Enemy in the War of the Revolution for more than nine months & until the end thereof as a private soldier as follows to wit.

In the year 1780 I enlisted into the company commanded by Capt. Cornelius J. Johnson in the Third New York Regiment commanded by Col. Gansevoort, that shortly by some arrangement of the Regiment ours was joined with the first Regiment I then became a private in the same company commanded by Capt. Cornelius J. Johnson, as afores'd in the first New York Regiment commanded by Col. VanSchaick, & Lieut. Col. VanDyke & served therein until the end of the war, that I received a regular & honorable discharge at the close of the war at Snake Hill near Newburgh & within a few months after I delivered by discharge to Geo. Frelich Esqr then living in Dutchess County Great Nine Partners to receive my wages I have never seen it since, & said Frelich has been dead for a number of years, & I have no idea that my discharge is in existence & do not know where to look for it.

That I have no property of any consequence, have a son who is [???] aged twenty one that I have to support. That I am [?] I have been ever since the declaration of Independence a Citizen of the United States actually residing therein, have never received any pension from the United States & by reason of my reduced circumstances in life am in need of assistance from my country for support. (Signed) Dennis Canfield

Subscribed & sworn to this 13 day of April 1818 before me. Thos. Hammond, [?] Judge of the County Court for the County of Rutland.

Letter in folder dated May 13, 1935, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of Dennis Canfield, who enlisted in 1781 under Washington or Colonel Van Schaick.

The record of only one soldier named Dennis Canfield has been found in the Revolutionary War records of this office and it is given below as obtained from the papers on file in pension claim, W.6636, based upon his service in the Revolution.

The date and place of soldier's birth and names of his parents are not given.

Dennis Canfield enlisted on Nine Partners, New York, in May, 1780, served as private in Captain Cornelius I. Jansen's company, Colonels Gansevoort's and Goose VanSchaick's New York regiments, was in the battle of Yorktown and was discharged at the close of the war in; 1783.

He was allowed pension on his application executed April 13, 1818, at which time he was aged fifty-five years and a resident of Danby, Rutland County, Vermont.

In 1820, the soldier was still residing in Danby, Vermont, and referred to his wife, Ruth, then aged seventy-two years, also to a son, Nathan aged twenty-three years; no details were given in regard to his marriage to Ruth ____, maiden name not stated, nor was the date of her death given.

Dennis Canfield married Polly Mix about June 5, 1824 or 1825, in Danby Vermont.

In 1835, the soldier moved from Vermont to Hamburgh, Erie County, New York, with post office at Abbott's Corner. He moved to that place to be with his children, all of whom lived there. He did not designate any names of children.

Dennis Canfield died May 29, 1846, in Hamburg, New York.

Soldier's widow, Polly Canfield, was allowed pension on her application executed May 24, 1853, at which time she was aged sixty-seven years and a resident of Hamburg, Erie County, New York. She was still residing there in 1855.

In 1853, Dennis Canfield, soldier's son, while living in East Hamburg, New York, made affidavit in behalf of soldier's widow, Polly. He did not state that she was his mother, nor was any reference made to any children of the soldier and his wife, Polly.

In 1835, one Jared Canfield was living in Hamburg, Erie County, New York, the relationship to the family not shown.