

## **Biography of John Cleland, Sr. from Sons of the American Revolution**

### **Patriot Number P-134558**

John Cleland, Sr. was born February 16, 1758, the son of a Scottish immigrant from Edinburgh named James Cleland and his wife Thankful Wilder Cleland. John Cleland, Sr. was working as a farm laborer when he enlisted on February 28, 1778 as a private in Captain Thomas Abbe's Company of Colonel Samuel Wyllys' Regiment of the Connecticut Militia. He was discharged on February 28, 1780. It is reported in documents from his pension application file that he was involved in a number of skirmishes during his two years of service.

Very soon after his discharge from the Connecticut Militia, John Cleland, Sr. married Thankful Easton on April 27, 1780 in Wapping, CT, which later became known as East Windsor. Thankful Easton was born April 12, 1757 in East Hartford, CT, the daughter of Joseph Easton (mother's name unknown). John Cleland, Sr. then enlisted again on September 10, 1780 in Captain Ozias Bissell's Company of Colonel Levi Well's Regiment of the Connecticut Militia, and was engaged in guarding the coast at Greenwich until his discharge in December of 1780.

Sometime after being discharged from his second enlistment, John and Thankful Cleland moved to Stafford, CT, where he was engaged in farming. The couple had eleven children while living in Stafford: Beriah (1781-1853), Edna (1782-1870), Samuel (1784-1787), James (1786-1787), Samuel (1788-1879), Thankful (1790-?), John, Jr. (1792-1876), James (1792-1792), Oliver (1793-1878), Nathan (1795-1887), and Martin (1797-1872). The family then moved to Otsego County, NY in 1807 with the eight surviving children. Their son John, Jr. soon relocated from Otsego County to Charlotte, Chautauqua County, NY in 1810, and was then joined there by his brothers Nathan and Oliver in the spring of 1811. After receiving favorable reports about the conditions in Chautauqua County, John Cleland, Sr. and the rest of his family then moved there from Otsego County in autumn of 1811, to settle on a 300 acre homestead that was eventually completely cleared for cultivation.

John Cleland Sr. and his wife Thankful remained in Charlotte, where he was awarded a pension in 1818 for his service as a Soldier of the Revolution, and he died there on February 16, 1827. Thankful Cleland was awarded a widow's pension in 1837, while she was living in Stockton, Chautauqua County, NY, where she died on January 19, 1844. Both John and Thankful Cleland are buried at Pickett Cemetery in Charlotte.

William V. Gehrlein  
Lewes, DE

Documentation from Pension Application is attached

20-1796

SERVICE

NUMBER

Comm. Cleland, John 26-20869

Thankful,

CONTENTS

John Cleland Pension

15.6.11  
New York

John Cleland

of Huntington Co. in the state of New York  
who was a private in the regiment commanded by  
Colonel W. H. Miller of the Connecticut  
line, for the term of three years

inscribed on the Roll of New York  
at the rate of 8 - Dollars per month, to commence on  
the 30 of April 1818

Certificate of Pension issued the 20th of Oct. 1819  
and sent to Phil. Orin Esq  
Fredonia New York

Arrears to 4th of Sep 1819 — \$129.33  
Semi-ann. all'ce ending 30th Mar 1820 — 48.

