

**CIVIL WAR PENSION FILE - Certificate No. 129,480 and 907255**

**SIMEON LABOUNTY** - Private, Co. K, 118th Regiment, NY Volunteer Infantry

Enlisted: 16 Dec 1863 - Black Brook, Clinton, NY

Mustered into service: 17 Dec 1863 - Plattsburgh, NY

Honorably Discharged: 31 May 1865 - Rochester, NY

Physical Description: 5' 5", lt. complexion, lt. brown hair, blue eyes, laborer, born 13 Apr 1845 at Black Brook, NY

Disability: Partial dislocation left ankle received 23 Mar 1864 on retreat near Suffolk, VA; fracture left arm incurred in service and line of duty in January 1863 at Newport News VA, and gunshot wounds of neck and right leg incurred at Suffolk, VA about March 1864; also rheumatism

Pension: \$4 per month commencing 22 Apr 1872; \$8/mo. in 1885

**RESIDENCES SINCE THE WAR:**

Michigan, Vermont, New York

Sep 1871: Deerfield Corners, Oneida, NY

11 Oct 1873: Brighton, Franklin, NY

6 Jul 1885: Utica, Oneida, NY

Apr 1897: Simeon resided Blossvale, Oneida, NY til ca Apr 1900, then possibly went to Rome, NY

16 Apr 1891, 1899: Simeon resided St. Regis Falls, Franklin, NY

Aug 1895: When Simeon left Louisa they were living at Dickinson Center, Franklin Co., NY; after leaving Louisa, he resided at the following locations, to her knowledge: Waterbury VT, Fulton and Fish Creek NY, Saranac Lake NY, and Peru NY; since Simeon left Louisa, she lived in the following places: Dickinson Center NY, St Regis Falls NY, Blake's Mills NY, Buck Mountain or Brandon NY, Fulton NY, Madrid NY, and near Potsdam NY [she never lived anywhere in St. Lawrence Co. NY before Oct 1921]

Fall 1895: Simeon possibly resided Waterbury, VT

1897: Simeon returned to Louisa at Blake's Mills near St. Regis Falls, NY; 1-2 weeks later he left again; at that time his 2nd wife was living at Waterbury, VT

Early March 1900: Simeon broke up with 2nd wife and moved with one child to St. Regis Falls, NY

20 Apr 1900: Simeon possibly residing at St. Albans, VT

1 Oct 1901: Louisa moved to Oswego Falls, Oswego, NY

July 1902: Louisa resided Fulton, Oswego, NY

7 Oct 1902, Feb 1903, Mar 1903, May 1915: Simeon resided Peru, Clinton, NY

4 Oct 1905: Monkton, Addison, Vermont (age 60)

Aug 1908: Peru, Clinton, NY (age 64)

3 Mar 1910: Harkness, Clinton, NY (age 65)

1912: RFD 1, Peru, Clinton, NY

1913: Harkness, Clinton, NY

17 Apr 1914: Harkness, Clinton, NY

Jan 1921: Louisa resided Madrid, St. Lawrence, NY

27 Jul 1921: Louisa resided Madrid NY but was staying with daughter Louisa Rivers at Potsdam, NY

20 Sep 1921: Louisa, c/o Louisa Rivers, Potsdam, St. Lawrence, NY (her daughter)

DECLARATION FOR INVALID PENSION - Oneida Co., NY, 27 Sep 1871: Simeon La Bounty, age 25, residing Town of Deerfield, Oneida, NY, enlisted on 16 Dec 1863 at Black Brook, Clinton, NY as a Private in Co. K commanded by Capt. Stone, 118th Regiment of NY Infantry Volunteers, commanded by Col. Keys, and was honorably discharged at Rochester NY on 31 May 1865. While in the service and in the line of duty he received an injury to his left ankle o/a 23 March 1864 at/near Suffolk, VA, while on a double quick and on a retreat, and said injury consisted of dislocating

the bones in the joint of his left ankle which never thereafter were replaced and that his said left ankle is troublesome to him. That since he was discharged from said Co. and Regiment he has not been engaged in the military or Naval service of the U.S. Since leaving the service he has resided in Clinton Co., NY; St. Lawrence Co., NY; and Oneida Co., NY. Prior to his service he was occupied as a laborer. He is now partially disabled. Soldier's P.O. is at Deerfield Corners, Oneida, NY. He appoints George C. Carter of Utica, NY, as his attorney. /s/ Simeon La Bounty, his mark (X), witnesses Charles Spain and William Sweeny, Town of Deerfield, Oneida Co., NY.

AFFIDAVIT, 21 Dec 1871: On the Muster Rolls of Co. K, 118 Regiment for March/April 1864 he is reported absent sick in Hospital, Portsmouth, VA; muster out roll of Co. E 96" NY Vols dated Feby 6, 1866 reports him absent sick since Jan. 17, 1865, place not known; no discharge form.

AFFIDAVIT - Edwin B. Bullis, Ausable, Clinton, NY, 12 Feb 1872: Bullis was a Private in Co. K, 118th Regiment, NY Volunteers, and knows Simeon La Bounty who was a member of said Co. and Regiment. While La Bounty was engaged in military service and in the line of duty as a soldier he dislocated his left ankle and received an injury to his left ankle joint, caused while on a retreat from Suffolk, VA to Bows Hill, VA, o/a 23 March 1864 and while on a double quick. Deponent knows of his own personal knowledge the above facts to be true. Affidavit stating the same thing, same date, by Lawrence Seguin of Black Brook, NY.

AFFIDAVIT, 23 Apr 1879, Clinton Co., NY: I Simeon La Bounty, pensioner, hereby apply for the arrears due me under the Act granting Arrears of Pensions, approved Jan. 25th, 1879. My P.O. address is Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY. /s/ Simeon La Bounty (X, his mark); witnesses W. F. Cowlbeck, J. H. Bullen, Black Brook, NY.

DECLARATION FOR INVALID PENSION, 16 Apr 1891, Simeon La Bounty, age 46, St. Regis Falls, Franklin, NY: Partial dislocation left ankle, fracture left arm, gunshot wound of neck and right leg, and right arm broken and \_\_\_\_\_ at elbow.

MEDICAL EXAM, 17 Feb 1892: Simeon La Bounty, St. Regis Falls, NY. Partial dislocation left ankle, fracture left arm, gunshot wound leg and neck. Receives \$12/mo. "I can't even feed myself on account of my broken arm." 5'6.5" tall, age 47. General appearance fair. Ankle: Old dislocation inwards of tibia & fibula both \_\_\_\_\_ forced apart and jammed down on the asthagalus.... fracture left arm: There was a fracture of left elbow joint, but well reduced motion of joint ... loss of strength in the hand... gunshot wound left leg: Has a cicatrix on right leg 2 inches below patella, ball gauged out a piece of tibia, cicatrix not adherent nor tender & size of 25 ct piece... fracture right arm: there is an unreduced dislocation of right elbow joint, much deformity, army ankylosed in a straight position \_\_\_ in arm is now about 1/4.

DECLARATION OF WIFE UNDER ACT OF MARCH 3, 1899 - Oswego Co., NY, 30 Aug 1902: Louisa La Bounty, age 55, Fulton, Oswego, NY, makes the following declaration in order to obtain one-half of the pension due her husband, Simeon La Bounty, a resident pensioner of the U.S., and who in August 1895 abandoned and deserted her at Dickinson Center, Franklin, NY, and has so deserted & abandoned her to the present time & has done nothing for her support since first deserting her in August 1895. She was married under the name Louisa Fisher to Simeon La Bounty at Black Brook, NY on 10 Nov 1863 by James Dwyer, J. P. Neither of them had been previously married. Her P. O. address is Oswego Falls, Oswego, NY. /s/ Louisa La Bounty; Witnesses: C. S. Munfliy and M. A. Tharp (almost illegible).

