

East Dr.

Widow 717 616

Elija A Rice

Francis Rice.

Co A 15 Mass Vol Inf.

San

Jan 28 1909

File with case

Mrs Elija A Rice.

West Rindge

Cheshire Co.

N.H.

Madam:

In response to your communication dated Jan 6 and recd. Jan 7 1909, you are advised that your claim for widow's pension under the Act of April 19 1908 was rejected for the reason that you remarried June 6 1901.

The fact that you were divorced from your second husband <sup>in 1902</sup> cannot give you title to pension under ~~this law~~ paid Act.

There appears to be no existing Law whereby you could be pensioned as the widow of the soldier.

Very resp  
C.

1007.  
Act of April 19, 1908.

DECLARATION FOR WIDOW'S PENSION.

STATE OF New Hampshire } ss:  
COUNTY OF Cheshire  
On this 9th day of July, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and eight  
personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace within  
and for the county and State aforesaid, Eliza A. Rice aged 61  
years, a resident of West Rindge, county of Cheshire, State  
of New Hampshire, who, being duly sworn according to law, makes the following declaration in order to  
obtain pension under the provisions of the ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED APRIL 19, 1908.  
That she is the widow of Francis Rice, who was  
Enrolled under the name of Francis Rice, at  
Charlton Mass. on the 14th day of August, 1862  
as a Private in Co. A. 15th Mass. Vol. Inf., and  
honorably discharged July 28th, 1864, having served ninety days or more during the late civil war.  
That he also served \_\_\_\_\_  
(Here give a complete statement of all other services, if any.)

That he was not in the military or naval service of the United States otherwise than as stated above.  
That she was married under the name of Eliza Ann Stearns  
to said soldier at Charlton Mass. on the twenty third day  
of May, 1865, by Rev. John Haven;  
that there was no legal barrier to the marriage; that she had not been previously married; that the soldier had not  
been previously married,  
(If there was a prior marriage of either, the date and place of death or divorce of former consort or consorts should be stated.)

and that neither she nor said soldier married otherwise than as stated above.  
That the said soldier died March 28th, 1900, at Stowe Mass.  
that she was not divorced from him, and that she has not remarried since his death.  
That the said soldier left the following named children who are now living and under sixteen years of age, to wit:  
(If the soldier left no children, the claimant should so state.)  
Arthur H. Rice, born Oct. 23rd, 1879, at Charlton Mass.  
born \_\_\_\_\_, 1\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_  
born \_\_\_\_\_, 1\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_  
born \_\_\_\_\_, 1\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_  
born \_\_\_\_\_, 1\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_  
born \_\_\_\_\_, 1\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_

That she has heretofore applied for pension Certificate No 607296  
Francis Rice Printe Co. A. 15th Mass. Vol. Inf.  
(If prior application has been made, the number thereof, the service on which  
it was based, and the name of the soldier should be stated.)  
That her post-office address is West Rindge, county of Cheshire  
State of New Hampshire  
Attest: (1) James E. Carr  
(2) Clarence E. Brooks. Eliza A. Rice  
(Claimant's signature in full.)

Also personally appeared James E. Carr, residing in  
West Rindge N.H., and Clarence E. Brooks, residing in  
West Rindge N.H., persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being  
by me duly sworn, say they were present and saw Eliza A. Rice, the  
claimant, sign her name (or make her mark) to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe, from the  
appearance of said claimant and their acquaintance with her of 55 years and 12 years, respectively, that she is  
the identical person she represents herself to be, and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

Validity accepted  
S. A. Cuddy,  
Chief, Law Division.

James E. Carr.  
Clarence E. Brooks.  
(Signatures of witnesses.)

per CBH  
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of July, A. D. 1908;  
and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known and  
explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing, including the words \_\_\_\_\_,  
erased, and the words \_\_\_\_\_, added; and that I have no

[L. S.]  
interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

Official Character, filed to cover date. Herbert E. Wetherbee  
as a Justice of the Peace on file in Pension Office, Chief Law Div. Justice of the Peace  
Washington D. C. P. 7 15, '08  
6-1182





# DECLARATION OF A WIDOW FOR ORIGINAL PENSION.

STATE OF New Hampshire }  
COUNTY OF Cheshire } ss:

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and Nine, personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace within and for the county and State aforesaid, Elija Ann Rice aged 62 years, a resident of West Ridge, County of Cheshire,

State of New Hampshire, who being duly sworn according to law, makes the following declaration in order to obtain pension under the acts of Congress granting pension to the widows of soldiers and sailors who have died by reason of wound or injury received, or disease contracted, in the service of the United States and in the line of duty:

That she is the widow of Francis Rice, who was enrolled under the name of Francis Rice

at Charlton Mass. on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1862,

as a Private in Co. A. 15<sup>th</sup> Regiment Mass. Vol. Infantry

and was discharged on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1864, and who died at

Stow Mass. on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1900,

of Kitney Trouble due to lying on damp ground (in war time)

incurred in the above-named service. That the said soldier was not in the military or naval service of the

United States except as stated above.

[If any other service, it should be stated in full.]

That the said soldier was born January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1840, at Stow Mass.

that his personal description at enlistment was as follows: Height, 5ft-8 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches; complexion, dark;

color of eyes, blue; color of hair, dark; permanent marks or scars, \_\_\_\_\_;

that his occupation was Farmer

That she was married under the name of Elija Ann Stearns to said soldier

at Charlton Mass. on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 1865

by Rev. William Haven; that there was no legal barrier to the marriage;

that she had not been previously married; that the soldier had not been previously married.