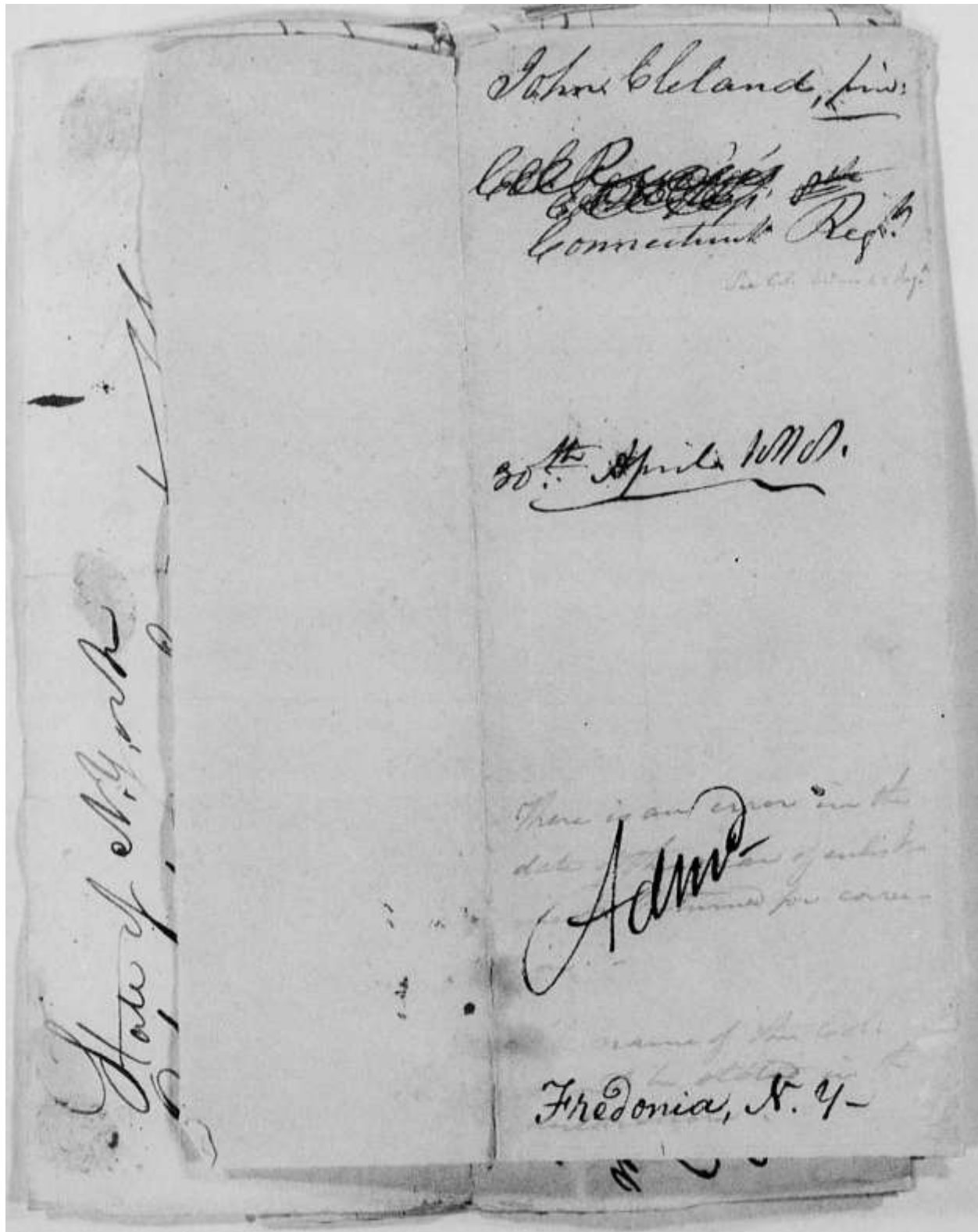
16mo 5/30 \$177.33

{ Revolutionary claim, }  
{ Act 18th March, 1818. }

Continued

Postmaster send to J. M. Miller Esq  
1820. Fredonia, N.Y.

John Cleland Statement April 30, 1818



John Cleland Statement John Cleland Statement April 30, 1818

State of New York  
Chautauque County

Personally appeared before me John  
Cleland a revolutionary soldier and being  
duly sworn deposed and saith, that some  
time in the winter or spring of the thousand  
seven hundred & ~~eighty~~ <sup>eighty</sup> Eight he enlisted into  
the army of the United States, Capt. Abbey  
Company and he believes Regiment No 8  
Colonel Samuel Wiley's Regiment  
Darius's Brigade Connecticut line  
and continued in service until Feb. 4  
one thousand seven hundred & Eighty  
when he was honorably discharged  
then serving under Genl. Reuben Hunt  
and that his discharge is lost - and  
further saith that from his reduced  
circumstances and old age stands in  
need of the aid of his country for support  
under the Act of the United States, pass 18.  
March 1818, for supporting indigent Rev-  
olutionary Soldiers