DECLARATION OF WIFE UNDER ACTION OF MARCH 3, 1899: Louisa La Bounty, St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY files claim for pension. Soldier deserted her six years

ago and went away with another woman and has not contributed anything towards her support since that time. She married him under the name Louisa Fisher at Black Brook, NY on 10 Nov 1863 by James Dewyer, there was no legal barrier to the marriage, and neither he nor she had not been previously married. There were no public records of marriage kept in this state at that time. Rejected on 25 Jan 1902, claimant failed to furnish the evidence necessary to show her title under Act of March 3, 1899.

AFFIDAVIT, 12 Jul 1899, Lawrence Larkins, 218 So. Jay St., Rome, Oneida, NY: I am personally acquainted with Simeon La Bounty and have been for the past four years and know him to be wholly incapable of performing any kind of manual labor and I have seen him frequently during all this time. I know his left arm to be stiff also his left ankle to be broken and his general health to be bad and that this general debility has not been caused by any vicious habits of his own, that he is deserving of sympathy and that he is almost totally helpless. [Same affidavit by Willard C. Plato, Rome, NY, and Jeremiah Mahoney, Verona Mills, NY.]

LETTER from F. Willson, 2 Apr 1900, on letterhead Office of The Empire State Advertising Co., P. O. Box 1492, Rome, NY, to Simeon La Bounty (no address): Your pension papers that you left with me for safe keeping are here and you can have them at any time you call for them. Yours truly.

LETTER from C. G. Austin, The St. Albans Law, Collection and Real Estate Agency, Bank Building, Main St., St. Albans, VT, 1 Apr 1900, to Mr. McLaoughlin, Special Pension Examiner, Utica, NY: Dear Sir, Simeon Labounty has applied to us to get his pension papers out of the hands of F. M. Wilson, a notary public in Rome, NY, who refuses to surrender them. Mr. Labounty has written Wilson several times and we sent an order, which same we enclose, to an attorney in Rome, NY with which to get Labounty's papers. The attorney has returned the order and replied that it would be impossible for him to obtain the papers from Wilson without a great deal of cost. Now, Labounty is a poor fellow and he is almost starving, in fact, if we had not loaned him some money, he would have been unable to live without his pension. He is crippled up and unable to work. Wilson has written in reply to Labounty's letter that he would give him his papers when he called for them. Of course we do not see how we can compell Wilson to surrender those papers to us in any other way than he requires but it would consume nearly all of Labounty's pension to make a trip to Rome to get his papers and it looks like a heartless piece of scoundrelism on the part of F. M. Wilson. Will you kindly look the matter up and send Labounty's papers to us as soon as you are able to obtain them? We enclose to you our letter to Jas. Porter, Atty., Rome, NY and his reply, as well as Labounty's order. These will put you onto the situation more clearly than any explanation which I can make. Very truly yours.

LETTER, 12 Apr 1900, from C. G. Austin (see above) to Joseph Porter, Atty, Rome, NY: Dear Sir - Mr. Simeon LaBounty has applied to us to get his pension papers out of the hands of F. M. Wilson, of your city, in order that he may draw his pension for April here. Mr. LaBounty informs us that he has written Wilson upon two or three occasions and sent him a stamp and requested him to mail the papers here. Mr. Wilson replies that LaBounty can have his papers by calling for them. We have written Mr. Wilson and he makes no reply to us. This looks like a heartless piece of scoundrelism. Mr. LaBounty is in destitute circumstances and is very anxious to get his papers, in order that he may get his pension. Mr. LaBounty tells us that you are an old acquaintance and comrade of his and that he has no doubt that you will assist him. We herewith send a written order to Mr. Wilson to deliver his papers to you and ask you, as a comrade of Mr. LaBounty, to go to Mr. Wilson and get his papers and mail them to us, so that we may make out his voucher. We sincerely hope that you will give this matter your immediate attention. Very truly yours. [Receipt attached bearing Simeon's X]

LETTER, 13 Apr 1900, Rome NY, to C. G. Austin: My dear sir, the enclosed mailed today. It would do no good for me to ask the said Fred M. Willson for the papers spoken of. Have had some experience of that kind with him before. The way to get them (and that is sure) is to put the matter in the hands of a Special Examiner of the Pension Dept. Is there not one in your city or section? Or you might write to Special Pension Examiner Mr. McLaughlin, Utica NY or the Dept at Washington direct. Yours truly, Jos. Porter.

LETTER, 18 Apr 1900, from Bureau of Pensions, Utica, NY, to Commissioner of Pensions, Washington DC: Sir, I have the honor to submit the attached correspondence, which explains itself, concerning the pension certificate of one Simeon Labounty, which, it is alleged, is unlawfully retained by Fred. M. Willson of Rome, Oneida, NY. I have written for an order from the pensioner directing me to obtain the papers and voucher, and thought best to submit to the Bureau of official authority as well. Very respectfully, F. E. McLaughlin, Special Examiner. Attachment reads: Respectfully referred to the Chief of the Board of Review for consideration as to the propriety of reference to the S. D. D. for special examination as to legal widowhood, whether the claimant was actually married to soldier Nov. 10, 1863 as she alleges, whether she lived with him as his wife until they separated in Aug. 1895, and as to the cause of the separation. The claimant alleged in her declaration that she was married to the soldier at Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY, Nov. 10, 1863 by Rev. James Dewire. She claims he left her in Aug 1895 with another woman. In Aug 1901 she applied for 1/2 the soldier's pension, but her application was denied, she being unable to furnish evidence proving her title under the Act of March 3, 1899. In Oct 1902 she again applied for 1/2 the soldier's pension, and her claim was allowed. In these two applications the claimant declared that she was married to soldier by James Dwyer a J. P. and in her widow's claim she declared that neither she nor soldier had been previously married. She was, at date of marriage in 1863, nearly 17 years of age and he nearly 18. He enlisted Dec. 16, 1863. The soldier in his family data circular stated he was married to Louisa Fisher in Dec 1863 and that she is dead, date and place unknown; that he next married Albina La Lou? in Jany 1897, and that she died at Rome, NY in 1901, and finally that he married Mary La Clair Sept 10, 1902. This soldier, judging by the evidence, appears to have been a man of very low moral principle, unscrupulous in his methods, and with no regard to truth. He stated he was divorced from claimant by the courts at Saginaw, Mich., but the clerk of said court denies any record of such divorce.

LETTER, 20 Apr 1900, from Simeon LaBounty (X, his mark) on letterhead The St. Albans Law, Collection and Real Estate Agency, Bank Building, Main Street, St. Albans, VT, to F. E. McLaughlin, Special Examiner, Utica, NY: Dear Sir - Your letter to the St. Albans Law, Collection & Real Estate Agency in relation to my pension papers is read to me and I herewith send you an order on Mr. Wilson to deliver my pension papers to you and I also enclose to you his last letter to me of April 2d. This man Wilson has treated me, as well as many other of the old soldiers, in the most shameful manner. While in Rome, he used to keep my papers and take large margins out of me, as well as other old soldiers, for the loan of small sums of money and his custom was to charge me \$3.00 for the use of \$5.00 in case I borrowed of him. I wrote him before time to draw my pension to mail my papers and the reply I got I send you. I have written him and procured others to write him for the same purpose and could get no reply from him. If there is any manner in which this man can be prosecuted for his treatment to me, as well as the other old soldiers, I would be glad to have it done. I hope to get my papers as early as possible, as I am in destitute circumstances. Very truly yours.

