

### **Pension Application for Solomon Curtis**

W.23895 (Widow: Hannah) This file is 111 pages long.

Letter in folder dated July 1, 1936, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of Solomon Curtis, reference number 23895, and reference to John Curtis, brother of Solomon, and to Samuel Curtis, of Canaan, New York, which may be shown in the claim for pension based upon the service of said Solomon.

A very careful examination has been made of all papers in the above noted pension claim and the following data found.

Solomon Curtis, the son of John and Deborah Curtis, was born in Salisbury, Connecticut. The date of his birth was not shown.

While a resident of said Salisbury, Solomon Curtis and his father, John Curtis, enlisted and served together from May 8, 1775, to December 18, 1775, in Captain Abel Pettibone's Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Connecticut Regiment; they enlisted again in April 1778, and in September following were taken sick with yellow fever and removed to Albany, where John Curtis died. He left a widow, Deborah and seven children. Deborah "remained his widow about four years." There are no further data in regard to said Deborah and no reference was made to a John Curtis, brother of Solomon.

After the death of her father, Solomon Curtis moved with his mother and family to Barrington, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. He enlisted there and served as a private in the Massachusetts Troops as follows: from May 15, 1778 to February 7, 1779, in Captain Enoch Noble's company, Colonel Ezra Woods' Regiment: from July 19, 1779, for one month and twenty-nine days in Captain Roswell Downing's Company, Colonel Powell's Regiment: from October 25, 1779 one month and eight says in Captain Adam Kasson's Company, Colonel Israel Chapin's Regiment.

During the Revolution, Solomon Curtis lived in west Stockbridge, Berkshire County, Massachusetts and in Alford, adjoining West Stockbridge and moved from the last named town to Canaan, Columbia County, New York. He enlisted here and served from July 5, 1780 to December 15, 1780, as a private in Captain Pierces' Company, 4<sup>th</sup> New York Regiment. He was at West Point at the time of General Arnold's treason and was one of the guards at the execution of Major Andre.

The soldier married in the winter of 1780, at Canaan, New York, Hannah Taylor. The date and place of her birth and the names of her parents are not shown.

After the Revolution, Solomon Curtis and his wife lived in Canaan, New York, and in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, and about 1791, moved to Clarenceville, Canada, East, where he died in November 1826. His widow, Hannah, died May 23, 1843, at Stockbridge, Saint Lawrence County, New York. She was survived by the following children:

Henry A. Curtis, born June 17, 1783, in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, in 1850, residing in Stockholm, Saint Lawrence County, New York.

Abigail Curtis, married \_\_\_\_ Williams.

Solomon Curtis

Daniel Curtis

Asahel Curtis, in 1855, residing in Whitewater Township, Walworth County, Wisconsin.

On November 5, 1849, Solomon Curtis, then aged fifty-two years and a resident of Westford, Chittenden County, Vermont, made application on behalf of himself and the other surviving children of the soldier, Solomon Curtis, named above, for the pension which was due their mother on account of their father's service in the Revolutionary War. The claim was allowed. In 1852, Solomon Curtis had moved to Caldwell Manor, Canada.

In 1850, Asahel Curtis, the son of John and Deborah Curtis, and brother of the soldier, Solomon, was aged eighty-four years and resided in Paris, Oneida County, New York. No names of any other children of John and Deborah Curtis, except Solomon, are given. The names Crosley and Labeus Curtis are shown but no relationship to the family was stated.

The following is the family record of Henry A. Curtis, son of Solomon and Hannah Curtis.

Henry A. Curtis, born June 17, 1783.

Susanna Curtis, born March 3, 1797.

Emely L. Curtis, born February 28, 1818, married September 11, 1839, died July 4, 1848.

Henry L. Curtis, born July 2, 1817, died May 20, 1839.

Louisa M. Curtis, born February 17, 1819, married March 11, 1838, died January 27, 1846.

Elias Curtis, born December 5, 1821, died March 5, 1822.

Philander Curtis, born January 22, 1822, died March 7, 1834.

Abigail Curtis, born October 7, 1824.

Sarra L. Curtis, born January 9, 1827.

Asahel C. Curtis, born January 7, 1829.

Diana Curtis, born April 8, 1831, died September 1, 1834.

Elmina or Elmira Curtis, born July 11, 1833.

Susanna Curtis, born September 9, 1836.

In 1860, Samuel Allen Curtis, of Canaan, Columbia County, New York, aged eighty-six years, and a cousin of the soldier, Solomon Curtis, stated he was well acquainted with the said Solomon Curtis from his youth, that he was the son of John Curtis and that both father and son, John and Solomon, joined the Revolutionary Army together and that John died in the army and that Solomon served in Massachusetts, after which he went to Canaan, Columbia County, New York, where said Samuel Allen Curtis lived during the whole of the Revolutionary War; that said Solomon Curtis was present and one of the guard when Major Andre was executed; he stated that he (Solomon) married Hannah Taylor, date not remembered, but that he (Samuel Allen Curtis) was married July 20, 1786, and that Solomon had been married several years and had children before that date; that Solomon moved from Canaan, New York, to Clarendville, Canada, East, "more than 50 years ago"; and that he died there "more than 20 years ago"; that he well remembered Henry Curtis, oldest son of

Solomon and Hannah. The name of the wife of Samuel Allen Curtis was Patience who was aged eighty-three years in 1850.

In 1852, George F. Salls, of Caldwell Manor, Canada, aged seventy-nine years, stated that he was born in Canaan, New York, where he lived until 1796, when he moved to said Caldwell Manor, and that Hannah Curtis, the wife of Solomon Curtis, was the sister of his mother (name of his mother not given) and that Solomon and Hannah were married at his father's (George F. Salls') house in said Canaan and that he well remembered seeing Solomon bidding Hannah goodbye after the marriage and starting off with a pack on his back to join the army as he (George F. Salls) was informed and believed.

In 1849, one Hex Salls lived in Saint Lawrence County, New York; no relationship to George F. Salls, nephew of the widow, Hannah Taylor Curtis, was shown.