John Cleland  
mark

John Cleland Statement April 30, 1818

State of New York  
 Chautauque County &c on the eleventh day of October  
 in the year of our Lord one thousand eight  
 hundred and nineteen before me Phila Orton one  
 of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the afore-  
 said County personally came John Cleland who made  
 the foregoing declaration and being duly sworn said  
 that the year in which he enlisted was twenty eight in-  
 stead of Eighty eight as therein recited & that he served in  
 Colonel Samuel Willys' Regiment as above interli-  
 ned & further said that.

Phila Orton

John Cleland, Jr.  
 Capt. Regt. 4th Conn. Regt.

30th April 1818.

Adm.

Fredonia, N. Y.

John Cleland Statement April 30, 1818

State of N. York  
Chautauque County

Be it remembered that on  
the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 1818 ~~that~~ John  
Cleland signor of the within & foregoing  
Statement personally appeared before  
me Philo Coston one of the Judges of the  
Court of Common Pleas in & for the  
County aforesaid - and made solemn  
Oath that the same was true  
and from my knowledge of the Chara-  
cter of the Applicant and inquiry  
into the circumstances of his service  
in the revolutionary <sup>Army</sup> believe the  
same to be true in all its  
parts

Philo Coston

I further certify that I have examined a respectable witness who is  
a neighbor to the above Applicant from whose testimony  
I am fully satisfied he is in very reduced circumstances and  
absolutely stands in need of assistance from his country  
Support - June 23. 1818.

Philo Coston  
one of the Judges of the Court  
of Common Pleas of Cha-  
taugue County



John Cleland Statement April 30, 1818

State of New York.  
Chautauque County ss.  
I John Dexter, Clerk of the Court of  
Common Pleas, in & for the County of  
Chautauque, do hereby certify that, Philo-  
stern, is a Judge of said Court, duly Com-  
missioned & sworn residing in said County, and I do further  
certify that I am well acquainted with the handwriting of  
the said Philo stern, & that his name subscribed to the  
foregoing affidavit & certificate are his genuine signatures.  
In Testimony whereof I have affixed the Seal of said  
Court to these presents, & signed the same with my own  
hand at Mayville in said County the twenty third day  
of June 1818. ————— John Dexter,  
Clerk.

Done in the presence of the Justice of the Peace  
at Mayville in said County the twenty third day  
of June 1818.



John Cleland Statement June 30, 1820

John Cleland  
a Chautauque  
Commissioner under the act of  
Congress of 18th March 1818  
Scholarship under the act of  
Congress, approved 1 May 1820  
X Copy

Wyllis's reg<sup>d</sup> 15640

18 October 1818

Mar 20

3

John Cleland Statement June 30, 1820

State of New York  
 Chautauque County, ss. I do hereby certify that on this twenty  
 first day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty  
 eight, before me, personally appeared before the Judges of  
 the Court of common pleas held at the Court house in the  
 village of Mayville in & for the county of Chautauque &  
 State of New York, in open Court (said Court being a Court  
 of record in & for the said County, because it proceeds according  
 to the course of the common law, has a Justice in con-  
 stituted in point of amount, keeps a record of its proceedings,  
 and has a seal) John Cleland, aged about thirty two years  
 resident in the said County, who being by first duly sworn  
 according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in  
 the revolution of war as follows, to wit: That on the twenty eighth  
 day of February in the year 1778, he enlisted into the company  
 commanded by Capt. Thomas Abby in Col. Samuel Miller's Regt.  
 of the Continental line, for two years, that he served in  
 the said company & regiment, two years and was honorably discharged  
 at Springfield New Jersey on the twenty eighth day of February  
 in the year 1780. That he was in several skirmishes but  
 not lately of consequence - That on the thirtieth day  
 of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred  
 and eighteen, he made a declaration before his Hon. Philo  
 Burton Esquire, one of the Judges of the Court of common  
 pleas of Chautauque County aforesaid, in order to obtain  
 a pension under the act of Congress, entitled, "An act to  
 provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service  
 of the United States in the revolutionary war," passed on the  
 15th day of March 1818, that he had received a certificate  
 of discharge, marked, No. 16,640, by which it appears that in  
 conformity with the law of the United States of the 15th March  
 1818, he is inscribed on the pension list, Roll of the New York  
 agency at the rate of eight dollars per annum to commence  
 on the thirtieth day of April 1818, which certificate was given  
 at the war office of the United States the 29th day of October  
 1819. That the said John Cleland did on this twenty  
 first day of June 1820, exhibit to the Court before the  
 Judges thereof, in open Court, the following oath taken and  
 subscribed by him, before his Honor, Philo Burton Esq. and of  
 the Judges of the Court, and also at  
 the same time, exhibit to the said Court, the following schedule  
 of his estate & income also subscribed by himself &