LETTER from Bureau of Pensions to Chief of the Special Examination Division, 21 Apr 1900: Enclosed find letter of Special Examiner F. E. McLaughlin, Utica, NY, enclosing certain correspondence between the law firm of C. G. Austin & Co., of

St. Albans, VT, and one Joseph Porter, attorney at law of Rome, NY, bearing upon the illegal retention by one F. M. Wilson of Rome NY of pension certificate and voucher for quarter ending 4 Apr 1900 of one Simeon La Bounty. There is nothing in the correspondence of McLaughlin's letter that would enable the Bureau to locate the claim by service or certificate #. Hence it is impossible to determine by an examination of the papers whether this pensioner has been in the habit or pledging his pension certificate, in violation of Section 4745 R.S.U.S., as amended by the Act of February 28, 1883. However, McLaughlin states he has written to the pensioner asking for a letter directed to F. M. Wilson, instructing him to deliver the pension certificate to the special examiner, and he asked for further instructions from the Bureau touching his duty in the premises. It is requested that you forward this letter and enclosure to the special examiner whose territory embraces Rome, NY, with instructions to call upon F. M. Wilson and make formal demand for the return of the pension certificate and voucher; and should he surrender same, they should be forwarded to this Bureau, in order that they be placed in the hands of the lawful owner, the pensioner. The special examiner should take the deposition of F. M. Wilson in which he should be required to state all facts connected with the manner in which the pension certificate and voucher came into his possession etc...

DEPOSITION, 27 Apr 1900, Rome, Oneida, NY: Frederick M. Willson, age 37, 111 So. James St., Rome, NY, occupation collector, pension agent, real estate, loans, etc. I have known Simeon Labounty about five years I guess. I have executed his vouchers for him, but cannot tell how many times. About six months ago he asked me to write to Frank White of Taberg [Oneida Co.] NY to send his certificate down here. White sent it to me, and it has been here in my possession since. I have never executed his vouchers except when he had his certificate, and on this occasion I kept his papers three days over time until his certificate came before making them out. He has borrowed money from me at different times and I have taken his notes, and hold chattel mortgages on his household goods, stock, etc., everything he has. No sir! I never have held his pension certificate as security for I know enough about business to not get caught that way. He has borrowed money in sums ranging from fifty cents to \$5.00, and when his pension came usually paid me, sometimes getting a balance back, sometimes owing me more than the pension came to. He had told me he had a good deal more stuff than he really had. Among other things he told me he had 21 hens, and when I came to look it up found only 2. Other things were in proportion. Early in March he and the woman he has been living with busted up and he took one child and went to his mother's in St. Regis Falls, NY. I loaned him \$5.00 then to go with. He then gave me a note for \$43.00 to comprise the whole amount of his indebtedness. He said he was coming back the next Monday. This was on Wednesday, 7 March last. When he failed to show up I went to look for the property on which I had a mortgage, and could not find it. The neighbors said he had never had any such property as he had mortgaged to me, and I got a warrant out for him. Before going away he told me in the presence of my father and Sidney Armstrong not to let anyone have his pension certificate unless he called for them, in person. I knew he could not write, and when two or three letters came demanding his pension certificate and voucher, but not signed by mark and attested, I paid no attention to them. I consulted the U.S. Commissioner and he told me to hold them till a proper demand was made. This demand has been the first I have received in proper form. After I found that his property which he had mortgaged could not be found, I wrote him asking him if he knew that it was against the law to do as he had done. The next thing I heard from him was a demand for the pension papers. I wrote to him that he could have them by coming and getting them, but after he had beaten me on the mortgage business he was afraid to come, and has left the state, as appears from letters. I got three letters from St. Regis Falls, each signed Simeon Labounty, and each in a different hand. The same day I received the last one from St. Regis Falls, another came from a St. Albans, VT law agency demanding them. Not one was in a proper form to show power of attorney, or any

legal right to make the demand for him. I have read the above. Labounty did not let his notes all run till his pension came, but when at work would pay me a little. I have quite a number of pensioners to whom I loan money, but I never keep their certificates as security. If they are not strictly reliable I take a mortgage on their property, and others I accept their note as all right. A few ask me to keep their certificates with my papers and I do so, but I have always refused to advance money on certificates. I have always held myself in readiness to surrender his papers, either to him in person or anyone having the proper authority. This is the first demand of the kind that has been made upon me, though I have as already stated received three letters purporting to be signed by him, while I know he cannot write. I have read the above and my statements are correctly recorded. /s/ F. Willson

DEPOSITION, 27 Apr 1900, Rome, Oneida, NY, Sidney C. Armstrong, age 59, P. O. address Plains, NY, occupation farmer: I served in Co. C 117th NY Vol. Inf. in the Civil War. I have known Simeon Labounty about three years I think. I have never seen his pension certificate. About a year ago he told me he left his pension certificate in the hands of Fred. Willson of Rome for safekeeping, because he was roving around so much. He said his papers were safer there than in his own hands. I told him I thought it was a good idea. I leave my own certificate and vouchers with Willson, and go to him to make out my vouchers. I never was in Willson's office but once when Labounty was there, and then did not hear him say anything in regard to his pension papers. I don't remember to have heard him tell Willson not to give them up unless he called for them in person. I don't recollect that I ever knew of his borrowing money of Willson, until a few days ago Willson told me of it. Willson told me he held a mortgage on some household goods of Labounty's for money he had loaned him. I don't recall that Labounty ever told me of borrowing money of Willson, but he has told me of getting trusted at a store for an amount nearly equal to his pension. I moved Labounty about the middle of March, and have not seen him since. Willson told me he had received letters written in Labounty's name, but as Labounty cannot write he was not going to send the pension papers, until he was sure whether they came from him, or until he came for them. No, Labounty never said anything about putting the pension papers in Willson's hands as security for money or anything else. He said he put them in his hands for safekeeping. No sir, I have never put my pension papers in Willson's hands as security. Yes, I have borrowed money of him, and have given my note for it and paid it, but have never pledged my pension. I have heard the above read and it is correct. /s/ Sidney C. Armstrong.

DEPOSITION, 27 Apr 1900, Blossvale, Oneida, NY: Frank White, age 54, occupation canning and merchant. I know Simeon Labounty. I find by my books that he began to trade with me in April 1897, and that was the first I knew of him. I let him have \$10.00 then to get his wife down here. The only security he could give me was to leave his pension certificate in my possession, which he did about that time. The certificate remained in my possession until May 1899. I am a notary public and executed his vouchers for him. He never made any demand for his papers until that time, and had never appeared unwilling that I should keep them. Q: Did he leave his certificate with you as a pledge, or only for safekeeping? A: Well, both. He came here a stranger, said he wanted some things to live on, and money to get his family here. He said he had a pension, and would leave his papers in my care to keep in my safe, and when the pension came due he would pay me. He did, right along, sometimes paying in full and sometimes leaving a balance. On the first payment in 1899, he got his check and did not come near. After that, I shut down on him, and when it came time for his other payment in May, he went to Willson of Rome. Willson sent me an order signed by Labounty, to send his papers to Willson, and I did so. I knew there was no security about it, and so did he, and made no demur when he called for his papers. No, I hardly think I should have let him run a bill with me, if I had not had his certificate and voucher, for I knew that insured his coming around to see me when his pension was due.

