

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Petition Relating to Peter Nestell VAS1890

Mary Nestell

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Transcribed by Will Graves

4/19/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Norfolk (City) Legislative Petitions

To the Honorable General Assembly of Virginia, the Petition of Mary Nestell of the Borough of Norfolk respectfully Sheweth:

That your petitioner is the widow of Dr. Peter Nestell deceased, who in his lifetime was a Surgeon in the war of the Revolution, in the Continental Army; and a member of the Cincinnati Society, which was established by the officers of the Army of the Revolution shortly after the termination of the war –

Your petitioner further maketh known to your Honorable Body, that shortly after the death of her husband, she was permitted to receive, as his widow, from the funds of the said society an annuity, or pension, of \$100, payable half yearly, in installments of \$50 each; which pension she still continues to receive from the funds of said society: she further shows, that the said pension of \$100, added to the rents of certain houses in said Borough, held by your petitioner, as Dower in her deceased husband's estate, has heretofore afforded her a comfortable support.

Your petitioner further maketh known to your Honorable body, that by accidental fire the houses above referred to have all been destroyed and that now she [has] no property whatever, of any kind, and no means of support but the said annuity of one hundred dollars; she is now in the 88th year of her age, and that from Infirmities incident to so advanced an age she has not been able to leave, or go out of the house, in which she lives, for many years, nor has she any descendent from whom she can claim assistance: your petitioner further maketh known to your Honorable Body, that increasing years have brought along with them increasing infirmities and wants, so that the said annuity of \$100 has become inadequate to the support and maintenance of your petitioner; wherefore she Humbly Prays that your Honorable body will cause her annuity or pension to be increased from \$100 per annum to the sum of \$150 per annum, payable semiannually, out of the Funds of the Cincinnati Society; she is more strongly induced to hope that your Honorable Body will grant her request, from the fact, that whilst the means of that Society or becoming greater and greater every year, the number of annuitants chargeable there on has so diminish, that your petitioner, and one other widow, (as she is informed) are the only persons chargeable their own – as in duty bound your petitioner will ever pray &c &c
Norfolk December 6, 1845

Witness

S/ W. Johnson

S/ Samuel L Cassels

S/ Mary Nestell

Mary Nestell

[Reverse]

Petition Mary Nestell
January 8th, 1842
Referred to CH J [??]

Norfolk January 6, 1845

This is to certify that I have known Mrs. Mary Nestell for a great many years safe thirty-five years and that I do know personally that she has no property. She some years ago held a dower right in a House on Church St. which has long since been consumed by fire without Insurance which resulted in a total loss and at this time she is a lady at the advanced age of eighty or ninety years.

S/ W. Johnson