on  
 of con  
 Court

# John Cleland Statement June 30, 1820

4-10  
Chas. State of New York }  
10- Chautauque County }  
I John Cleland do solemnly  
swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States  
on the eighteenth day of March, 1818. And that I have  
not since that time, by gift, sale or in any other manner  
whatever, disposed of my property or any part thereof with  
intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within  
the provisions of an act of Congress, entitled "An act to provide  
for certain persons engaged in the late & naval service of  
the United States in the revolutionary war, passed on the 18th  
day of March, 1815, and that I have not now nor any person  
in trust for me any property or securities, contracts or debts  
due to me, nor have I any income ~~or~~ other than  
what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me  
subscribed -

Subscribed & sworn to  
before me June 30 - 1820 }  
John Cleland  
mark

Philas Norton  
One of the Justices of the Court of  
Common Pleas of Chautauque County -

I then schedule of all the estate & income of John  
Cleland of Chautauque County in the County of Chautauque & State of  
New York, his necessary clothing & bedding excepted, ~~which~~  
made & described by him self & exhibited to the Court  
of Common Pleas of Chautauque County aforesaid, the thirtieth  
day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand  
eight hundred & twenty -

Real Property  
I have no real property, nor any interest in any land,  
tenements, or hereditaments -

Personal Property

Three cows, two of which I have purchased with the proceeds of money which I have received	45	1 old lot of flax seed and wax out	70
4, 2 year old steers, one of which I have purchased with the proceeds of money which I have received	44	1 ox, 1 hee	2
6 sheep & 6 lambs	9	1 Cow fed	2
4 bags all purchased with money when young	16	3 hoes	50
I have one note against one Hiram Haldredge for \$ dollars	6	<u>Furniture</u>	
I have one account against Stated Care for a pair of sheep but he has run away	3	1 Sip quilt Iron pot	1
		9 caps & sawing, which I have purchased with money	75
		1 Sea Box	25
		1 Iron Sea kettle	1
		1 Milk pail	50
		1 Water do	50

John Cleland Statement June 30, 1820

6 cow cattle skins	0.75
3 furs	0.87
2 Wild furs (skins)	1.50
3 tin basins	0.75
1 old iron chest	1.50

I have no Chapel, I do not shoot much of flock where I make my  
skins & furs, I have from one of my sons -

I have no provisions more than what I purchase from my  
neighbors from day to day -

1. I have a kettle, 1 pair horse chains, one spade -

In the winter & spring I travel about the adjacent towns  
amongst the farmers to get their furs & deer, & by that means  
have been able to procure myself & wife a bare subsistence.  
But I have become so infirm that it is difficult for me  
to travel - and if I had not received my pension money last  
season, I must have suffered - But with that I procure  
two cows & some other necessary articles which have enabled  
me to live till this time. I live in a small log hut  
in the woods, and my cows & other cattle feed on the pasture  
that grows wild in the woods & common lands. I take a piece  
of grass of some neighboring farmer to cut on shares to  
winter them -

I owe Messrs. Todd & Dangle's Merchants  
for ~~monthly~~ necessities which they have let me  
have, such as meat, flour & clothing, about \$60.00

