

20 May 1912 Reissue ACT OF MAY 11, 1912
2035 Lytle Street
Rate, \$30 per month, commencing May 20, 1912
Submitted for approval 18 Sept 1912
Length of pensionable service 4 years 3 months 6 days
Enlisted Sept 15, 1861; honorably discharged Dec 13, 1864
Enlisted March 25, 1865; honorably discharged March 31, 1866
Pensioned at \$20.00 per month under act of Feb. 6, 1907
Declaration filed May 20 1912
Age shown by evidence 77 years; date of birth alleged Feb 13, 1835
Claimant does not write.

21 May 1912 Letter from Andrew Gestach
Hon Commissioner of Pensions

Sir

I herewith file my affidavit to establish the fact that Henry Stack who was married to Mary O'Rourke and Andrew Gestach of Co. M 1st Ohio Artillery as one and the same if any further evidence is required kindly inform me as I would like her to have the matter settled while I live.

Very Respectfully,
Andrew X Gestach
(his mark)
2035 Lytle St., Louisville, Ky.

12 August 1912 Letter the Department of the Interior received from Andrew Gestach

Sir,

I wish to make an explanation in regard to difference in my name, My full correct name is Andrew Henry Gestach I served in Co. M first Ohio Lt, Art'y as Andrew Gestach, See Pension certificate no 839,655 After I came home form the Army and went to work I got to being called Stack instead of Gestach and having become accustomed and known as Henry Stack, I dropped the German name and Married Mary O'Rourke as Henry Stack, and my children are known by the name of Stack, among their friends, and these children were baptized as Stack not Gestach, having dropped the Ge, in my name, I wish to have my name corrected or an explanation made to prevent my wife having trouble in procuring a Pension if she should survive me. Kindly inform me as to what can be done on my part to have this satisfactorily explained.

Very Respectfully,
Andrew (his mark) Gestach

15 August 1912 Letter to Andrew Gestach from Department of the Interior

Sir;

In response to your communication without date, received the 12th instant, you are informed that testimony of at least two reliable witnesses should be filed with the papers in your case, for use in the event of your death, to show that Henry Stack, who married Mary O'Rourke, is identical with Andrew Gestach, the name under which you are pensioned.

Very respectfully,
J.L. Davenport,
Commissioner

23 August 1912 ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

... Annie Stone aged 52 years and whose post-office address is 2035 Lytle St. Louisville, Ky.

I have been acquainted with Andrew Gestach now known as Henry Stack in the year 1784. I knew that his correct name was Andrew Henry Gestach and at the time he was called "Stack" by his fellow workmen. He spoke broken English and accented the last syllable of his name so distinctly that it came to be pronounced Stack and as it was apparently easier and more pleasant he dropped the first syllable of his name He married Mary O'Rourke in my presence and gave his name Henry Stack: Her mother wanted the name corrected but the matter was dropped and the name Stack was kept as their correct name.

...Daniel O'Connell aged 61 years and whose post-office id 1727 Duncan St. Louisville, Ky.

I became acquainted with Andrew Gestach about the year 1872 in Henry County, Kentucky he was then a single man I know that he the gave his correct name as Gestach but was called Stack he then spoke broken English; and persons speaking the English language did not always get the Correct pronunciation of the name so he was called Stack. I know that the same Andrew Gestack married Mary O'Rourke in Louisville Ky. and they are now and have been married since there marriage living as husband and wife and are known by the name of Stack: I know that the said Henry Stack draws Pension as Andrew Gestack and the way he speaks his name the Ge is almost silent. I worked with him at one place and his name was recorded Stick and he did not correct it and he was called Stick which he never corrected these he seems ___ less to have his name ___ called.

10 February 1913 DECLARATION FOR WIDOWS PENSION

...Mary Stack aged fifty seven years, a resident of Louisville County of Jefferson State of Kentucky who, being duly sworn according to lae, makes the following declaration in order to obtain pension under the provisions of the ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED APRIL 19, 1908.

That she is a widow of Henry Andrew Stack who was enrolled under the name od Andrew Gestack as a Private in Co. M 1st Ohio Lt Arty D, 5 U.S. Vet. Inf. And honorably discharged March 31 1866 having served ninety days or more during the late war of the

rebellion. That the soldier was not in the MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE of the United States except as stated above see Invalid certificate No. 839655 Act of May 11, 1912

That she was married under the name of Mary Rourke to said soldier at Louisville KY, on the 30 day of April 1876 by Father Powers; that there was no legal barrier to the marriage; that she had not been previously married; that the soldier had not been previously married.

