

Pension Application for Nathan Spicer

R.5603 (Former Widow: Catharine Johnson) She was denied pension because she couldn't provide proof of her marriage.

State of New York

County of Livingston SS.

On this twenty first day of August AD one thousand eight hundred and fifty two, personally appeared before the undersigned, County Judge of the County of Livingston and State of New York, in open court, Catharine Johnson, formerly Catharine Spicer, aged eighty seven years, the fifth day of January next; a resident of West Sparta in the County and State aforesaid, 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 acts of Congress passed July 7th 1838, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows", and the act of the third of March 1837, as those acts have been modified by the Act of August 23rd 1842, and explained in the opinion, of Hon. John C. Spencer November 17th 1842, and the opinion of Hon. J. L. Edwards of June 25th 1844.

That she is a widow, frail and needy. That her maiden name was Catharine Filkins; that she was married to Nathan Spicer, a Revolutionary Soldier of the State of New York, by a Dutch Clergyman (name forgotten) at Kinderhook, NY on the 29th day of February AD 1784. That he husband, the aforesaid Nathan Spicer died on the first day of January AD 1815. 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. That she cannot cause of age and infirmity remember much about the service of her said husband, Nathan Spicer but believes he served as a militia volunteer nine months or more, under General Schuyler. He often talked of Fort Herkimer, Fort Stanwix and Johnstown.

There is not so far as she knows any public or family record of her marriage with her said husband, Nathan Spicer, deceased, nor is there any family record of his death. She has therefore for her marriage and his services, and death to depend on the testimony of such witnesses as her attorney may be able to find. (Signed with her mark) Catharine Johnson.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written, before, Scott Lord.
Livingston County Judge.