They have lent me on my word that I would pay  
them as soon as I obtained my pension money -

I owe 2 other merchants about six dollars each - 12.00

I owe Doct. Surpore for medicine & attendance on  
my wife 9.00

My wife is very infirm & most of the time unable to  
help herself -

State of New York  
Chautauque County  
I John Cleland do solemnly and  
sincerely swear, that the above statement respecting my occupa-  
tion, my family & my ability to support them, and respecting  
~~the situation~~ my property & the debts which I owe, are  
in all respects true & true

Subscribed & sworn to  
before me June 30, 1820

Philo Myron  
one of the Judges of the Court  
of common Pleas of Chautauque  
County -

John Cleland  
marks

John & Cleland  
marks

State of New York  
Chautauque County }  
I Thomas B. Barnshall Clerk of the Court  
of Common Pleas held in and for the County of  
Chautauque do hereby certify that the foregoing  
proceedings, with the exhibits thereto annexed,  
are truly copied from the Record of the said Court;  
And I do further certify that it is the opinion  
of the said Court, that the total amount  
in value of the property exhibited in the aforesaid  
schedule is two hundred and thirty four dollars seventy five cents.  
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the seal  
of the said Court, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 1829. —

Wm. W. Phelps Esq

John Clark and  
a  
Commissioner under the act of  
Congress of 18th March 1812  
-  
John Clark and under the act of  
Congress of 17th May 1820  
R Copy

07951  
Waller's Bay

1890 Oct 17

Mar 20

Thankful Cleland Statement June 27, 1837

State of New York }  
Chautauque County ss. } On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, A. D. 1837,  
before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the said  
County of Chautauque, at the June term of said Court, now  
holden at the Court house in the Village of Mayville in  
said County, personally appeared Thankful Cleland,  
a resident of the town of Stockton in the County of Chautauque  
and State of New York, aged 79 - Years, who being first  
duly sworn, according to law, doth, on her oath make the  
following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of  
the provision made by the Act of Congress, passed July 4. 1836 -

That she is the Widow of John Cleland, who was a  
Private in the Service of the United States in the War of the  
Revolution - That under the Act of Congress of 1818, the  
said John Cleland, her late husband, received a Pension  
of Ninety six dollars per Annum, from the time the same  
was granted until the day of his death - That the Certificate  
of his Pension and all the Documentary evidence, (except  
the annexed paper, signed "J. L. Edwards") in relation to his  
services are on file in the War Office at Washington, as she  
is informed and believes true - and to which, for certainty  
in the premises, she refers for proof of his Services -

She further declares that she was married to the said  
John Cleland on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, A. D. 1780<sup>th</sup>, that her  
husband, the aforesaid John Cleland, died on the 16<sup>th</sup> -  
day of February 1827 and that she has remained a Widow ever  
since that period, as will more fully appear by reference  
to the proof hereto annexed -

Thankful <sup>her</sup> X Cleland  
mark

Sworn in open Court: The  
Declarant making her mark  
This 27<sup>th</sup> June 1837 Before me  
A. W. Tew-Clark



Cephas and Hannah Mills Statement July 10, 1837

I Cephas Mills of Tolland in the County of Hampden and Commonwealth of Massachusetts of Lawful Age Testify and say that I was well acquainted with John Chiland formerly of East Windsor in the State of Connecticut and was present when he was married to Thankful Easton - They were married in the month of April A. D. 1780 - at East Windsor by William Wolcott Esq.

I do not recollect the day of the month, but I will remember being present at the marriage and acted as Groomsman. Said Chiland served three or four months in the Revolutionary War after he was married - Cephas Mills

I Hannah Mills wife of Cephus Mills, Testify and say that I was well acquainted with John Chiland and Thankful Easton, and believe they were married at East Windsor in Connecticut in the month of April 1780 - I was invited to the wedding but my health was such that I could not attend - My husband attended the wedding - I will remember that he went into the Army in the war of the Revolution and served about three months after he was married  
Hannah Mills



