

Pension Application for Jesse Hubbell

W.19,016 (Widow Elizabeth Shepard (maiden name Jessup) or Betsy, Former Widow)
State of New York
City & County of Albany SS.

I Charles E. Jenkins of the said city being duly sworn depose & say, that at the request of Lemuel Jenkins I took the annexed letter from Mrs. Elizabeth Shepard and went to Stillwater, Saratoga County, where Mrs. Shepard formerly resided for the purpose of making inquiries concerning the persons therein mentioned, and with the intention of taking their affidavits in relation to the marriage of Mrs. Shepard to her first husband Jesse Hubbell, that I made diligent inquiries concerning the persons in said letter & found that they were all dead, but one, the last named, who was not known to my informants—I was told, however, that a widow, named Elizabeth Pattison was living in said Town, & who was the oldest living inhabitant, who could probably inform me as to the facts I was in search of. I went to the house of said Mrs. Pattison, & after stating that I was in search of some one who once knew Jesse Hubbell & his wife Elizabeth—she told me that she once knew a family of the name of Hubbell but could not be positive as to their Christian names, who lived in that town, & one my reading to her the letter of Mrs. Shepard to L. Jenkins she said she had no doubts she was the same woman that she once knew as the wife of a Mr. Hubbell—I then drew her affidavit hereto annexed as to what she knew of the said Hubbell & wife & when I had (as much as I supposed) nearly finished it—she told me that she had once heard a story about Mrs. Hubbell which she should never forget. I pressed her to tell me but she would not, till I told her that I was confident I knew what she alluded to viz “that Mrs. Hubbell had an illegitimate child before her marriage”—She then related to me the story and I took it down verbatim as sworn to in the affidavit hereto annexed—Mrs. Pattison said that she recollected the words perfectly well—I further state that although Mrs. Pattison could not swear positively that the Christian name of Hubbell was Jesse—yet she was positive that he was the person to whom I alluded in my conversation with her. Charles E. Jenkins

Sworn to & Subscribed this 29 day of September 1843 before me. Oran Ott, Comm of Deeds.
State of New York
County of Albany SS.

Lemuel Jenkins of the City of Albany being duly sworn, deposeth as follows—Some time in June or July last, I was informed by my son, Charles E. Jenkins, who had hten lately returned from a journey to Otsego County, that there was a widow of the name of Shepard, residing near Cooperstown, in that County who was formerly the widow of Jesse Hubbell, said to have been a officer in the Army in the Revolutionary War, and that she was probably entitled to a pension on account of his services—In consequence of this information I caused search to be made in the Office of the Comptroller of this State and obtained the Certificate signed by the Deputy Comptroller (Philip Phelps Esqr.) hereto annexed—

On the 19th of July I called on Mrs. Shepard, at the house of her son in law, about five miles from Cooperstown, for the purpose of ascertaining the facts respecting her claim for a pension, and of drawing her declaration, in case it should appear to me that she was entitled to a pension. In my conversation with her on the subject, she gave satisfactory evidence to me, that her memory & other faculties of mind were but little impaired by age, and at her request I undertook to draw her declaration. When I came to that part of it where it was necessary to state her marriage to Mr. Hubbell, I inquired of her when she was married to him—To which she replied, that it was in October in the year seventeen hundred & eighty tow—But as she had previously shown to me a leaf of a small family bible, on which was rendered the dates of the birth of her children by Mr. Hubbell, which records she stated was in his hand writing, and I observed that it appeared by said record that her first child was born in the month of February, seventeen hundred & eighty two, I remarked to her that she must be mistaken in regard to the date of her marriage, as her first child was born previous to that time—and I suggested to her that she must have been married in October 1780 instead of 1782—to this she assented, and I accordingly so stated it in her declaration, which is hereto annexed—Her

two daughters, & her son in law, were present at this conversation, but immediately afterwards they left the room & left me alone with Mrs. Shepard—whether designedly or not I do not know—But after they were gone, she came up to the table where I was writing, with the aforesaid leaf of the Bible in her hand and said to me very emphatically, I was married in that year, pointing to the date of 1782, and I then perceived how the case stood, and told her that the only way to get along with these matters was to tell the truth—and she said that was her opinion also.—I then altered that part of her declaration which states the time of her marriage to Mr. Hubbell, by interlining the word “two” after the work “eighty” as will be seen by the annexed declaration it being the same then drawn by me & sworn to by her before Judge Steward in the same day.