[If there was a prior marriage of either, the date and place of death or divorce of former consort or consorts should be stated.]

That she was never divorced from said soldier, and that she has not remarried since his death. at

Maynard Mass. on June 6<sup>th</sup> 1901

[If remarried, the date and place of remarriage should be stated.]

That the said soldier left the following-named children under 16 years of age at the date of his death, to wit: None

\_\_\_\_\_, born \_\_\_\_\_, 1 \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, born \_\_\_\_\_, 1 \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, born \_\_\_\_\_, 1 \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, born \_\_\_\_\_, 1 \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, born \_\_\_\_\_, 1 \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, born \_\_\_\_\_, 1 \_\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_

[If any child has died since the soldier's death, its name and the date of its death should be stated. If the soldier left no children, the claimant should so state.]

That she has \_\_\_\_\_ heretofore applied for pension.

[If prior application has been made, the number thereof, the service on which

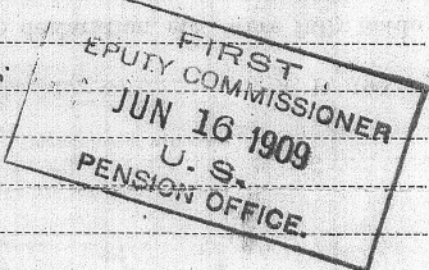
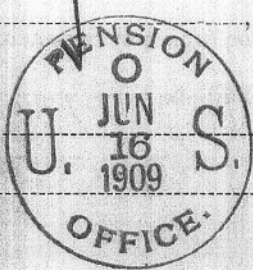
it was based, and the name of the soldier should be stated.]

That her post-office address is West Ridge, State of New Hampshire,

County of Cheshire

ATTEST: (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_



Elija Ann Rice  
[Claimant's signature.]

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

## RETURN OF A DEATH.

To the Clerk of the City or Town in which the death occurred.

(FILL OUT WITH INK. ALL NAMES TO BE IN FULL.)

Name, *Francis Rice* Sex, *Male* Color, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Death, *March 28<sup>th</sup> 1900* ; Age, *60* Years, *2* Months, *9* Days.  
 Maiden Name, { If married, widowed }  
 or divorced. {  
 Husband's Name, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced, *Married* Occupation, *Farmer*  
 \*Residence, { If out of town, }  
 also state fully. {  
 Place of Birth, *Stow Mass*  
 \*Place of Death, *Stow Mass*  
 Name of Father, *James*  
 Birthplace of Father, *Stow Mass*  
 Maiden name of Mother, *Mary (Maynard)*  
 Birthplace of Mother, *Paxton Mass*  
 Place of Interment, (Give name of Cemetery), *Brookside Cemetery*  
 Dated at *Stow*  
 on *March 30<sup>th</sup> 1900* Signature and  
 place of business  
 of Undertaker. {

I hereby certify that the above record is a true  
 copy from the Town records of Stow Mass,  
 Attest *Henry Gates*

Town Clerk.

Middlesex ss. Stow April 26<sup>th</sup> 1900

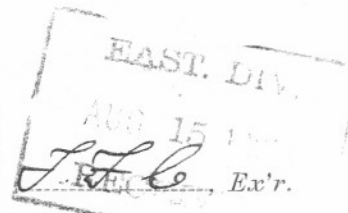
Then personally appeared Henry Gates  
 and made oath that the above is a true copy  
 from Town records of Stow Mass.

Middlesex ss. J. H. Stevens

in &amp;c

Justice of the Peace.

3-173.



*Eastern* Div.  
*69* - No. *607296*  
*Francis Rice*  
 Co. *A*, 16<sup>th</sup> Reg't *Maine*

Department of the Interior,  
 BUREAU OF PENSIONS,

Washington, D. C., *August 4*, 189*9*

SIR:

Will you kindly answer, at your earliest convenience, the questions enumerated below? The information is requested for future use, and it may be of great value to your family.

Very respectfully,

*Mr. Francis Rice -*  
*Howe*

*W. H. C. [Signature]*

Commissioner.

*Middlebury, Vt.*

No. 1. Are you a married man? If so, please state your wife's full name, and her maiden name.

Answer: *yes, Eliza Ann Rice, Eliza Ann Stearns*

No. 2. When, where, and by whom were you married? Answer:

*May 1865*  
*in Charlton Mass by William J. Haven*

No. 3. What record of marriage exists? Answer:

*recorded in Charlton*

No. 4. Were you previously married? If so, please state the name of your former wife and the

date and place of her death or divorce. Answer:

No. 5. Have you any children living? If so, please state their names and the dates of their

birth. Answer: *one Arthur Herman Rice*

*October 23 years 1878*

Date of reply, \_\_\_\_\_, 189\_\_\_\_.



## Marriage

### Groom

Francis Rice. Residence Charlton Mass Place of marriage Charlton Age 25 yrs. First marriage. Occupation Farmer. Birth place Stowe Mass. Name of Parents James & Mary Rice. Name of Clergyman John Haven Charlton

### Bride

Eliza A. Sterns. Place of marriage Charlton Mass. Residence Stowe Mass. Age 18 yrs. First marriage. Place of birth Stowe Mass. Name of Parents Winslow and Sarah Sterns. Clergyman John Haven.

Date of marriage May 24th 1865.

Charlton May 3-1900

Lucius D. Williams

Town Clerk

Warester, ss.

Then personally appeared the above named Lucius D. Williams and made oath that the above is a true copy of records of town of Charlton.  
Before me

M. E. S.

Forbes B. Dodge,  
Justice of the Peace.



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