

Pension Application for Abraham or Abram Sparks

W.20064 (Widow: Leah Decker married Abraham Sparks in November 20, 1792) Abraham died Dec 14, 1835.

State of New York

Ulster County SS.

On this 18th day of August 1838, personally appeared before me the undersigned one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County Leah Sparkes a resident of the town of Shungunk [Shawangunk] said County and Sate afore said aged 67 years who being 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 7th 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows & that she is the widow of Abraham Sparkes dec'd who was a private soldier in the War of the Revolution and a pensioner under the act of Congress passed [blank] 1818 she further declares that she was married to the said Abraham Sparkes on the 10 of November in the year of one thousand seven hundred and ninety two by the Rev'd Moses Truly in the town of Montgomery in the county of orange & that her husband the aforesaid Abraham Sparkes died on the 14th day of December 1835 and that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred and ninety four viz at the time above stated and that previous to her marriage her name was Leah Decker and that she has remained a widow ever since the death of her said husband the said Abraham Sparkes as will more fully appear by the proof here unto anex [annexed]. (Signed with her mark) Leah Sparkes

Sworn and subscribed before me the date above writin [written] by making her mark. Abraham A. Deyo, one of the Judges of the Ulster County Courts.

County of Ulster SS.

Abraham Sparks of the town of Shawangunk in the County of Ulster and State of New York on this ninth day of June 1828 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record in and for the County of Ulster aforesaid proceeding according to the course of the Common Law and its Jurisdiction being unlimited in point of amount, aged sixty four years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the pension made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820; that he the said Abraham Sparks enlisted in the town of Shawangunk in the County of Ulster aforesaid in the month of April in the year 1780 for the term of nine months in the company commanded by Captain Levi Westfall in the regiment commanded by Colonel Wisenfelt in the line of the State of New York on the Continental Establishment; that he continued to serve in the said corps until the full end and term of nine months from the time of his enlistment and after the expiration; of the said nine months he was honourably discharged from the service on the Delaware river in the town of Miniskink in the county of Orange and State of New York; that the whole company was discharged at the same time, but he did not nor did any of the soldiers get a written discharge at the time.

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present; that his name is not on the roll of any State except New York and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension because that until lately he has heretofore been able by his industry to support himself and his family.

And in pursuance of the Act of the 1st May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent 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 in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, co

tracts or debts due to me; nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed that I am by occupation a carpenter but have lately become and now am unable to pursue my trade in consequence of rheumatick complaints and the crap; that I now reside in a house in the town of Shawangunk aforesaid which I rent including a small garden from David Winfield, that my family consists of myself and my wife aged about fifty eight years who is sickly and infirm; that I have children but they are all poor and laboring for their own support and are not able to provide for this deponent and his wife; that since the 18th of March 1818 the following changes have been made in this deponent's property. All my earnings since that time and which have been barely sufficient for the use of my family have been expended from time to time in purchasing necessaries for myself and family and that no other changes have been made since that time except about five years ago I sold my only cow on account of her age and laid out the month for which I solder in the purchase of another cow which I now own. (Signed) Aram Sparks.

Sworn to & declared on the 10th day of June in open court before me. A. D. Soper First & presiding Judge of Ulster County Courts &c.