I also state that in conversation with Mrs. Shepard, in answer to my inquiries, she stated that she was formerly acquainted with families of the name of Warner & Whiting, who resided in the Town of Canaan, Columbia County, when she was a young woman—In consequence of which information, shortly after my return home, I employed Elias Warner, Esq. of Albany a respectable & intelligent man, to go to Canaan, to make inquire respecting Mrs. Shepard’s marriage to her first husband Mr. Hubbell, the result of which is detailed by Mr. Warner in his affidavit hereto annexed.

I also state that the annexed letter or memorandum of Mrs. Shepard was sent to me by mail in reply to a letter written by me to Henry Scott Esq. of Cooperstown, thereof when I communicated with Mrs. Shepard not knowing her Post Office Address.

I further state that in consequence of my receiving said letter or memorandum, U sent my son, Charles E. Jenkins to Stillwater to make inquiries as stated by him, in his affidavit hereto annexed—I further state that at this late day, I do not believe that any further evidence of Mrs. Shepard’s marriage to Mr. Hubbell, can be obtained. Lemuel Jenkins

Sworn to & subscribed this 29 day of September 1843 before me. Oran Ott, Comm of Deeds.

State of Ohio
Meigs County SS.

Clarissa Benedict of the Town of Rutland, in said County, being duly sworn, deposes as follows—I am aged seventy seven years, and am the sister of Jesse Hubbell, who was an officer in the Revolutionary War—My brother Jesse Hubbell, came home from the army on furlough to my father’s in Schenectada, where w were then living, having removed from Ballstown for fear of the Indians, and said he was going away for the purpose of being married—and the next day he left home for that purpose, & on his return to the army, stopt again at my father’s house & stated that he was married to Elizabeth Jessup—But his wife the said Elizabeth Jessup remained at her father’s house until her first child was born, when my brother Abijah Hubbell went after the and brought her to my father’s then living in Ballston having returned from Schenectada—My Brother Jesse Hubbell then came home from the Army & he & the said Elizabeth lived in Father’s house as man and wife, during which time their second child was born—my Brother Abijah Hubbell above named is now dead; my Brother Jesse Hubbell died at Stillwater in the state of New York, in or about the year 1788 as I have been informed & believe—and his widow, the said Elizabeth, some years afterwards married her second husband whose name was Philemon Shepard who died as I have been informed & believe, in the year 1840, in the County of Otsego & State of new York, leaving the said Elizabeth his widow—I remember they were married prior to the year 1783, from the fact of the treaty of peace being declared. (Signed) Clarissa Benedict.

Sworn to and subscribed before m this 26th day of April 1844. Harrison Downing, J.P. in & for the County of Meigs State of Ohio.

State of New York
County of Otsego SS.

On this eleventh day of November in the year one thousand eight hundred & forty four, personally appeared before the subscriber, one of the Judges of the County Courts in & for the said County of Otsego (the same being Court of Record) Elizabeth Shepard, a resident of the Town of

Otsego in said County, aged eighty one years, in 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 provisions made by the Act of Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows", and the act of Congress passed August 23d 1842, supplementary thereto—

That she is the widow of Jesse Hubbell, who was an Ensign and a Lieutenant (1) in the service of the United States, in the War of the Revolution, and served as such Ensign (2) & Lieutenants in the Regiment of New York State troops commanded by Col. Marinus Willett.

She further declares that she was married to the said Jesse Hubbell prior to the first day of January seventeen hundred & ninety four—That the proofs of her said marriage to the said Jesse Hubbell, an[d] as she is informed & believes, now on file in the office of the Commissioner of Pensions in the City of Washington, and annexed to her declaration under the act of Congress of July 43, 1836, which declaration bears date & was sworn to her before Judge Levi Stewart, on the 19th day of July 1843, to which declaration & proofs she refers in support of this application.