That the soldier died February 5, 1913 at Louisville, KY that she was not divorced from him, that she has not remarried since his death.

That the NAMES and DATES OF BIRTH of all the children of the soldier, noe living and under SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE are as follows:
No child under 16 years of age.

That she has not heretofore applied for pension. That she was married to the Soldier in Germany his name Henry Stock was misspelled Stack.

That her Post-Office address is 2035 Lytle St. Louisville, County of Jefferson, State of Kentucky.

(signed) Mary Stack

Included with above application
Death Certificate for Henry A. Stack
Sex Male Color White Married
Date of Birth Feb 13 1845
Age 68y 5days
Occupation None
Birthplace Australia
Name of Father Christopher Stack
Birthplace of Father Germany
Name of Mother Unknown
Birthplace of Mother Unknown
Informant Mrs. Henry Stack
Filed Feb 6 1913
Cause of Death Pulmonary Odema
Place of Burial or removal
St. Louis Feb. 7, 1913
Undertaker Dougherty & McElliott
1227 Market

Also included Marriage Certificate from the State of Kentucky

That heretofore, to wit: on the 19th day of April 1876 Henry Stack obtained from the Clerk of the County Court, within the State and County aforesaid, a license to marry Mary Rourke and that they were married by M. Power at Louisville, KY on the 30th day of April 1876 in the presence of Dennis McSweeny and Ann Rourke all of which

appears upon the Marriage Register on file in my office as Clerk of said Court.

(dated 10 February 1913)

Also included a statement from the current pastor of St. Michaels Church, 220 Brook St. Louisville, KY. dated 10 February 1913 stating that M. Power married Henry Stack and Mary Rourke on April 30 1876.

11 February 1913 ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

...Annie Stone aged 52 years, and whose post office address is No 2035 Lytle Street, Louisville Ky.

I have known the Claimant Mary Stack all of her life, She was not married prior to her marriage to Henry A. Stack, I saw them married, and know that the Henry Stack named in their marriage certificate and the Andrew Gestack that was pensioned on certificate No. 339633 and known as Henry A. Stack was one and the same person, he did not speak the English language plainly, and never took pains to either give his name correctly or to correct others in specking his name, in fact did not seem to care what he was called, I know that they lived together as husband and wife from the date of their marriage until his death and never divorced, I became acquainted with Henry A. Stack about the year 1874 or 1875, and knew him well until his death, his wife is my sister, we lived in the same house, and from this knowledge of him state that when he was discharged from the United States Service he went to work on farms in Kentucky, and was employed as a Dairyman, he worked in Woodford and Oldham Counties, and after they were married they went back to Oldham County where he had formerly worked for some time, I am sure that if he had been previously married I should have known or heard of it therefore state that he was not previously married.

11 February 1913 ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

...Daniel O'Connell aged 62 years, and whose post-office address is 3031 Portland Ave, Louisville KY

I became acquainted with Henry A. Stack in the year 1873 in Henry County, Kentucky he was working in the Neighborhood as a farm hand and dairy man, I know that he was then called Gestack and also called Stack he was called Henry, by his employers, he was a man that was really difficult to understand, in talking, he spoke indistinctly, when he said Gestack he sounded the last syllable with the broad A from my intimate acquaintance with the man from 1873 until his death, frequently working with him, I am sure that he was not married prior to his marring the claimant, he was not a man to have concealed a marriage, and if he had been previously married he would I believe have told me, he was a temperate man and a man of good character, he was one of these quiet inoffensive man that took but little interest in other people, went ahead and attended to his own affairs, he and the claimant were never divorced but lived together as husband and wife from the date of their marriage until his death, I did not know the claimant before she was married but from my later acquaintance with her and her own family I am sure she was not married prior to her marriage to Henry A. Stack

4 April 1913 WIDOW'S PENSION

Rate, \$12.00 per month, commencing February 13, 1913

Approved 4 April 1913: Admission under Act April 19, 1908

The soldier was pensioned at \$30.00 per month for age Act May 11, 1912

Enlisted September 15, 1861	Soldiers application filed 1884, 1890, 1909, 1912
... honorably disch'd December 13 1864	Cl't's app'n under other laws none
Reenlisted March 31, 1865	Former marriage of none
... honorably disch'd March 31, 1866	Death/Divorce of former none
Died, February 5, 1913	Cl't's marriage to soldier, April 30, 1876
Declaration filed February 13, 1913	Cl't not remarried, not divorced
Claimant does write	None, M.C.

