

Pension Application for Thaddeus Scribner

W.1499 (Widow: Lydia)
State of New York
County of Saratoga SS.

On this sixth day of September 1832, personally appeared in open court before the court of Common Pleas in & for said County, the court of Common Pleas now sitting Thaddeus Schribner a resident of Ballston in the County of Saratoga and State of New York aged seventy one years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, that he entered the service and served as hereafter stated—According to my Father's record from which I made my own record I was born the 26th of July 1761 in the town of Norwalk Fairfield County State of Connecticut.

In the month of March 1773 I came to Ballston and lived there in my Father's family till about the 20th of July 1777 and then by order of the scouts of the Army commanded by General Schuyler our family moved from Ballston and took all our cattle out of the reach of Burgoyne's Army. We remained away till General Gates with the American Army advanced to Stillwater we then returned to our farm which was about the 8 of October by this time I was sixteen years of age and about the 13 of October volunteered and went to General Gates Army and was present when Burgoyne and his army surrendered themselves prisoners of war. I then went home.

In the year 1778 about the month of June I was drafted and sent to Schoharie in a company commanded by Lieut. Brown and was absent about half a month. In the same summer I was drafted for half a month and sent to Palmerton under I believe Capt. Steenburgh. In the fall of the same year one third of the Militia were ordered to Stone Arabia (on the Mohawk) for three months. Joseph Morehouse, Aaron Scribner and myself formed a class. I served one month and was then relieved by Joseph Morehouse, Capt. Vischer commanded our company and Major Ezekiel Taylor then drafted militia of our Regiment and General TenBroeck of Albany the whole of the drafted militia then at Stone Arabia. In the year 1779 a number of alarms took place in the course of the summer and twice I was drafted and went for half a month each time to Palmerton. Col. Dickinson commanded us one of the terms also drafted and sent to Fort Edward under Ensign Sherwood I was absent the most part of a month. Major Mitchel from Ballston was one of four field Officers. About the 12 of October I went as a substitute for John Clinton under the command of Capt. Vandenburg, Lieut. White and ensign Banta to **Fort Plank, three miles west of Fort Plain**. We were there commanded by Lieut. Col. James Gorden from Ballston. While we were Lying at Fort Plank an alarm came that the enemy were at Cherry Valley. Our regiment united with a Regiment of German inhabitants under Col. Klock and immediately marched to Cherry Valley. The enemy had been gone about two hours before our arrival. I was present and assisted burying the dead. I served one month on this tour.

In the year 1780 the inhabitants of this frontier (Ballston) was very much annoyed and harassed by the British, Tories and Indians and the militia were constantly on the watch. There were tory families that harbored the enemy and notwithstanding all our vigilance they succeeded one night in the fall of the year in burning the north part of the Town of Ballston and carried off a number of inhabitants (one was killed. The actual time I was in the service this season would exceed three months as I believe.

In the beginning of the year 1781 the State Legislature passed a law dividing the militia into classes making an officer the head of a class each class was to furnish a man and in the spring of the same year I was engaged by a class and served for the term of nine months in a company commanded by Capt. Stephen White and Col. Marinus Willet's Regiment of New York State Troops—In the Spring of 1782 of I mistake not the year an alarm was made and the man was (after a desperate resistance) taken prisoner who proved to be a noted Tory by the name of Joseph Beattis, he was on his way from Canada to New York with dispatches for the British General. He was taken to Albany and after a trial

hanged. A number of parties of scouts started of whom I had charge of one and searched the Tory houses on this frontier on the night after the capture of Beattis carefully keeping the information from all Tory families and one of the parties under John Nash succeeded in capturing Beattis's two associates, their names were Jonathan Miller and done VandeBogert who were sent to Jail in Albany. The remainder of the year was very troublesome on account of the continual alarms.

It is not possible for me (after so long a space of time) to recollect all the services I have rendered as most of my old companions in arms have paid the debt of nature, I know of but two any where in this region of country viz Jellis Fonda and David How who can testify to my services.

From our exposed situation we were obliged to be constantly alert being often out two or three days and weeks at a time as our services happened to be needed. I honestly and sincerely believe that the time I served my country in the war of the revolution exceeds two years.

I now live on the same farm in the town of Ballston that I lived on in the Revolution and have done so most of the time since. I never received no other discharge than the words of my commanding officers.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State to my knowledge or belief. (Signed) Thaddeus Scribner

And I the said Thaddeus Scribner do further states that I am known to David How, Abijah Hubbell Epenetus Wood, Uriah Gregory, Esquire, Captain Nathaniel Booth, the Reverend Reuben Lears, Judges Thompson, Palmer, & VanSchoonhoven, Charles McCabe, who can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution. (Signed) Thaddeus Scribner.

Sworn & Subscribed to in open court. Thomas Palmer, Clerk
Letter dated November 4, 1922, responding to a request for information.

From the papers in the pension claim W.1499, it appears that Thaddeus Scribner was born July 26, 1761 in Norwalk, Fairfield County, Conn., and while living at Ballston, Saratoga County, NY he volunteered on October 13, 1777 as a private and served at various times until 1782, in all two years, under Captains, Steenburgh, Vischer, Vandenburgh, Stephen White and colonels Dickinson, James Gordon, Klock and Marinus Willett.

He was allowed pension on his application executed September 6, 1832, while residing in Ballston, NY, and he died December 20, 1845.

He married Lydia Wescott November 15, 1795, she was allowed pension on her application executed November 8, 1848, while living in Ballston, NY aged 79 years.

Their Children—

Anna Maria born Aug 5, 1796, married Moses Smith March 4, 1815.

Clarinda born May 1, 1798

Alfred born Aug 1, 1800 married Fanny Wright Oct 2, 1821.

Ira born Feb. 4, 1803

Amanda born Apr. 21, 1805, married Stephen Bowen Jan. 28, 1835.

Evie born Feb. 3, 1806

Jane born Apr. 6, 1808, married Urias Williams March 31, 1829.

Mary Ann born June 4, 1811.

Their grandchildren

Lewis H. Smith married Deborah Ann Hulst Sept. 23, 1835.

Alfred S. Smith married Rosetta Mott Nov. 10, 1842.

Sarah C. Smith married John W. Roewe Sept. 29, 1847.

Their great grandchildren

Anthony Hulst Smith born March 27, 1836.

Sarah Maria Smith born May 6, 1838.

Lewis Harry Smith born April 3, 1840.

Eliza Smith born Feb. 19, 1843.
Mary Ann Smith born August 10, 1843?
Albert Smith born December 14, 1844.