



Cumberland river." He turned about & waited until he wrote him a certificate which he did & gave him. He then left the station & quit the service. This declarant understands to have been at the conclusion of the war [probably Nov 1783]. Declarant kept his certificate for the land in his pocket until he wore it out, pasted it together on another piece of paper and lost it. He lost his discharge before he did his certificate. He never received any more money for his services, nor did he ever get his land, and has always from that time to the present considered the government his debtor.

Declarant states that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the period of two years as a fifer in the regular service in the Virginia line.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of any agency in any state.

James hisXmark Loden

Grassey [page damaged] March 14<sup>th</sup> 1861

Com of Pensions

Washington Cty DC

Dear Sir I avail my self of the present opportunity of writing you a few lines in the way of Enquiry my grate grand mother Requisted of me to write to you and see what or whether or not there is any thing coming to her She thinks that she has bin cut out of her Rights she thinks that the pension has bin draw her name is Lauden her husbens Name wear James Lauden he was in the old ware and served as fifer and after the ware he went blind from Blowing the fife and his widow is in grate need of it if thare is any thing coming to hear She has lived a hard life and Rased a large family and if the amt is due hear she wants to Enjoy it while she lives if it has bin drawn you will pleas let me know who by and if not let me know what proof is nessesary for hear to make you will please Excuse my bad writen leter for I never write one of the kind before Respectfully yours &c

My address/ Grassey cove/ Tenn

John K. Moore

PS. answer at as Early a day as you can

#### NOTES:

The two officers first mentioned by Loden were apparently Capt. Abraham Kirkpatrick and Lt. William Eskridge of the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia Continental Regiment, which was formed from new recruits and the few Continental soldiers of Virginia who had not been captured at the surrender of Charleston SC on 12 May 1780.

On 11 Feb 1860 Susan Loden of Cumberland County TN assigned power of attorney to obtain benefits as the widow of James Loden. On 29 Mar 1861 in Bledsoe County she assigned power of attorney for the same purpose.