When I got Willson's letter, asking for the papers, I went down there and caught Labounty in Willson's office, and made him give me an order on Willson for \$6.00. He still owes me about \$28.00. He was not a particularly dissipated man, was more on the dead-beat order. I have read the above and my statements are correctly recorded. /s/ Frank White.

LETTER from F. E. McLaughlin, Special Examiner, Utica, NY, to Commissioner of Pensions, Washington DC, 28 Apr 1900: I have the honor to return with this report the pension certificate and April voucher of Simeon La Bounty, together with letters of instruction from the S.E. and Law Divisions and correspondence between the law firm of C. G. Austin & Co. of St. Albans VT, Joseph Porter of Rome, NY, the pensioner and myself. As set forth in my letter of 18 April, I was requested to apply to F. M. Willson of Rome, NY for the certificate and voucher of La Bounty. I wrote to the pensioner for an order on Willson for the papers, and on receipt of said order and the instructions from the Bureau I visited him. I enclosed a copy of the order sent me by the soldier. I delivered the original to Willson and receipted thereon for the papers. He surrendered them without demur, as he is a shrewd, well-posted fellow, and familiar with the statutes pertaining to the points in question. He declares that the papers were left in his possession for safe-keeping by La Bounty, who instructed him not to deliver the papers to anyone but himself in person. He has loaned money to La Bounty, taking a chattel mortgage on his household goods. He showed me two mortgages, one covering certain household goods, and the other a stove and flock of hens. There were also several notes, the last one which he said included all the others being for \$43 signed 7 Mar 1900. La Bounty had some trouble with his wife and they separated, eaching taking a child. La Bounty borrowed money from Willson to take the child to his mother's home in St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., and did not return. After waiting several days he began to look around for the goods he had a mortgage on, and could not find them. After learning from neighbors that LaBounty did not have over \$10 worth of goods instead of \$200 worth as he supposed, he procured a warrant for him on the charge of grand larceny. He was in hopes that La Bounty would come back and save him the expense of sending for him, and consequently he declined to send the pension papers to him. He showed me three letters signed Simeon Labounty, dated St. Regis Falls NY respectively March 27, 30, and April 5th, asking for the papers. As these were not signed by mark and Labounty cannot write, he took counsel and saw the U.S. Commissioner who advised him to retain the papers till someone proprly authorized called for them. Willson asserted that Sidney C. Armstrong was present when La Bounty left the papers with him, and heard him direct Willson not to deliver them to anyone else. This Armstrong denies, but said La Bounty told him he had left his papers with Willson for safe-keeping. Willson is a sharp, plausible fellow, but bears a slippery reputation. He loans money at exorbitant rates it is said, sometimes doubling the amount actually loaned on the note given in return. He and his father have adjoining offices and work together, the father being an attorney at law. They are looked upon with suspicion and distrust in the community. Frank White is a prominent businessman, and bears a first rate reputation. He is proprietor of a large canning establishment and conducts a general store. La Bounty left his papers with him for about two years. White is a notary public and executed his vouchers. He freely acknowledged he would not have trusted him when he did had he not had the certificate and voucher in his safe. He knew that was no security, but that enabled him to keep track of La Bounty and pounce on him when his pension arrived. But La Bounty got the advantage of him about \$28 worth and he wishes he had never seen him. White's loss is a straight loss, while that of Willson is probably made up largely of margins. It looks as though La Bounty was in the habit of putting up his certificate as security for money loaned or groceries and that is probably the reason the St. Albans firm is so anxious to secure the papers.

AFFIDAVIT, 30 Jul 1901, Nashua, Hillsborough, New Hampshire: Addie Skeels, age

55, states she was well acquainted with Louisa Fisher before her marriage to Simeon La Bounty and was present and one of the witnesses to her marriage. That the ceremony was performed by James Dewyer a J. P. of the Town of Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY in the fall of 1863.

AFFIDAVIT, 8 Aug 1901, Franklin Co., NY: Allen W. Galusha, age 55, resident of St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY, says he has known Simeon and Louisa La Bounty ever since their marriage and was living near neighbor to them at that time and that it was generally understood that they were married by James Deyer, a J. P. of Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY; that they have not been previously married and never were divorced; that his acquaintance with them was such that had any such thing occurred he would have heard of it; that they lived together as man and wife until about six years ago when he deserted her and went away, as he understands, with another woman.

AFFIDAVIT, 12 Aug 1901, St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY: Exerene Bedor, age 45, states she is well acquainted with Simeon and Louisa La Bounty and has known them ever since she was a small child and knew them before and after their marriage. She was living at Black Brook at that time and has always lived near neighbor to them and know they were never married before and have never been divorced and that they always lived together as man and wife untill he left her about six years ago, and that he has not contributed anything towards her support since.

LETTER to Simeon La Bounty, Saranac Lake, NY, from Bureau of Pensions, 30 Sep 1901: Louisa La Bounty, St. Regis Falls, NY, died on 12 Aug 1901 file application to have one-half of your pension paid to her as your legal wife under the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1899, on the ground that you deserted her six years ago, and that you have contributed nothing towards her support since that time.

LETTER from Simeon La Bounty, Saranac Lake, Franklin, New York, 10 Oct 1901: Simeon La Bounty says in relation to the matter set forth in the paper attached hereto regarding his pension, that he has repeatedly offered his wife Louisa LaBounty a home with him, notably in the month of March 1901 the last occasion, and she has upon each such occasion utterly refused to live with him, and that upon the last occasion in the month of March last, she told him that he had better go away or she would kill him, and that she never would live with him again. That some time later he sent his son Hermon LaBounty to see her and ask her to live with him, and she then refused to come. /s/ Simeon La Bounty, his mark (X), witness Charley Seeley.

LETTER from Hermon LaBounty, Saranac Lake, Franklin Co., NY, 10 Oct 1901: Hermon LaBounty says he is 19 years of age, that he is the son of Simeon and Louisa LaBounty, that on or about 15 Jul 1901, his father sent him to St. Regis Falls, to ask his mother Louisa LaBounty if she would come back to Saranac Lake and live with him, and my mother said in reply that she did not know, but she never has come. /s/ Hermon Labounty

LETTER from Bureau of Pensions to Mrs. Louisa Labounty, St. Regis Falls, NY, 2 Dec 1901: Relative to your claim for one-half the pension granted Simeon LaBounty by Certificate 129,480, you should furnish the evidence of one more competent witness to your marriage to pensioner to corroborate Addie Skeels, and your own sworn statement as to why you are not able to furnish the evidence of the magistrate, James Dewyer, who you say performed the marriage ceremony. You are also requested to furnish the evidence of at least two competent witnesses having knowledge of your pecuniary circumstances, showing your necessitous circumstances, and for the purpose of aiding this Bureau in arriving at a correct conclusion as to your necessitous circumstances you should comply strictly with the requirements of the attached property circular. You are informed that the pensioner, in a statement recently filed, avers that he has repeatedly offered

you a home with him, the last time in March 1901, and that you have, on each of such occasions, utterly refused to live with him, and on the last occasion you told him to go away or you would kill him, and that you never would live with him again; that in July last he sent his son Hermon to see you and ask you to live with him, and you again refused. Your own sworn statement as to the truth of his allegation, and the reasons why you so refused him, should be furnished within a reasonable time, in addition to the requirements above noted. A reasonable time will be allowed you in which to complete your claim as indicated, and unless you do so it will be presumed that you desire to abandon your claim, and action will be taken accordingly. [Note: The pension file contains another letter with this same content dated 10 Jan 1902]

AFFIDAVIT, July 1902, Benjamin Brown, St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY: He is overseer of the poor in and for the town of Waverly. He has known Mrs. Louisa La Bounty for over 20 years. She was known and recognized as the wife of Simeon La Bounty up to the time La Bounty went away and left her. She is now in a state of extreme poverty and has been for some time, and affiant in his official capacity as overseer of the poor has helped her out of the poor fund a number of times during this past two years.

