

Pension Application for Matthew Trotter

W.19471 (Widow: Margaret. Married 27 May 1787, husband died Dec. 9, 1830)
Lieutenant, NY Levies under Col. Willett
State of New York
County of Albany SS.

On this 9th day of October in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine, personally appeared before the Justices Court of the City of Albany, (being a court of record) Margaret Trotter, a resident of the City of Albany, aged sixty two years, 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 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows—"

That she is the widow of Matthew Trotter, who was a Lieutenant (1) and Quarter Master (2) in the service of the United States during the revolutionary war, & served such Lieutenant in the New York Levies in the Company commanded by Capt. TenEyck (3) & as Quarter Master in Col. Willett's Regiment as will more fully appear by the proof hereto annexed.

She further declares that she was married to the said Matthew Trotter, on the twenty seventh day of May in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven—That her husband the aforesaid Matthew Trotter died on the 9th day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred & (30) thirty.

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 & ninety four—viz—at the time above stated.

She further declares that her name previous to her marriage was Margaret Wendell. (Signed with her mark) Margaret Trotter.

Sworn to & subscribed on the day & year above written in open court. Witness to the seal of said court and the signature of the clerk thereof. J. G. Wasson, Clk John H. Trotter, Witness.

Dutchess County SS.

To whom it may concern, I Elias VanBenschoten (4) depose and say that in the year 1782 when I joined Col. M. Willett's Regt, that soon after Lieut. Matt'w Trotter was appointed Qur. Master to the three years troops raised on the Bounty of unappropriated lands, and also to an extra duty as Qur. Master to the garrison to take charge of the public stores as there was no garrison Qur Master at any of the garrisons on the Mohawk river. In consequence of the extra duties assigned Lieut. Trotter, there were no recruiting instructions granted him, and as there was no mode pointed out in what manner Qur Masters were to be introduced, and it was absolutely necessary for a Qur Master to be appointed to take charge of the stores of three years troops, and it always has been practiced that the staff officers have been chosen by the Field Officers of their respective troops, that said Trotter has been continued under my command in like rank and aforesaid duties until the whole of the troops were discharged.

N. B. If Lieut Trotter has not been returned to the Honorable Council of appointment as an officer in my care it is an omission in the return. (Signed) E. V. Benschoten commt of N. Your Three years troops.

End Notes—W.19471—Matthew Trotter

1. Matthew served as a Lieutenant in 1781 in Captain Abraham Livingston's Company in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. He was paid in 1785 £ 57. .4. . 0 the balance due to him for his 1781 services.
2. Matthew served as Lieutenant and Quartermaster from April 7, 1782 to December 31, 1782. He served 8 months and 24 days. His pay for each month £ 15. . 17. . 4 for a total of £ 139. . 12. . 6. Matthew served as a Lieutenant in 1783 in Captain Jellis A. Fonda's company in Colonel Willett's Regiment. He served 10 months retiring from the service on November 1, 1783. He was paid £ 26. .60 per month and his total amount was £ 266. . 60. He had been paid £ 106. . 60. And balance due was £ 160. . FROM: Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173 (Willett's Regt), National Archives, Washington, D.C.
3. Abraham TenEyck served as a Lieutenant and PayMaster in Willett's Regiment.