Cephas and Hannah Mills Statement July 10, 1837

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Dorchester Co. Grinnell 10<sup>th</sup> July 1837  
Then personally appeared Cephas  
Mills and Hannah Mills his Wife  
and made Oath to the truth of the  
forgoing Deposition by them sub-  
scribed - And I certify that I am  
acquainted with the Deponents  
and believe them to be persons  
of Truth and veracity -  
Samy Cooley Justice of the Peace

Cephas and Hannah Mills Statement July 10, 1837

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Hampden Co. - I John Ingersoll Clerk of  
the Common Pleas Court being a Court  
of record in the County of Hampden  
do hereby Certify that Cephus, Cecily, Edger  
before to Court the foregoing Affidavits  
were verified in a Justice of the  
Peace for the County of Hampden  
and that his name thereto subscribed  
is his true and proper signature

In testimony whereof I have  
hereto set my hand and  
affixed the Seal of the said  
Common Pleas Court at  
Springfield on this thirteenth  
day of June in the year of  
our Lord Eighteen hundred  
and thirty seven

John Ingersoll Clerk

Cephas Mills Statement March 24, 1838

ms  
Westbrook  
April 12

May 19<sup>th</sup>

Jacob Houghton Esq  
Freeman

New York

Cephas Mills,  
deposition

Cephas Mills Statement March 24, 1838

I Cephas Mills of Tolland in  
the County of Hampshire & Commonwealth  
of Massachusetts, aged Seventy Eight years  
testify and say that I lived in East  
Windson in the County of Hartford and  
State of Connecticut in the year 1780 -  
I was well acquainted with John  
Chland who lived with me as a  
hired labourer - He had been in  
the United Service in the Revolution-  
ary war at that time a term of  
Three years and at the expira-  
tion thereof he came to my house  
and I hired him to work upon  
my farm - Early in the month  
of April in the year 1780 and  
while in my employ he was mar-  
ried to Thankful Easton who  
was sister to my Wife - I was  
present at the Marriage - He &  
his wife resided in my family  
untill the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 1780  
when he enlisted as a Private  
soldier in the service of the United  
States and went to Greenwich  
in Connecticut or Long Island  
Sound -

Cephas Mills Statement March 24, 1838

to guard the Coast - Justin Easton  
enlisted and went at the same time

The said John Chlanda was gone  
until about the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 1780 -  
when he returned, and took his  
wife and removed to Stafford in  
Connecticut - The Officers under whom  
the said Chlanda served were Col.  
Levi Mills - Capt. Otho Riffel  
Lt. Lemuel Thrall - Ens. Rufus  
Riffel. - Cephas Mills

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Dampscowss. 24<sup>th</sup> March 1838 Then  
Personally appeared Cephas Mills  
well known to me and made oath  
to the truth of the foregoing Deposition  
by him subscribed and I certify  
that the said Cephas Mills is a man  
of truth and veracity.

James Cooley Justice of the Peace

Cephas Mills Statement March 24, 1838

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Hampden Co.

I John Ingersoll Clerk of the Common Pleas Court, being a Court of Record in the County of Hampden do hereby Certify that James Cooly Esq. before whom the foregoing Affidavit was verified is a Justice of the Peace for the County of Hampden and that his name & name subscribed is his true and proper signature.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the said Common Pleas Court at Springfield on this twenty seventh day of March in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and thirty eight

John Ingersoll Clerk

enc



Thankful Cleland Pension Declaration

N<sup>o</sup> 2215  
Thankful Cleland  
Widow of John Cleland  
du<sup>o</sup>. -

Declaration for a  
Pension under the 3<sup>d</sup>.  
Section of the Act of  
July 4. 1836.

Jacob Houghton,  
of Fredonia,  
Chautauque Co.,  
N. Y. Agent,

2215

Thankful Cleland  
widow of John

N.Y.

act. 4 July 1838.

and  
2 years pri  
80<sup>ff</sup>

No deduction  
did in 1827.

Jacob Houghton.  
Fredonia  
N.Y.