AFFIDAVIT, Oct 1902, Benjamin F. Evans (age 69) and Ruth A. Evans (age 56), Dickinson Center, Franklin Co., NY: They are well acquainted with Louisa and Simeon La Bounty. In 1895, they were living together as husband and wife on a farm a short distance from deponents' residence. In August 1895, Simeon deserted and abandoned his wife and went to living with another woman, and he mortgaged all the crops, farming utensils and stock on the place he occupied. After he deserted his family the mortgage so given was foreclosed and Louisa was left entirely destitute. Louisa remained on the place some two or three months and Simeon did not return, and she was obliged to move from said farm. Deponent Ruth A. Evans says that sometime after the desertion by Simeon La Bounty, Louisa worked about two months for her; she was in poor health, unable to do the hardest part of house work, did have to lie down some days, was badly troubled with rheumatism, and she was destitute of comfortable clothing. Louisa is a person of good moral character and is in necessitous circumstances.

AFFIDAVIT, Oct 1902, Louisa La Bounty, age 54, Fulton, Oswego, NY: Louisa lived with soldier from the day they married until he abandoned her in August 1895 and went to live with another woman... in March 1901 she was living with a married daughter at St. Regis Falls when said husband came into the neighborhood... (very difficult to read)... Louisa told him to go away or she would kill him... he sent his son Hermon to ask her to live with him...

AFFIDAVIT, Oct 1902, Joseph and Lena Roy, ages 41 and 35, Fulton, Oswego, NY: They are well acquainted with Louisa and Simeon La Bounty and know they were living together at St. Regis Falls, NY, and know they had a family of 7 children; that about August 1895 Simeon deserted Louisa and went to living with another woman; that about 16 Nov 1895 Simeon came to the deponents in Waterbury, VT and had with him the woman he went away with and said he had no place to go and finally \_\_\_\_\_ a farm near Waterbury and \_\_\_\_\_ a year and a child was born to him by said woman. That for a year \_\_\_\_\_ deponents have lived in the village of Oswego Falls, City of Fulton, and \_\_\_\_\_ (hard to read). Witness: Allen Roy.

AFFIDAVIT, Oct 1902, Hoyt and Flora Palmer, ages 44 and 40, Dickinson Center, Franklin Co., NY: Attest to the details set forth in other affidavits concerning Simeon's having deserted Louisa.

NOTICE FROM COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS, 19 Dec 1902: The P.O. address of Simeon La Bounty at date of last payment on 7 Oct 1902, was Peru, Clinton Co., NY.

LETTER from Bureau of Pensions to Mrs. Louisa LaBounty, Oswego Falls, NY, 24 Feb 1903: Madam, Relative to your claim under the Act of March 3, 1899, for one half the pension allowed Simeon LaBounty, Private, Co. K, 118th N.Y. Vol. Inf., Ctf. No. 129,480, you are advised that the claim was on February 21, 1903, approved for admission on the ground that "pensioner deserted claimant, his lawful wife, who is a person of good moral character and in necessitous circumstances." The pensioner has this day been notified of the action of the Bureau in the premises, and will be allowed 30 days from the receipt of such notice within which to file on appeal with The Honorable, The Secreary of the Interior from said action, in accordance wth Rules of Practice Numbers 14, 15 and 16, a copy of which is herewith enclosed. The pensioner's P.O. address is Peru, NY. [Same letter to Simeon LaBounty, Peru, NY, same date; notes claimant resides Oswego Falls, NY]

LETTER to Secy of the Interior from the Town Clerk's Office, Peru, Clinton Co., NY, 28 Feb 1903: Dear Sir: Mr. Simeon La Bounty wishes me to answer a letter from you dated 24 Feb 1903. He says he was lawfully divorced from this woman who now claims part of his pension. She got a divorce from him and he granted one to her and at that time he paid her the sum of \$100 for or she requested it before she would grant him divorce papers. This divorce proceedings occurred 8 years ago and the courts of Saginaw City, Michigan granted the divorce. I can't see how she is entitled to one cent of this pension when she has just put in a claim when she could of had part of the pension for the last 8 years. He also asks for the 1/2 allowed her on his last pension ifthis is right. I would ask you to look this matter up & investigate. I am sure you will find this man is entitled to all his pension as he is almost a cripple from the effects of his service in the war. Let us hear from you. Per Jay G. Gove.

LETTER from Bureau of Pensions to Honorable Charles L. Knapp, House of Representatives: Sir, Relative to the claim of Louisa LaBounty, of Oswego Falls, NY, under Act of March 3, 1899, for one-half the pension allowed Simeon LaBounty, and in response to your call for the status of the claim, I have the honor to advise you that on February 21, 1903, her claim was approved for admission on the ground that "pensioner deserted claimant, his lawful wife, who is a person of good moral character and in necessitous circumstances." Claimant and pensioner were under date of February 24, 1903, advised of the action of the Bureau in the premises, and pensioner was allowed 30 days from receipt of the notice to him of said action within which to file an appeal, if he so desires, with The Honorable, The Secy of the Interior, in accordance with Rules of Practice Numbers 14, 15 and 16, a copy fo which is herewith enclosed. Pensioner's P.O. address is Peru, NY, and no further action can be taken in said claim until the expiration of said 30 days. If at the expiration thereof, the pensioner has not filed an appeal from Bureau action, the Pension Agent at Buffalo, NY, will be instructed to pay to the claimant one-half soldier's pension, together with any amount now withheld by him pursuant to the filing of the claim.

LETTER from Saginaw County Clerk, 9 Apr 1903: A careful search of the court records of Saginaw Co. since 1870 find no divorce proceedings relative to Louisa La Bounty and/or Simeon La Bounty.

AFFIDAVIT, Louisa La Bounty, age 56, Fulton, Oswego, NY: She and her husband Simeon have never divorced.

SURGEON'S CERTIFICATE, 15 Nov 1905: Birth place Black Brook; age 60; height 5'5.5", weight 139, light complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, occupation laborer. Partial dislocation ankle joint left; marked deformity; arch of foot broken flat; os calcis is everted. Has scar 5" above int. malleolis 1/2 in diameter showing place of loss of bone. Deformity at elbow joint; motions at joint limited to 1/16. Rotation and pronation nil. Radius and ulna both dislocated backwards. Joint nearly ankylosed. Right acromion to tip of radius is 22 inches. ... Has

a callous on ulna showing fracture. Extension is limited to 2/3. Rheumatism. Hands swollen. Flexors contracted. Can't flex fingers into palm. Right shoulder stiff and limited to 1/2 motion. Hips and knees stiff. Limited to 1/2. Has chronic lumbago with atrophy of muscles in back. Rating 6/18. Heart: apex beat located by auscultation in 5 space on.... rhythm imperfect. Area dullness normal. Has chronic myocarditis. No murmur. Feet and hands cyanotic. Has edema. Has dyspnoea. Heart action irritable. Lumps. Chest measures 36 in at rest 35 in on expiration...