15 April 1913 BOARD OF REVIEW

Claimant Mary widow of Andreas Gstach known as Henry Stack

Respectfully, returned to the chief of the Army & Navy Division for reference to the Chief of the Special Examination Division with a view to determine the identity of the claim and husband as the soldier of record and whether he was ever married prior to his marriage to the claimant April 30 1876 at which time according to his own allegations he was past 41 years old.

The explanation furnished as to change of soldiers name from Andrew Gestach to Henry Stack seems reasonable and would be readily accepted but for the fact that he was married to the claimant under the name of "Stack" as shown by copy of public record and of church record.

This fact in connection with the eye of the soldier and the fact that none of the witnesses ever heard of him before 1873 wonder seems to warrant the reference for special examination as ___ gestesh herein Order 12 Par 5 to be absent and a list of comrades shown accompanying papers.

17 April 1913 BOARD OF REVIEW

Claimant Widow

Soldier Andrew Gestach afterward Henry A. Stack

Respectfully, returned to Wm Harrington Rev Capt. Cases Section Proposed refinance for special examination not covered in the explanation made by soldier during his life time relative to his change of name seems to me quite satisfactory. There is no doubt in my mind as to his identity with the soldier of record. The War Dept. report dated July 11 1898 shows he was involved in his first service as Stack. I agree with the examiner that claim is ready for allowance.

18 July 1929 Letter written by Sallie T. Duke to The Bureau of Pensions

Gentlemen;

Mrs. Mary Stack, widow, Andrew Gestack, know as Henry A. Stack; Private Co. M. 1st, Regiment, Ohio Light Artillery and Co. D 5th Reg U. S. Veteran Infantry; now drawing \$30.00 per month pension which is mailed to Mrs. Stack from your office, wishes

to state that she will be 75 years of age August 10, 1929: was born August 10, 1854.

When the pensioner reaches the age of 75, the pension will be increased to \$40.00 per month so I am informed by Mrs. Stack.

The number of Mrs. Stack's pension certificate is 756.971. Act of April 19 1908.

Under act of Congress, by President May 1st, 1920 pension increased to \$30.00 per month; Signed,

G.M. Galtzobe, Comm. Pensions.
John Arten Payne, Secty.

(this information is from slip form #3-1129)

The writer wishes to say that if other information is necessary, you may write to her or address Mrs. Stack, whose address is #2035 Lytle St. Louisville, KY. (this of course you have)

Thanking you and am,

Very Respectfully,
Sallie T. Duke
Notary Public, Jeff. CO.KY.
Collr (?) House Fiscal Court
Lou. KY.

8 August 1929 Letter written by Sallie T. Duke to The Bureau of Pensions

Gentlemen;

Your Form letter 3-2546 (June, 1928) dated August 5th, came to Mrs. Mary Stack recently; in turn she has handed same to me for reply; which I beg to say that I am enclosing Certificate of Baptism of Mes. Mary Stack, dated August 13, 1854, which I trust is complete and will cover your request of Birth certificate.

Mary Stack widow of Andrew Gestach known as Henry A. Stack, was married (Maiden name) Mary O'Rourke was married to Andrew Gestach, on April 30th, 1876: The Bureau of Pensions has copy of Marriage Certificate, which was filed with them at Husbands death February 5th, 1913, if another is necessary at this time, Mrs. Stack will be glad to do so.

Mrs. Stack will be Seventy Five years of Age, Saturday August 10, 1929; A very lovely precious old lady.

Thanking you and if any other information is necessary write to me or Mrs. Stack and same will be taken care of early,

Yours Very Truly,
Sallie T. Duke

Notary Public, Jeff. CO. KY.

PS.

I am registering this letter as I do not want anything to happen to the Birth Certificate.

Enclosed with letter;

Certificate of Baptism Church of St. John, Louisville, KY. This is to Certify That Mary Child of Charles O'Rourke and Ann O'Rourke born in Louisville, KY on the 10th day of August 1854 was Baptized on the 13th day of August 1854. According to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church by the Rev. D. Kelly the Sponsors being Edward Kelly and Catherine Kelly as appears form the Baptismal Register of this Church. Dated Aug. 7, 1929 (signed by) G.W. Schuhrman Pastor.