Nathan and Oliver Cleland Statement June 27, 1837

State of New York, }  
Chautauque County ss. } Oliver Cleland, aged 42 years, and  
Nathan Cleland, aged 40 years, both of the town of  
Stockton in said County, being duly sworn, depose & say,  
and each for himself says, that he is the Son of John  
Cleland & Thankful, his Wife, named in the annexed  
Declaration of said Thankful - That the person now  
in Court, & whose Declaration is hereto annexed, is his  
mother, Thankful Cleland, the Widow of the said  
John Cleland; that the said John Cleland received  
a pension from Government, from the time it was  
granted until the day of his death, at the rate of  
\$96.00 per Annum; that the said John Cleland  
departed this life on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1827 -  
and that his mother, the said Thankful Cleland  
has remained a Widow ever since that period, &  
is still a Widow -  
Sworn in open Court  
June 27, 1837 before me  
G. W. Law Clerk

Oliver Cleland  
Nathan Cleland

In the Court of Sessions held at  
the County of Chautauque in the State  
of New York - June 27, 1837  
On the foregoing proofs, the Court are satisfied  
that Thankful Cleland, whose declaration is  
annexed, is the widow of John Cleland deceased,  
who was a Soldier of the Revolution, & who died  
on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of February 1827 and that the  
facts set forth in her said declaration are true  
and that she is entitled to the benefit of the  
provisions made by the act of Congress passed

Nathan and Oliver Cleland Statement June 27, 1837

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836 - It is also hereby certified that Jacob Houghton is a Justice of the Peace of said County duly elected & sworn & that his signatures to the annexed affidavits of Ross W. Litch & other Certificate of said Litch's good Character are in the proper hand writing of said Houghton, & it is further certified that Oliver Cleland & Nathan Cleland whose affidavits are annexed, are men of truth & veracity -

In testimony whereof the Judges of said Court have caused the Seal of said Court to be hereunto affixed & given under the hand of the Clerk of said Court the 27<sup>th</sup> day of June 1837 -

J. W. New Clerk

Roswell Fitch Statement June 27, 1837

State of New York - }  
 Chautauque County ss. } Roswell W. Fitch of the town of Pomfret  
 in the County of Chautauque & State of New York, a native  
 of East Windsor (then called Wapping) in Connecticut &  
 a Soldier of the Revolution, & now a Pensioner, in the 74<sup>th</sup>  
 years of his age, being duly sworn, testifies and says, that  
 the annexed Declaration of Thankful Cleland, widow  
 of John Cleland deceased, has been read to him - and  
 thereupon he further deposes and says that he knew and  
 was well acquainted with the said John Cleland &  
 Thankful, his Wife, before and after their marriage;  
 that her name, before marriage, was Thankful Easton;  
 that she lived in the family of John Grant, this  
 deponent's Great Uncle, at East Windsor (Wapping) aforesaid,  
 and that the said John Cleland & Thankful Easton  
 were married at the house of said Grant, in the  
 month of April, 1780 - That after marriage, they lived  
 as man & wife five or six years in <sup>the</sup> family of said Grant,  
 except that said Cleland was in service as hereinafter  
 mentioned - And this deponent further testifies & says,  
 that soon after the said marriage, perhaps three or four  
 weeks, said Cleland went into the service as <sup>a</sup> private  
 in the War of the Revolution, and served, he thinks, at  
 least nine months afterwards - But he cannot speak  
 with certainty as to time - This deponent also testifies & says  
 that he was himself a private in the service at the same  
 time, & frequently saw said Cleland in the service  
 performing the duties of a Soldier, after his said marriage,  
 in the year, 1780 - This Deponent says, that he believes  
 they had one or two Children before they left the house  
 of said Grant -

Roswell W. Fitch.

Subscribed & sworn to before me  
 the Subscriber, a Justice of the Peace  
 for the County of Chautauque in the  
 State of New York, the 27<sup>th</sup> day of  
 June, 1837 -

Jacob Houghton, J. P.

Roswell Fitch Statement June 27, 1837

State of New York — }  
Chautauque County ss }

June 27<sup>th</sup> 1837

I do hereby certify that I have been acquainted with Rosel W. Fitch whose deposition taken before me, is hereto annexed — and that he is a man of truth and veracity, as I believe —

Jacob Houghton, J. P.