LETTER - DEPT OF INTERIOR BUREAU OF PENSIONS, 9 Sep 1907: The P. O. address of Simeon La Bounty at the date of last payment on 6 Jul 1901 was Saranac Lake, Franklin Co., NY.

DECLARATION FOR PENSION - Clinton Co., NY, 14 Mar 1908: Simeon La Bounty, age 64, residing Peru, Clinton, NY. Physical description: 5' \_\_\_", light complexion, brown eyes, brown hair, occupation laborer, born in Black Brook NY in 1845. His places of residence since leaving the service have been Peru, NY; San Francisco CA; Michigan; Wisconsin; but mostly in Clinton Co., NY. /s/ Simeon La Bounty (X, his mark); witnesses: Norzer McGee, H. E. Heymouth, both of Peru, NY.

NOTICE, WAR DEPARTMENT, 6 Apr 1908: It has been determined by this Department that the transfer of Simeon Labounty from Co. K, 118th NY Infantry, to Co. E, 96th NY Infantry, was not consummated; and that the record showing such transfer is erroneous.

SURGEON'S CERTIFICATE, 23 Sep 1908: Simeon La Bounty, Peru, Clinton Co., NY; receives \$12/mo. In 1864 in Magnolia Spring VA, put my left ankle out of joint and it has been bad ever since; at Newport News, VA, in 1864, my left arm was fractured and it has been weak and crippled ever since; in 1864 at Suffolk, VA, was shot on my neck and it is stiff now; my right leg was injured by a strayed ball and it has weakened it. Born in the U.S., age 64 and 5/12 years, height 5' 6", weight 140 pounds, light complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, occupation farmer, no marks found. Partial dislocation left ankle. Part of the body of astragalus bone, the navicular axis, the os calcis and internal cuneiform are all enlarged, forming a large mass projecting inward; the internal an alleolus is much lower than right, the foot is thrown outward and its motions are impaired 3/4. There is much lameness apparent, complains of much pain and weakness in this foot which gives ou when meeting the least obstacle and makes him fall. R. 15/18. Fracture left arm. The only evidence of fracture of left arm is thickening and enlargement of olecranon with limited extension of elbow joint, flexion, pronation and supination apparently normal; arm, somewhat weakened. Rating 10/18. The right arm has also been fractured at elbow joint, resulting in marked deformity and complete ankylosis of this joint. Claimant says the fall by which the right arm was broken was occasioned by weakness of his left foot which gave out under him. Rating: 17/18. Gunshot wound of neck and right leg. Three inches below right patella is a transverse scar 1/2" wide and 1" long, not sensitive, attached to bone; some bony tissue wanting there. On middle portion of back of neck is a small scar, 3/4 x 1", not attached; skin thickened and sensitive to pressure. Rating right leg 4/18. Neck 4/18. Heart. Apex beat 2" below and about 1/2" to right of left nipple, action, sounds and rthym apparently normal, no edema, no cyanosis, slight dyspnea on \_\_\_\_\_. Lungs. 37. 36. 38. No disease of lungs detected. Abdominal organs. Tongue \_\_\_ed, badly fissured, skin clear conjunctiva injected, stomach tympanitic and tender, bowels flat; liver from 6th rib to 1" above lower free border of ribs axillary line; tender on percussion. Spleen from 9th to 11th ribs, no piles, no disease of rectum. R. 8/18. Urinalysis. Urine amber, clear, acid, 1020; no albumin, sugar or abnormal ingredients found. No symptoms of vicious habits and no other disabilities existing.

SURGEON'S CERTIFICATE, 13 Apr 1910: Born at Black Brook, NY; age 65; height 5'6", weight 150, dark complexion, blue eyes, gray hair, occupation farmer.

SURGEON'S CERTIFICATE, 19 Oct 1910: Simeon La Bounty, Harkness, Clinton, NY: Partial dislocation left ankle joint. In 1864 in march, near Suffolk, VA, broke my ankle in jumping over a ditch, and I have been crippled ever since; my foot and leg is very weak; have to use a cane all the time, cannot walk without pains, cannot do any work. Born in the U.S., age 66 and 6/12, 5'5" tall, light complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, occupation farmer, no scars or marks. Urinalysis: Urine amber, clear, acid specific gravity 1002 containing no albumin, no sugar and no other abnormal ingredients. No symptoms of vicious habits. Partial dislocation left ankle: We find satisfactory evidence of an unreduced dislocation left ankle and displacement and enlancement of tarsus bones. Heart: area of cardiac dulness not apparently increased apex beat 2 1/2" below and 1/2" to right of left nipple. No disease of lungs. Abdominal organs: Tongue furred and fissured, skin pale, conjunctiva watery and injected, stomach and bowels tympanitic and tender; liver small; dulness from 7th rib to within 1/2 inch above lower free border of ribs axillary line; spleen from 9th to 11th ribs not extending forward; no piles and no disease of rectum. Rating 8/18.

AFFIDAVIT, 5 May 1914, Clinton Co., NY: Simeon La Bounty says he was born in the town of Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY many miles from any church and he does not think that his birth was recorded upon the books of any church or town. That he thinks it was recorded in a Bible but that the said Bible was burned with all of the other household goods when his mother's house took fire at Brandon, Franklin Co., NY, about 18 years ago. He also said that his father and mother always said he was born April 13, 1844, and that he enlisted in 1863 when he was nineteen (19) years of age, and served till the end of the war. /s/ Simeon La Bounty, his mark (X); witnesses: Mrs. Ruth Quarter, L. M. Harkness.

AFFIDAVIT, 2 Jan 1915, Simeon La Bounty, Harkness, NY: I was born 13 April 1845 at Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY; I served in Co. K, 118 Regiment of NY Infantry, enlisted at Black Brook NY; my wife's name is Mary nee La Clair, we were married 10 Sep 1902 at Schuyler Falls NY by C. A. Bradford (Minister). There is a church record. I hold the marriage certificate issued by C. A. Bradford. Prior marriages: Louise Fisher, Dec 1863, dead, date & place unknown; Albina La Lare, Jan 1897, dead May 1901 at Rome, NY. Present wife was never married before. Children now living or dead: Mabel Labounty, b. 7 Aug 1903; Patrick Labounty, b. 21 Mar 1905; Margaret Labounty, b. 4 Aug 1906; Lilie Labounty, b. 17 Jan 1908; Earl Labounty, b. 17 June 1909. /s/ Simeon Labounty, his mark (X); witnesses: W. R. Cahalan, Florence M. McGee.

LETTER from Simeon La Bounty, Peru, NY, to Commissioner of Pensions, Washington DC, 20 May 1915: Dear Sir: Will you kindly look after the matter of increase in pension for Simeon Labounty who has applied for same, Co. K, 118 Regiment NY Vol. I am in need of the money and will appreciate it if you will hurry this matter along. Very truly yours.

LETTER from Bureau of Pensions to Simeon La Bounty, R.F.D. #1, Peru, NY: In reply to the request of Mr. G. B. Heywits, J. P., filed in your above cited claim, you are advised that in your declaration under the age and service clause of the Act of May 11, 1912, filed June 24, 1915, you state you were born in 1845 (omitting month and day of month), while in a prior claim you give the date of your birth as April 13, 1844. You should furnish your affidavit, explaining the above indicated discrepancy, give the full and correct date of your birth, stating how you are able to fix same. You should also state clearly the state, county and town in which you lived during the summers of 1850 and 1860, and with whom you lived in said summers: the full names of your parents, brothers and sisters,

living in June 1850 and June 1860; and if you lived in a city, the ward, street and between what streets.

