

[fn p. 9]

To the Honorable Senate and House of representatives in Congress assembled

Your petitioner's Sheldon C Dunning a citizen of Georgia, respectfully represents that he is duly qualified Administrator of the estate of Louisa Love. That under and by proper authority her husband John Love was appointed to and accepted the office of Surgeon's Mate in the 1st Georgia Continental Battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Harris, Regiment commanded by Colonel White in the Revolutionary war against Great Britain, and who served to the end of said war. Your petitioner further represents that the British took possession of Savannah on the 29th of October in the year 1778, and at that time Colonel Mordecai Shaftall Deputy Commissary General of Issues for Georgia was taken prisoner together with others of the American Army, and conveyed on board of British vessels then lying near Savannah.

On the 9th day of October in the year 1779, an unsuccessful attempt was made by the French and Americans to recapture Savannah from the British. Count d'Estaing and General Lincoln were the Commanders. At that time count d'Estaing was wounded and noble Pulaski killed. Also in said engagement John Love Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid was wounded in the knee, and after having received said wound, was taken prisoner by the enemy and conveyed on board of a British vessel then lying near Savannah. He subsequently escaped from his captivity and joined the American Army and nobly served to the end of the war. And your petitioner further represents that by reason of the wound said Love was disabled up to the time of his death which was on the 25th of April in the year 1809. Annual petitioner further represents that John Love Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid was married to Louisa Duffle in the City of Charleston State of South Carolina on the 26th of February in the year 1789, and that the issue of said marriage were the following named children James and Elizabeth Ann, both of whom are now deceased -- James Love son of said John and Louisa Love married Ann Williamson and the issue of said marriage were Henry, John A. D., Charles and Andrew now alive, and his widow Ann now survives said James Love -- Major Peter [illegible middle initial] Oram married Elizabeth Ann daughter of said John & Louisa Love, and the issue of said marriage was Emma L. C. the only child of said persons, who is now Mrs. Emma L C Beard of New Orleans, who are the only heirs at law of John & Louisa Love. Annual petitioner further represents that Mrs. Louisa Love departed this life on the 13th of September in the year 1851, and that according to the pension laws she was entitled to have received a pension from 1831, up to the period of her death, to wit, on the 12th of September 1851. Also, your petitioner represents that in the life time of James Love son of Mrs. Louisa Love, he presented to the Commissioner of Pensions, and which is now on file in said office, evidence, record and parol, which has groove and that said John Love Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid served to the end of the war etc. etc. Notwithstanding this the Commissioner of Pensions offer to pay \$3000 or thereabout according to his record evidence of file, but refused to accept parol evidence, which amount of money James Love in his lifetime refused to accept.

Your petitioner begs leave further to represent that the Americans having had the possession of Savannah Georgia about eleven months or thereabout rations were issued for that period. Your honorable body will at once perceive that the Commissioner of Pensions required an impossibility and still persists in it. By reference to the evidence the fact will more fully appear.

In conclusion, your petitioner as Administrator as aforesaid, begs leave to state that John Love, Surgeon's Mate, as aforesaid, and his wife never made any application for a pension, and never received any gratuity from the Government of the United States. Your petitioner prays that Congress may pass an act for relief of the heirs of John & Louisa Love. And your petitioner will

ever pray etc.

S/ S. C. Dunning
Administrator Estate Louisa Love

Savannah January 27th, 1858

To the Honorable Senate & House of Representatives in Congress assembled

The petition of James Love respectfully showeth unto your honorable body, that your petitioner's Father Doctor John Love who was Surgeon's Mate first Battalion Lieutenant Colonel Harris, Regiment commanded by Colonel White entered the Continental Army in 1777, as Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid and faithfully served as such, that in the year 1779, at which time an unsuccessful attempt was made by the French and American armies to recapture Savannah from the British -- Count d'Estaing and General Lincoln were the Commanders 637 of French and 241 of the continentals and militia were killed and wounded, among the wounded your petitioner's Father John Love Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid received from the Enemy a wound on the knee, and was then taken prisoner and conveyed on board a British Vessel lying then near Savannah, and remained as such prisoner for several months, that his late Father has repeatedly told your petitioner, that he made his escape in the nighttime in a Barge belonging to the vessel in which he was confined as a prisoner. That in the year of aforesaid 1779, he again joined the American Army as Surgeon's Mate aforesaid, and at the close of the War was promoted to a Surgeon in the Regiment aforesaid. Your petitioner also begs leave to remind your honorable body in this attack Pulaski fell, the spot where he was shot down is about 100 rods from the Central Railroad Depot in the City of Savannah, Georgia.

Your petitioner did not know when he came to Savannah to present his claim against the Government in the right of his late Father and mother, that he would come across a living witness, that could prove the fact of his late Father's wound and capture, by reference to the affidavit of Mrs. Catherine Ritter now 106 years of age the fact will fully appear.

Your petitioner also begs leave to state to your honorable body by reference to the ration return it fully appears that your petitioner's Father received rations up to the time the British took Savannah, the other books and papers are supposed to have been destroyed by the enemy. The books and papers now in the Sheftall family were preserved by the late Mordecai Sheftall Deputy Commissary General of the issues, having been sent by him out of the City of Savannah at that time, it will be recollected that the said Mordecai Sheftall in his son Sheftall Sheftall were taken prisoners by the British, that the name of Sheftall Sheftall¹ is inscribed on the pension roll.

Again your petitioner solicits the attention of your honorable body to the fact that by reason of said wound that his late Father received in the knee while in the line of this duty against the enemy, that he was lame up to the time of his death.

Your Petitioner's Father Doctor John Love who was Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid departed this life in the city of Savannah State of Georgia on the 25th of April A.D. 1809, that his Mother Louisa Love survived his Father John Love and departed this life on the 13th of September 1851 at the City of New Orleans, that neither of his late parents in their lifetime applied for [indecipherable word or words] half pay, invalid pension or rears of pension money.

Your petitioner now with due respect approaches your honorable body and respectfully asks your interposition to the intent, so that your petitioner being the only surviving heir of the above mentioned persons made the allowed to receive the half pay due his late Father from 1782 to 1809, and that your petitioner may also be allowed to receive pension money in right of his

¹ [Sheftall Sheftall S31959](#)

Mother from 1831 to 1851, and may be placed on the same footing that officers wives are now by law who were married at the time of the war. And your petitioner will ever pray etc.

S/ Jas. Love