

Baltimore, 29th, October, 1855.

Sir,

E. Peatty Graff, Esq^r, of this City, has handed me your ^{letter} addressed to him of 28th, ultimo, upon testimony filed by myself in support of the claim asserted by Mrs. Elizabeth Philpot, widow of Bryan Philpot, for the benefit of the Act of July 29th, 1848. — Mr. Graff, is the Agent or Attorney for Mrs. Catharine Sarah McKim, but has nothing to do with the case of Mrs. Philpot, — her case being in my charge and the testimony collected and filed by myself. — Mrs. Philpot's declaration was filed in September 1848, and with it evidence of her marriage — and her being the widow of Bryan Philpot. — Mr. Edwards, — the former Commissioner of Pensions, says in his letter, acknowledging the receipt of her declaration, that evidence of her marriage ^{was} sufficiently proven, but in your letter of 28th, you say, there is no proof of her being the husband of Claimant, — I have only to say, the family bible, containing the record of her marriage, was filed or left with her declaration at the Department and where it still remains, together with a ~~statement~~ certificate of the clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Coleman, who performed the ceremony. — I now send you enclosed, an extract, taken from the Parish record, by the present pastor, of St. John's Church, the Rev. Mr. Koch, which I hope, in addition to what has already been filed, will be received as sufficient evidence of marriage &c. — In regard to the proof of Bryan Philpot's service in the War of the Revolution, I send you herewith, an extract of the —
(proceedings),

proceedings of the Convention or Council of Safety," which show, that
Brian Milprot, on the 2nd January, 1776, was appointed an Ensign,
in the "Maryland Battalion," Commanded by Col. Smallwood, in the 8th,
Company of said Battalion, and which Company was Commanded by
Capt. ~~Small~~ Samuel Smith of this City. - This Battalion, was in the
battle of "Long Island" as the records at Annapolis and the history of
the War of the Revolution will show and suffered greatly from their
gallant conduct in that battle. - Among the papers filed in the case,
is a return made by Col. Smallwood himself, (it is true without date)
but the envelope or paper in which it was enclosed to the "Council of
Safety" bears date, I think, the 23rd September, 1776, shortly after
the "Battle on Long Island," which took place on the 27th August,
1776, and in this return, Col. Smallwood, gives the names of the killed
and Wounded and returns Ensign Brian Milprot, as having resigned, -
this being a return made to reorganize the Corps, we may fairly infer,
that he was in the battle on "Long Island," and his resignation took place
after the battle as is alleged by his heirs. - I also filed a copy of
Captain Samuel Smith's account, taken from the Army Ledger of the
Revolution, to show, that the sums of money paid him at different
times, were on account of his Company, and that it was the practice
in Maryland at the Commencement of the Revolution, to open accounts
only with the Captains of each Company, who settled with his officers and
men, and took their receipts. The records of the ^{Maryland} troops that served in
the War of the Revolution are very imperfect, - I know the fact, because,
I was ~~at~~ the Register of the Land Office of Maryland for 26 years,
and had charge of the records of the Revolution, and profess to know
(something)

something about the records. - The General Government as you are aware, assumed the debts of the Revolution, and it was alleged on the part of the Officers of the Government, that it was impossible to adjust the accounts and settle with the State, without having the pay rolls, paymasters accounts, Vouchers &c, to make the settlement, and they were accordingly forwarded on to Washington City, by the Executive of Maryland and were never returned, - the late Mr. Hagner, who was familiar with all the circumstances, informed me some years before his death, that they were all destroyed by the burning of the public buildings, which took place some years ago and that detailed statements of the paymasters accounts were not now ascertainable. I claim or ask therefore on behalf of the Widow of Brian Philpot, six months service of said Brian Philpot, as an Ensign, in the Maryland Battalion of Regular troops under Col. Smallwood. -

Now, for his service in the Company Commanded by Capt. Nicholas B. Moore, of the Baltimore Light Dragoons. - By a record of a newspaper, published in Baltimore City, during the Revolution and called "The Maryland Journal" and now belonging to the Historical Society. - It appears, that this Corps, on the 25th of May, 1779, assembled for the defence of the City of Baltimore and joined Genl. Puchanan's troops, to act as a Corps of Light Dragoons and on the 5th of April, 1781, by the letters of Capt. Moore to the Governor of Maryland, this Corps was in service and afterwards encamped at George Town, D. C. and were sent there by Order of the Executive of Maryland, and in June following, a letter was received from Genl. Weedon, of Virginia, saying, that Genl. Lafayette desired their services in the South, that an engagement -
(was)

was expected and he was deficient in Cavalry, which he much needed, - they obeyed the Order and joined the troops under Gen^l. Lafayette, and did not return home until August, 1781. When they received the thanks of Gov^r. Lee, General Morgan and Lafayette, - on the 11th of Sept^r, 1781, they were in service in the City of Baltimore, and escorted Gen^l. Washington to the "Mountain Inn"; - I should therefore humbly conceive, that this Corps, was in service from 25th May, 1779, to 11th Sept^r, 1781. when they acted as an escort to Gen^l. Washington, - there is no Muster or pay roll of the Company to be found, because, they all have been destroyed by fire, but the Copies of Captain Moores letters and other papers, taken from ^{the} Archives of the Executive Chamber of Maryland, and filed with M^r. Philpots application, and to which I respectfully ask your attention, you will perceive, there is a return made of the Company, by Commissioners, who were appointed to value their horses, which I should think, would be received as evidence ^{of service} in that Corps, - the Corps, were composed of Volunteers, most of them Gentlemen of Wealth and who were governed by pure patriotic feelings, in giving up the endearments and luxuries of home, to enter the service of their Country. - Messrs. Philpot, and McKein, who are recollected by many of the Old Citizens of this City, were particularly conspicuous, in contributing liberally their money, for the support of the War, when the Government were without either money or Credit; evidence of this, we can show from the records of the Historical Society, as also from the Archives of the Executive Chamber of Maryland, and the pensions now claimed by their Widows, would not I suppose, one tenth of the money they have expended in the service of their Country. - Hoping, that the papers filed in the case of M^r. Philpot, will be examined and duly considered. - I remain most respectfully,

The Hon^{ble}
J. Minot, Comm^r of Pensions.

Yr. Obedt ^{Servt}
G. G. Brewer,