AFFIDAVIT, Dr. W. H. Eberett, Peru, NY, 30 Sep 1915: I have today thoroughly examined Mr. La Bounty's left ankle and find it very sore and weak. The foot rolls outward when he stands on it, thus making a constant strain on the joint, producing a great deal of pain. Over the past couple of years the dislocating has become more and more marked. At present it is turned so much that it is nearly impossible for him to get around without crutches. It is impossible for him to work because he cannot stand on the ankle long enough without great pain.

DEPOSITION, 7 Oct 1915, Simeon La Bounty, Clinton Co., NY: Simeon La Bounty says he is unable to explain the reason why the date of his birth was given in a prior claim as April 13, 1844, except that the Notary Public who made out his affidavit for that claim must have made a mistake, for he has always been told by his parents that he was born April 13, 1845 as stated in his affidavit or declaration filed June 24, 1915. He enlisted in December 1863 and his age at that time was given in his discharge paper as 18 years, which shows he was born in 1845. He has no other proof as the family record was burned some years ago. He lived in the town of Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY during the summers of 1850 and 1860, and lived with his father and mother then. His father's full name was Simeon La Bounty, his mother's name was Harriet La Bounty, in June 1850 he had two sisters named Ismira and Charlotte La Bounty and in June 1860 he had three sisters named Ismira, Charlotte, and Sarah La Bounty and one brother named Theodore La Bounty. He did not live in a city. /s/ Simeon La Bounty (X, his mark)

LETTER to Director of the Census, Washington DC, 6 Nov 1915, from Commissioner, Civil War Division: Sir - For use in the above claim for pension under Act of May 11, 1912, please furnish a report from the records of your office, giving the age in 1850 and 1860 of Simeon La Bounty, who resided with his parents, Simeon and Harriet La Bounty, at Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY, during those years. His brother and sisters were Theodore, Ismira, Charlotte and Sarah. He alleges he was born at Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY, 13 Apr 1845, and enlisted at Black Brook on 16 Dec 1863. Bureau of the Census, Dept of Commerce, responds with citations from the 1850 and 1860 census' aforementioned, which show Simeon living with his parents and siblings in Black Brook NY.

LETTER from Simeon La Bounty, Peru, Clinton Co., NY, to Dept of Pensions, Washington DC, 6 Nov 1916: Dear Sirs: I hereby apply for an increase of pension believing I am entitled to \$30 per month. At present I am getting \$17 per month. I enlisted in 1863, at which time I was 18 years old, my birthday being April 13th. I was in Co. K, 118th NY. I was born April 13, 1845. Very truly yours. Witness: J. W. Davern, 47 Clinton St., Plattsburgh, NY.

DECLARATION FOR PENSION - Clinton Co., NY, 29 Dec 1916: Simeon La Bounty, age 71, residing Peru, Clinton, NY, enrolled at Plattsburgh, Clinton, NY on 16 Dec 1863 as a soldier in 118th Regiment Company "K" United States Army as a Private, and was honorably discharged at Rochester NY on 31 May 1865. He is 5' 5" tall, light complexion, brown hair, brown eyes, laborer, born 13 April 1845 in Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY. His places of residences since leaving the service are as follows. /s/ Simeon La Bounty (X, his mark); Witnesses: Geo. C. William, Charles E. Martin  
1865-1877: Black Brook, Clinton, NY  
1877-1883: St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY  
1883-1886: Saginaw, Michigan  
1886-1890: Rome, NY  
1890-1892: Saranac Lake, NY  
1892-1916: Peru, Clinton, NY

LETTER from Louisa La Bounty, Madrid, NY, formerly of St. Regis Falls, NY, to The Honorable Secy of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, WDC, 3 Nov 1920: Dear Sir - My husband, Simeon La Bounty, of Peru, NY, died at Santa Clara, 26 Oct 1920, and buried at St. Regis Falls, NY. He was Private, Co. K, 118 NY Vol. Inf. certificate No. 129480. I having been drawing half pension for a number of years back, I wish now to make application to receive widow's pension, kindly send me necessary papers to fill out to make the application. /s/ Louisa La Bounty, by Frederic J. Merriman, Madrid NY.

LETTER from Attorney Jeremiah W. Davern, Plattsburgh, NY, to Department of Pensions, re Simeon Labounty, Cert. No. 129480, 4 Nov 1920: Dear Sir: Simeon LaBounty, a pensioner, died at Santa Clara, Franklin Co., NY, on October 26th, 1920. He was getting a pension of \$75.00 per month, which was apparently being divided between him and a wife. It seems he was married to this first woman a great many years ago. However he married again and lived with a woman named Clare. This second marriage was solemnized by Rev. C. A. Bradford of Schuyler Falls, NY, and as a result Mr. Labounty became the father of Five children. All of these children are under 18 years of age. Mrs. Clare gave me these facts, except she said Mr. La Bounty always claimed to her that he had a right to marry again and she feels she is entitled to part of the pension with which to support his five children. She lived with him 19 years as his wife. Is there any way in which she is entitled to any portion of widow's pension, and are his children entitled to get anything? I am assuming of course that his first marriage was legal inasmuch as from the papers she was getting a portion of the pension. Yours respectfully.

DECLARATION FOR WIDOW'S PENSION - St. Lawrence Co., NY, 10 Nov 1920: Louisa La Bounty, age 73, born 28 Jan 1847 at Keeseville, NY, states she is the widow of Simeon La Bounty, who enlisted "I think in Dec. 1863" at Plattsburgh, NY, under true name as a Private in Co. K, 118th NY Volunteer Infantry, and was honorably discharged "I think in May 1865," having served 90 days or more. He served in no other military or Naval service. She was married to Simeon La Bounty on 10 Nov 1863 under the name Louisa Fisher at Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY, by Rev. James Devire. She had not been previously married. Soldier died 26 Oct 1920 at Santa Clara, NY; she was never divorced from him; and she has not remarried since his death. There are no children of soldier now under age 16. She has received one-half of his pension. /s/ Louisa La Bounty, Madrid, NY. Witnesses: Mrs. Carrie Wagner and Lois Phillips, Madrid, NY.

AFFIDAVIT, 16 Feb 1921, St. Lawrence Co., NY: Searches of the Register of Civil Causes from 1890 to present finds no judgment for divorce between Louisa LaBounty and Simeon LaBounty.

AFFIDAVIT, 16 Feb 1921, Franklin Co., NY: Searches of the General Alphabetical Indices and the Judgment Docket finds no record of divorce between Louisa & Simeon La Bounty.

AFFIDAVIT, 17 Feb 1921, Oswego Co., NY: County records searches locate no divorce between Louisa & Simeon La Bounty.

LETTER to Commissioner of Pensions, WDC, from Frederic J. Merriman, Attorney at Law, Madrid, NY, 19 Feb 1921: Dear Sir: Enclosed please find, in the matter of a widow's pension for Louisa La Bounty, No. 1165788, her affidavit containing the facts requested of her in your circular letter of January 28, 1921 and letter of January 28, 1921. Also record proof of death of Simeon LaBounty, the deceased husband. Also County Clerk's certificate of the Counties of Franklin, Oswego and St. Lawrence showing that no judgment of divorce was ever obtained by Louisa LaBounty against Simeon LaBounty or in favor of Simeon LaBounty against Louisa LaBounty or an application by either for a divorce as against the other. Hoping that these will be sufficient for Lousia LaBounty to receive a widow's pension.