10 August 1929 WIDOWS PENSION

Request for increase in pension to \$40.00 per month

Approved 16 August 1929 Claimant was born on 10 August 1854

Claimant's marriage to soldier 30 April 1876

17 July 1930 Letter from Sallie T. Duke to Bureau if Pensions

Gentlemen;

Mrs. Mary Stack (Pensioner) died on Tuesday July 1st 1930; her pension voucher was returned by the postman on their route.

Mrs. Stack was the widow of Andrew Gestach; known as Henry A. Stack. She was receiving \$40.00 per month pension, under Act of May 1st 1920 (Number 756,791) marked (Increase) The original Pension Certificate was, Act of April 19 1908.

What ever money is due Mrs. Stack, will you kindly make check payable and mail to Chas. A. Stack, at 2035 Lytle St. Louisville, Ky., (Mrs, Stack's son) he being the proper one to whom same should be paid as he was appointed Administrator of the estate.

You may correspond with this son (Chas. A. Stach) at 2035 Lytle St., or you may address the writer, as I have taken care of Mrs. Stack;s pension and also that of her sister for some time.

Thanking you and hoping that the check will be forwarded at early date and oblige,

Yours very respectfully
Sallie T. Duke

17 July 1930 Drop Report Pensioner
Mary Stack

The name of the above described pensioner who was last paid at the rate of \$40.00 per

18

18

month to June 4, 1930 has this day been dropped from the roll because of death July 1, 1930

12 August 1930 APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Chas. A. Stack aged 50 years...is hereby made for reimbursement from the accrued pension for expenses paid in the last sickness and burial of Mary Stack (Mother) ...who DIED July 1st 1930 at Louisville, Kentucky and was buried at St. Louis Cemetery Louisville, Kentucky

7. Was there insurance? Answer yes

8. If so, give the name of each company in which a policy was carried and the amount in which each policy was written. \$421.00 Prudential Ins. Co. also Ladies of Knights Security

9. Who was the beneficiary named in each policy? Prudential divided between Chas. , William, John, & Joe Stack. Ladies K. of Sec. (Chas. A. & Wm Stack)

10. What was the relation of each beneficiary to pensioner? Sons

11. Were the premiums paid by the deceased pensioner, Yes money provided by Chas. & Wm Stack.

(Note on the bottom of the page states that John and Joe are married.)

(next page)

13. Is there an executor or administrator? Char. A. Stack, administrator

14. Did the deceased pensioner leave any money, real estate or, personal property? No

18. Did the pensioner leave an unendorsed pension check? No

19. What was your relation to the deceased pensioner? Son

20. Are you married? No

21. What was the cause of death? Myocarditis and Nephritis

22. When did the pensioner's last sickness begin? June 18 1930

23. From what date did the pensioner become so ill as to require regular and daily attendance of another person constantly until death? From June 8 1930

24. Give the name and post-office of each physician who attended the pensioner during last sickness Dr. P.H. Schwankhaus 28th & Greenwood Louisville ,Ky

25. State the name of the persons by whom the pensioner was nursed during the last sickness? Sister Mrs. Annie Stone and Son Chas. A. Stack

26. Where did pensioner live during last sickness? 2035 Lytle St.

Additional Information for above

Also appeared Mrs. Anna Stone and Mrs. Barbara Weixler

1. Did pensioner leave a widow or a minor child under age of sixteen years surviving?

2. When did the pensioner die July 1st 1930

3. Did pensioner leave any property? No

4. Our means of knowledge of the above statements made by us are: We knew the deceased pensioner for ____ years and as sister and friend

Mrs. Anna Stone (Life) Mrs. Weixler (30 years)

From what date did the pensioner require the regular and daily attendance of another person June 8th 1930 -to July 1st 1930

15 September 1930 Letter from Widows Division to Charles Stack

Dear Sir:

In your claim for reimbursement in the case of Mary Stack, you should furnish itemized bills from the attending physician, druggist, undertaker, and cemetery. Each bill should contain the pensioner's name, and a statement over the signature of the creditor, showing by whom paid, or if unpaid, that you are held responsible for payment.