She further declares that her husband the aforesaid Jesse Hubbell, died on the sixteenth day of August in the year one thousand seven hundred & eighty eight leaving her the said Elizabeth his widow.

That she remained such widow until the month of March in the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety seven, when she was married to Philemon Shepard, her second & last husband.

That her said last husband, Philemon Shepard, died on the third day of July in the year one thousand eight hundred & forty.

She further declares that she has remained a widow ever since the death of her said husband, Philemon Shepard, and now is such widow—and this declarant for further proof of the foregoing facts by her stated in this declaration, refers to her said declaration under the Act of Congress of July 4, 1836, and the proof thereto annexed now on file in the Office of the Commissioner of Pensions in the City of Washington. (Signed) Elizabeth Shepard

Sworn to & Subscribed in the day & year first above written before me. Levi Stewart, one of the Judges of Otsego County Courts.

Letter of reply to a request for information, dated March 13, 1931.

You are advised that it appears from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, W. 19016, that Jesse Hubbell was appointed lieutenant in Colonel Marinus Willett's New York regiment, April 28, 1781, and served as such until January 1, 1783. He served from January 1, 1783 until the close of the Revolution as ensign in the New York Troops and was under Major Elias VanBenschoten, Junior.

He died August 16, 1788 in Stillwater, Saratoga County, New York.

The soldier married in Canaan, Columbia County, New York, October 7, 1781 or 1782, Elizabeth Jesup or Jessup, who was born in May 1765 and was the daughter of Nathaniel Jesup or Jessup of Canaan, New York. The place of birth of said Elizabeth is not stated.

She married in March 1797 at Ballston, Saratoga County, New York, Philemon Shepard.

He died July 3, 1840 at Otsego, New York.

On account of the Revolutionary War services of her first husband, Jesse Hubbell, Elizabeth Shepard was allowed pension on her application executed July 19, 1843, at which time she was living in Otsego, New York.

Jess and Elizabeth Hubbell had the following children:

Sarah born February 20, 1782

Lurinda born May 14, 1784

Betsey born July 4, 1786

Jesse born September 25, 1788

In 1843, Mary Brayman (wife of Earl P. Brayman), aged thirty-seven years and a resident of Otsego, New York, stated that she was the child of Philemon and Elizabeth Shepard.

End Notes—W.19016—Jesse Hubbell

1. Jesse Hubbell was appointed lieutenant April 28, 1781 in Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant Marinus Willett's Regiment of New York State Levies. According to Willett's Letter and Orderly Book Fort Rensselaer 1781 under "Albany 7th Augt 1781", Jesse was officially assigned as lieutenant in Captain Job Wright's Company. Also stated is that the men from "of the regts. Of Colonels Blair, Yates, and Charlotte County and VanVeghten". Also Willett states "Captain Wright's company is to be stationed at Saratoga". FROM: Document Number 15705, New York State Library, Albany, New York.
2. Jesse was appointed on July 24, 1782 as a lieutenant and ensign in Willett's Regiment. As ensign he was to recruit men for the regiment and if he enlisted a certain quota, he would receive a lieutenant's commission. On March 21, 1783, Jesse was again appointed as a lieutenant and ensign to recruit his quota to become a lieutenant. So far only one muster/payroll for Wright's Company has been located in Revolutionary War Rolls 1775-1783, Series M-246, Roll 78, folder 173, National Archives, Washington, D.C. In 1783, Jesse served as a lieutenant in Captain Wright's company for ten months when Wright retired from the service. Jesse was paid £106..0..60 and owed £160..0..0. The remaining two months of 1783, Jesse served as a lieutenant in Captain Jonathan Pierce's (Pearcy, Pearsey, Pearcey, etc.) Company in Willett's Regiment. He was owed £53..0..00 for the two months of service. Hubbell was paid £26..0..60 per month as his pay. Usually they also would be allowed rations or commonly called "Subsistence" and at times the amount allowed varied.