

Pension Application for John Selfridge

W.4332 (Widow: Sarah)
B.L.Wt.31718-160-55
Private, Col. Goose VanSchaick's Regt., NY Line

State of Michigan
County of Macomb SS

On this twenty seventh day of September one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, personally appeared before undersigned Circuit Court Commissioner in and for the County of Macomb aforesaid, Sarah Selfridge a resident of the Township of Riley St. Clair County State of Michigan aged seventy years who first being duly sworn according to law makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed the 3d of February 1853 granting pensions to widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary War. That she is the widow of John Selfridge who was a soldier in the Revolution and a pensioner on the pension rolls and that he drew his pension from the pension officer in New York City. She further declares that she was married to the said John Selfridge on the first day of April 1825. That her husband died in the Town of [Savunm?] Niagara County State of New York on the 4th day of November 1849, that she was not married to said John Selfridge prior to the 2d of January 1800 but at the time above stated and she further declares that she is now a widow. (Signed) Sarah Selfridge.

Sworn to and Subscribed on the day and year above written before me. H. Carter, Circuit Court Commissioner.

State of New York
County of Seneca SS.

On this fourth day of October 1820, personally appeared in open court, being the court of common pleas in and for the said County of Seneca, which court is a court of record so constituted by the laws and constitution of said State of New York, using a common seal and having the judgments and proceedings thereof enrolled, with jurisdiction to hear, try and determine according to the common and statute law, all actions real, personal and mixed arising within said county, also all transitory actions not arising therein; John Selfridge aged about sixty two years, resident in the town of Galen in said County of Seneca and State of New York, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath depose and say that he served in the revolutionary war as follows, to wit. In the company of Capt. Joseph McCracken in the regiment commanded by Col. Gose [sic] VanSchaick in the New York line 1st regiment, and that he has drawn a pension from the thirteenth day of May 1818, and has made declaration bearing date that day. And that the number of his certificate is 13, 218 and the date thereof is July the fourteenth 1819 which is the time he suppose it was granted, that the amount of pension drawn by him is eight dollars per month from the date above stated up to the fourth of March last—And 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 so to diminish it was to bring myself within the provisions of the 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 the 18th day of March 1818—And that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me any property or sureties contracts or debts due, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereunto annexed and by me subscribed. My occupation is farming, but I am lame and unable to labor at all. My family consists of myself and wife. My wife is infirm and unable likewise to labour much.

A list of all the property belonging to John Selfridge excepting bedding and necessary wearing apparel—
October 4th 1820—Galen, Seneca County New York
Real Estate none.

One cow \$15
Seven Sheep \$7
One hog \$5
Six tea cups & saucers 2/6 one sugar bowl 2/ creamer 1/ \$.69
1 tea pot 2/6 chairs 3/ - tea kettle 8/ \$3.56
1 pot 6/ - 1 kettle 6/- 1 small iron pot broke 2/ \$1.75
6 large copper spoons washed with silver 8/ \$1
6 knives & forks 6/-1 frying pan 6/ - 1 trammel 8/ \$2.50
1 table 12/--3 chests 8/--24/ \$4.50

\$40.00
A list of all debts due from John Selfridge
To Daniel Root \$13.50
James Fisk \$14.00
E.D. Whittlesey \$5.00
M. Merrill \$5.00
Sylvester Clark \$.18
Abram Knapp \$1.00

\$38.68
A list of all debts due to John Selfridge Oct 4th 1820
From Dennis Vandervilt (note & acct.) \$8.16
Dennis Vandervilt Junr. \$2.37 1/2

Sandford Sisson \$3.00
Elizabeth Selfridge \$4.00
\$17.43 ½

Sworn to and declares at Waterloo village town of Junius in Seneca County on the 4th day of October 1820. (Signed) John Selfridge. Before me in open court. J. H. Halsey, Clk.

State of New York
County of Seneca SS.

On this 13th day of May 1818 before me John Sayre one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for the county aforesaid personally appeared John Selfridge aged 59 years on the 12th day of October last past resident in the Town of Galen in said County who being by me first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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, that the said John Selfridge enlisted at the town of Cambridge in the State of New York on the 29th day of December he thinks of 1775 in the company commanded by Captain Joseph McCracken of the First Regiment of the New York Line of United States troops commanded by Colonel G. VanSchaick. That he continued to serve in the service of the United States in the said Regiment until the 3d day of January in the year of our Lord 1777 when he was discharged from service honorably at Saratoga in the said State.

That he was one of those troops who under the command of General Schuyler in the month of January 1776 was dispatched to Johnstown in said state of subdue the troops under the command of Sir John Johnston [Johnson]. That he was engaged not in any important battle during his said service. That he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support. That he has never received a pension, that he, when so discharged received a written discharge which is now lost.—and that he has no other evidence now in his Power of his said service. That after his said discharge he enlisted again in the service of the United States against the common enemy and which he is advised it is not necessary for him to particularize. (Signed) John Selfridge

Sworn to & Declared to before me May 13th 1818 John Sayre.

Letter dated October 20, 1926, written in reply to a request for information.

I have to advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim W.4332, it appears that John Selfridge was born October 12, 1758, place not stated.

He enlisted at Cambridge, New York, December 29, 1775 and served as a private in Captain Joseph McCracken's Company, Colonel Goose VanSchaick's New York Regiment, until January 3, 1779.

He also, after the above, enlisted and served, but no details as to said service are given.

He was allowed pension on his application executed May 13, 1818, while a resident of Galen, Seneca County, New York.

In 1820, he stated that he was about sixty-two years old, and referred to his wife, no further details on file as to this wife.

He died November 4, 1849 at Savannah, Wayne County, New York.

Soldier married April 1, 1825 at Seneca Falls, Seneca County, New York, Sarah (her maiden name is not stated). She was allowed pension on her application executed September 27, 1853, while a resident of Riley Township, St. Clair County, Michigan, aged seventy years.

There is no further family data on file.

The above noted John Selfridge (Selfridge) is the only soldier of that name found on the Revolutionary War records of this Bureau.