The enclosed form 3-2014 should be signed by Mrs. Anna Stone and returned to this Bureau with the other evidence.

You should furnish a statement showing the exact amount received from Prudential Life Insurance Company and from Ladies of the Knights of Security.

Very truly yours,

E.W. Morgan
Acting Commissioner

20 October 1930 Letter to Widow Division from Sallie T. Duke

Gentlemen;

In reply to your favor of the 15th, of September, (1930) beg to say that I am enclosing you herewith, your Form 3-2014 signed by Annie Stone, as requested. The receipted bill of D.J. Dougherty and Son; The receipted bill of Dr. Paul H. Scheankhaus and also the memorandum of the amount received from Prudential Ins. Co. and the Ladies of Knight Security. Will say further that Mr. Chas. Stack advises me that the drugs used during his mother's illness, were purchased from different drug stores and paid for at the time of purchased from different drug stores and paid for at the time of purchase.

Trusting that this will be what you want, however if other information is necessary, I will be glad to furnish you.

Hoping to hear soon and remain,

Yours Very Truly
Sallie T. Duke
Notary Public, Jeff. Co. Ky.

7 January 1931 Letter from Widows Division to Charles Stack

Dear Sir:

In your claim for reimbursement in the case of Mary Stack, you should furnish a statement under oath, giving the total amount paid by you and William Stack in premiums on the insurance carried by the pensioner.

You should furnish also a statement showing the assets left by the pensioner, which made the appointment of an administrator necessary.

Very truly yours,

E. W. Morgan
Acting Commissioner

3 February 1931 Letter to Veterans Administration form Sallie T. Duke

Gentlemen;

In reply to your letter of January 7th, reference to the above correspondence, I wish to say the deceased (Mary Stack) boarded these two sons, Chas and William she in turn would use a part of this money to pay her insurance; It would be impossible for them to determine the amount of insurance that was paid by each of them. It is the opinion or judgment of the writer, that when these sons paid their board to their mother, and she out of this money paid her insurance, they (these sons) did not meet this insurance; however, Mr. Chas. A. Stack, meet all the expenses in the last illness and death of his mother; all these receipted bills were mailed to you (registered) which I believe is proof that Chas. A. Stack is entitled to what might be due his mother.

Information

Trusting that this may help and that Mr. Chas. Stack will hear from you at an early date,

Very Respectfully,
Sallie T. Duke
Notary Public, Jeff. Co. Ky

28 March 1931 REIMBURSEMENT

Rate \$40.00 Last paid June 4, 1930 at \$40.00
Date of death July 1, 1930 Accrued pension 0

Amounts claimed

Physician's bills	\$54.00
Medicine	\$20.00
Undertaker's bill	\$288.10
Totals	\$362.10

Deductions

Insurance	\$421.04
Death benefits	\$487.35
Totals	\$908.39

Approved for rejection, Pensioner left assets sufficient to meet the expenses of the last sickness and burial.

1 April 1931 Letter from Widow Division to Charles Stack

Dear Sir:

Your claim for reimbursement in the case of Mary Stack is rejected on the ground that the pensioner left assets (industrial insurance \$421.04, death benefits \$487.35; total \$908.39) sufficient to meet the expense of the last sickness and burial, alleged to have been \$362.10.

The accrued pension cannot, under such circumstances, be paid to anyone for any purpose.

Very truly yours

E.W. Morgan
Acting Commissioner

29 April 1931 Letter to United States Dept. of the Interior Bureau of Pensions from Sallie T. Duke

Gentlemen;

In reply to your letter addressed to Mr. Charles A. Stack, 2935 Lytle, Louisville, KY. Ref (Widow Division, Wid. C 756971 Henry A. Stack M 1 Ohio L.A.) Date, April 1st, 1931.

Mr. Stack asked that I write you to say, that he was not asking for reimbursement of any thing that he paid out for death or sickness for his mother (Mary Stack) but, Mrs. Stack died on July 1st, 1930 and when her voucher was delivered to them, it was returned to the Postman; she was lying a corpse or had just been buried, when the voucher containing her check came and as I say, was handed back to the Postman and in turn returned to you. This is what Mr. Chas. Stack feels he is entitled to, the check that came for the month of June 1930 and was delivered July 3rd or 4th 1930 and returned to you.

Please advise whether or not this money is paid to any one up to the date of the person's death and oblige,