

### Pension Application for John Lafler or Lefflar

W.5122 (Widow: Jemima)  
Continental  
Green Mt. Boys  
New York  
Captain Wolcott, Col. Warner  
The State of Ohio  
Ham. Com Pleas. SS.

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 1820 personally appeared in open court being a Court of Record Expressly made so by the laws of this state for the said County John Lafler aged seventy years resided in said county who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows that he enlisted in the month of September in the year 1775 for one year in Captain Smith's (1) Company in Colonel James Clinton's Regiment in the line of the State of New York upon Continental establishment that he served nearly his term of Enlistment and when he was selected to raise a Company of Batteau men(2) to escort Provisions from Schenectady to Fort Stanwick on the Mohawk River under the Command of quartermaster General Glenn in which service deponent remained nine months about the close of the year 1776 I was chosen Ensign in Captain Wolkerd's (3) Company of Colonel Seth Warner's Regiment upon Continental establishment; that I continued to serve in this company and regiment about Eleven months, when I was elected to my former rank in the Quartermaster Generals department in which I continued during the War. My original declaration was dated on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 1818. I have received Pension Certificate dated at the War Office of the U. States as the 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 1819 which said certificate is numbered 11,342. And in pursuance of the Act of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States in the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with interest thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval service of the United States during the Revolutionary War" passed on the eighteenth day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts or debts due me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule by me subscribed—and I further declare under oath that I was by occupation a Cordwainer that I have a wife 45 years of age and six children namely George aged 15 years, Joseph aged 13 years, James aged 11 years, Elias aged 9 years, Rachel aged 7 years, Ann aged 3 years who now resides with me. The three former I consider capable of earning their living the three latter are dependant on my exertions for support. I have not been able for several years past to follow my trade in consequence of a failure of my eye sight; besides this I am much afflicted with a pain in my breast in [comman?] which a sedentary life as an attempt to follow my trade even if my eyesight was not very much impaired greatly increases. I am old infirm and feeble unable to do a days work of any kind and unable to maintain myself and young children by my labour. I was in the service of the United States during the whole of the Revolutionary War and at this time from old age bodily infirmity and my indigent circumstances I solemnly declare that I am much in need of the assistance of my Country for Support. (Signed) John Lafler

Sworn to and Subscribed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 1820 in open Court. Danl Gano Clk

Schedule of Property belonging to John Lafler a U. States Pensioner on the Ohio Agency made sworn to and subscribed in Open Court this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 1820.

1 mare 13 years old 30.00  
1 do 18 do small 10.00  
2 Milch Cows 1 old other 3 years old 20.00  
2 yearling calves 10.00  
2-1 year old 6.00  
5 hogs and 10 pigs 12.50  
1 old Plough 2.00  
1 set harness 6.00  
2 axes 2.00  
1 small cupboard 2.00  
2 pots 2.00  
6 old chairs 1.50  
A few knives & forks and plates 1.50  
A tea kettle (old) .75  
1 Sythe 1.00  
1 Mattock 1.00

\$108.25

I am at this time indebted in the following Liens of many namely  
To Isaac Bates \$12.00  
To Isaac Cooper \$12.00  
To Scott J. Thompson, merchant 6.00

\$30.00

(Signed) John Lafler

Sworn to and Subscribed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 1820 in open court. Danl Gano, Clk.

State of Ohio Butler County SS.

On this thirtieth day of December one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine personally appeared before the Honorable Daniel Milliken, Squire Littell, Fergus Anderson Esquire also Judges of the Court of Common Pleas within and for said County Jemima Lafler a resident of said County of Butler aged sixty three years on the [blank] day of May last, 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 the seventh one thousand eight hundred and thirty eight entitled an "Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows."

That she is the widow of John Lafler who was an ensign in the Army in the Revolutionary War with Great Britain that she has no very distinct recollection of the time of service now of the Battles in which her said husband was engaged but from her best recollection she believes that he volunteered in the service of the United States at Philadelphia—that he was in the battle at Saratoga (4) at the time of the Surrender of General Burgoyne and in several others which deponent cannot now recollect. That he had received three wounds upon his left breast. (5)

She further declares that she was married to the said John Lafler on the tenth day of December one thousand seven hundred and ninety three at Winchester Virginia, by Christian Street a minister of the Gospel, as will be seen by the annexed certificate of marriage furnished by said Christian Street at the time of their marriage and that said certificate is the only written evidence she has or can produce of time of her marriage to said John Lafler—that her said husband John Lafler died on the thirtieth day of October one thousand eight hundred and twenty two in the County of Hamilton, Ohio; that previous to his death he received a pension of twenty dollars per month as an Ensign in the Revolutionary War—that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous the first of January seventeen hundred and ninety four, to wit at the time stated above.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year above written before (Signed with her mark)  
Jemima Lefflar (6)

In testimony whereof I John Reily Clerk Pro Tem of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Butler in the State of Ohio have herein to set my hand and affixed the seal of the said court at Hamilton the thirteenth day of December 1839. John Reily

End Notes—W.5122—John Lafler

1. There's no Captain Smith in Colonel James Clinton's Third New York Continental Regiment. John's name does appear on two muster rolls for Captain Robert Johnston's Company in Colonel Clinton's Regiment. The first muster roll is a descriptive roll and the following was extracted:

A Muster Roll of the men Raised and Pass'd Muster in the County of Orange for Capt. Johnston's Company 4<sup>th</sup> August 1775.

Jno. Mavritius Geotschius Lieutenant  
Philip Dubois Bevier Lieutenant

John Leffler enlisted July 18, 1775, age 24, born Pennsylvania, occupation—shoemaker, enlisted by Capt. Johnston, stature—6 ft, Complexion—Fair, Eyes—Blue, Hair—Fair Smooth fas't, a scar on right cheek. FROM: *Documents Relating To The Colonial History of the State of New York*, ed. Bertold Fernow, Vol. XV, State Archives, Vol. I, Weed, Parsons and Company, Printers, Albany, NY, 1887, p.168.

On the second muster roll John is listed as a Corporal, Absent with leave being sick Sept'r 27. This muster roll for Captain Johnston's Company was dated Camp at Ticonderoga, 3 of October 1775. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 69, folder 38, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

2. There is only one company muster roll known for Captain John Leffler's Company of Batteauxmen. The one found so far is for 1778. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 122, folder 78 (Quartermaster General's Dept), National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. John was appointed ensign on January 7, 1777 in Captain Giles Wolcot's Company in Colonel Seth Warner's Additional Regiment of Continentals. According to Colonel Warner's Regimental Muster Roll, of Officers, John had resigned his commission on August 4, 1777. This means he did not serve eleven months but served only about 8 months. On June 15, 1777 company muster roll of Captain Wolcot's

Second, Lieutenant Walter Swits who had been appointed on April 1, 1777 and Ensign Lafler were recruiting. Several men in this company were from Albany County and one John Fletcher was from the Canajoharie District in the Mohawk Valley. FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 134, folder 230, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

4. It is unknown at this time what regiment he belonged to or which battle of Saratoga that he fought in. The date of the battles were September 19 and October 7, 1777. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered his British forces on October 17, 1777.
5. When and where this happened is not mentioned in John's pension application of 1820 but maybe this is the pain in his breast he is referring to.
6. On June 14, 1898 an inquiry was made to the Pension Office by Anna Burer for information on John Christopher Leflar and Jemima Kendle Leflar who had died in 1840.