The words "more than twenty years," interlined in the above certificate —

Jacob Houghton, J. P.

Thankful Cleland Pension Award

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Five years Pension.

I certify that in conformity with the first section of the act of July 7, 1838, *Thankful Cleland*, *widow of John Cleland*, *deceased* *in* who was a *Private* during the *Revol. War*, and died on the *Sixteenth* day of *July* 18*27* is entitled to receive five years' pension at the rate of *Eighty* dollars and *—* cents per *annum* ~~month~~, commencing on the fourth day of *March*, 1836; and in case of the death or marriage of said widow before the expiration of said five years, the pension will cease on the day of such marriage or death.

Given at the War Office of the United States, this *sixteenth* day of *September* one thousand eight hundred and *twenty eight*

*S. Cooper.*  
Acting Secretary of War.

Examined and }  
Countersigned. }

*J. L. Edwards*  
Commissioner of Pensions.

# Thankful Cleland Pension

New York - 360.

Thankful Cleland  
 son of John Cleland, dec'd  
 N.Y.  
 who was a pensioner under the Act of 18<sup>th</sup> Nov '18,  
 and who died on the 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 1827  
 of Blatanguis in the State of N York  
 who was a Pr in the Corp<sup>y</sup> commanded  
 by Captain \_\_\_\_\_ of the Reg<sup>t</sup> commanded  
 by Vagler in the N York  
 for 2 years

Inserted on the Roll of Albany  
 at the rate of 80 Dollars - Cents per annum,  
 to commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 1836

Certificate of Pension issued the 19<sup>th</sup> day of Sept  
 38 and sent to Jacob Houghton,  
 Frederick, N.Y.

Amount to the 1<sup>st</sup> of Sept \$200.00  
 Semi-annual allowance ending 40.00

\$240.00

{ Act July 7, }  
 1838. }

Recorded by R. Burdick Clerk,  
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Letter to Jacob Houghton 1 Dec. 1838

to same 24 Dec. 1838

to same 8 Jan. 1839

## John Cleland War Record Summary

March 27, 1933

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Mrs. Everett D. Nichols  
705 Ashland Avenue  
Muncie  
Indiana

John Cleland  
W. 20869  
BAW/MCS

Dear Madam:

Reference is made to your request for the Revolutionary War record of John Cleland.

The data which follow were obtained from papers on file in the pension claim, W. 20869, based upon the military service of John Cleland.

He enlisted February 28, 1778, as private in Captain Thomas Abbe's company in Colonel Samuel Wyllys' Connecticut regiment and was discharged February 28, 1780. He enlisted September 10, 1780, and served until about the first of December, 1780, as private in Captain Ozias Bissell's company in Colonel Levi Wells' Connecticut regiment and was engaged in guarding the coast.

He married April 27, 1780, at Wapping (which was later East Windsor) Connecticut, Thankful Easton.

After his return from service in December, 1780, he moved with his wife to Stafford, Connecticut.

He was allowed pension on his application executed April 30, 1818.

In 1820 he was living in Chautaugua County, New York, aged about sixty-two years.

He died February 16, 1827. The names of his parents were not given and the date and place of his birth were not given.



## John Cleland War Record Summary

His widow, Thankful, was allowed pension on her application executed June 27, 1837, at which time she was living in Stockton, Chautauque County, New York, aged seventy-nine years.

In 1837 the soldier's sons, Oliver aged forty-two years and Nathan aged forty years, were living in Stockton, New York.

The widow's sister, Hannah, married Cephas Mills and was living in 1838. Said Cephas Mills was the groom at the wedding of John and Thankful Cleland and in 1838 he was seventy-eight years of age and was living in Tolland, Massachusetts.

One Justice or Justin Easton was living in East Hartford, Connecticut, in 1838, and stated that he was then in the seventy-sixth year of his age. It was not stated that he was related to the widow.

Very truly yours

A. D. MILLER  
Assistant to Administrator