Very respectfully yours.

AFFIDAVIT, 19 Feb 1921: Louisa LaBounty, residing Madrid, St. Lawrence Co., NY, states she was born January 28, 1847, at Keeseville, Essex Co., NY, and was married to Simeon LaBounty, a soldier of the Civil War, Co. K 118 NY Infantry, his pension No. 129480. That deponent lived with said Simeon LaBounty until about 1895, when he ran away with another woman; there has been no separation agreement in writing and no divorce judgment and no separation judgment of the Courts between them and no application was ever made by either one for divorce as against the other, deponent submits herewith the certificates of the County Clerk of St. Lawrence, Franklin and Oswego Counties, the only counties she has lived in since the separation, showing there has been no divorce papers or application for divorce or judgment for divorce filed in those Counties. That after the separation deponent resided at Dickinson Center, Franklin Co., and near St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY, for about three years and at Oswego Falls, now called Fulton, Oswego Co., NY, the later part of the year 1902, and for several months in the year 1903; after that she resided in St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY, until October 20, 1920, when she came to Madrid, St. Lawrence Co., NY, and has resided here ever since. That none of her children or members of her family served in the army, navy or marine corps of the Worlds War beginning April 6, 1917. That Simeon LaBounty, a deceased soldier of Co. K 118 NY Infantry Regiment, died October 26, 1920, at Santa Clara, Franklin Co., NY, the proof of death furnished by the Town Clerk is herewith submitted. That this deponent was married to Simeon Labounty at Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY, November 10, 1863, the marriage ceremony being performed by James Dwyers, a Justice of the Peace of Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY, who is now deceased, and deponent after diligent inquiry is unable to find any records kept by said J. P. of the said marriage of this deponent, and that said J. P. did not furnish them with marriage certificate at the time of their marriage and they never had a marriage certificate. That Addie and Herman Skeels were the only witnesses of said marriage and that said Herman Skeels is now dead, and there is no church, town, or county record of said marriage. That this deponent submitted proofs of her marriage to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions and received one-half of the pension of Simeon LaBounty, Cert. No. 129480 from April 16, 1903 to October 4, 1920. The death of Simeon LaBounty occurring October 2, 1920. This deponent is unable to furnish any further or additional proof of said marriage than was furnished to the Bureau of Pensions upon which she received one-half of the pension under certificate No. 129480 from and after April 16, 1903. This deponent has never married. /s/ Louisa LaBounty. Sworn and subscribed before me, this 19 day of February 1921, and I certify that affiant is a creditable person, and that I have no interest in the prosecution of any claim in her behalf for a widow's pension. /s/ Frederic J. Merriman.

DEATH CERTIFICATE - Simeon La Bounty, m, w, age 77-6-15, common laborer, retired, married, born 11 Apr 1843, died 26 Oct 1920 in Santa Clara, Franklin Co., NY of cholera morbus; father Simeon La Bounty born Ausable Forks, NY, mother Harriet La Bounty, Ausable Forks, NY; physician W. A. Wardner, St. Regis Falls, NY. Burial 28 Oct 1920 - Foust Cemetery, St. Regis Falls. Informant: Alice La Bounty, Santa Clara, NY.

LETTER, 25 Jan 1921, from Mrs. Louisa LaBounty, Madrid, St. Lawrence Co., NY, to Commissioner of Pensions, Washington DC: Dear Sir Just a few lines to ask you about my pension I sent in my voucher the 4 of this month & not haveing received anything from it yet I didnt know but it might of been miscarried if so would you kindly see to it & let me know by return mail if you please Respectfully yours.

LETTER from Special Examiner to Rev. Father O'Reilly, Pastor, Immaculate Conception Church, Keeseville, Essex Co., NY, 14 Oct 1921: Louisa La Bounty alleges she was married to Simeon La Bounty at Au Sable Forks in the Catholic church during the Civil War and while he was on furlo. She states she was

previously married to him by a J. P. and under her maiden name of Fisher, but that they married again in said church. Rev. William O'Connor, Pastor of Holy Name church, Au Sable Forks, informs me that prior to 1868, the church records of that place were kept at your church. If you have a record of the marriage of Simeon La Bounty and Louisa Fisher (or La Bounty) during the period from 1862 to 1865, both years inclusive, please furnish me with a copy of it under seal of your church, together with a statement as to amount of your fee, if any, for the certificate. Response to this letter by D. F. O'Reilly, Keeseville, NY, 18 Oct 21 to Louisa's attorney, J. E. Armstrong, Esq., Albany, NY: I regret to state that I cannot find any record of the marriage of Simeon La Bounty and Louisa Fisher (or La Bounty) in the church books of this parish. Respectfully yours.

LETTER to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, from Louisa La Bounty of Madrid NY, dated 15 Jul 1921: Dear Sirs - As I am sorely in need of funds won't you please see what you can do for me, as I am among strangers & running in debt for my board & care. I am now 77 yrs old & not able to do any work & must have help. It pretty tough after more than fifteen yrs - getting one half of my husband's pension to be cut off entirely since his death which occurred Oct. 26, 1920. Won't you please help me at once as I need it awful bad. Mrs. Louisa La Bounty Madrid NY. Written for Louisa by Mrs. Chas. Wagner, Madrid NY.

LETTER from S. A. Cuddy, Chief, Board of Review, Bureau of Pensions, to the Chief of the Special Examination Division, 26 Jul 1921: The claimant in this case represents that she was married to soldier in 1863 and that they lived together until about 1895 when he deserted her for another woman. He admitted marriage as alleged when the present claimant was an applicant for half his pension, but sought to make it appear that there had been a divorce. She was allowed half of his pension in 1903 and continued to draw same until soldier's death last year. There would therefore appear to be little reason to doubt that there was a legal marriage of claimant and soldier but as they had separated, it is deemed best that we should have a special examination to determine definitely whether there was a divorce. There should also be incidental verification of evidence of alleged marriage and the cohabitation thereafter until separation in 1895. Has claimant entered into marital relations with another man since separation from soldier? Her address is Madrid, St. Lawrence Co., NY.

LETTER to the Commissioner of Pensions, Wash., DC, from Mrs. Louisa La Bounty, Potsdam, NY, R.F.D. 5 Box 21 c/o Louesa Rivers, 27 July 1921: I will now drop you a few lines as I am the widdow of Simeon La Bounty & I have been getting one half of his pension for a number of years but I have not had anything since last October since his death which occured October the 26 & I am in very much need of help and I haven't a cent to help my self with and I have been sick for the past three weeks now, now would you kindly see to it so I can get help right away I am in one of my daughters just at the present time & I am not able to earn a liveing when I am well for my health is so poor & I am now 74 years of age & I have seen my best days now I will close for this time hopeing you will see to it \_\_\_\_\_ and let me know at once if you are going to help me or not now hopeing to hear from you by return mail, Respectfully yours, /s/ Mrs Louisa La Bounty. My address is Madrid NY but I will have to stay here till I am well enough to go back \_\_\_\_\_.

AFFIDAVIT, 27 Sep 1921, Louesa Mary Rivers, residing near Potsdam, St. Lawrence, NY: My age will be 53 this next Christmas. My address is R.F.D. 5, Potsdam, NY. I am keeping house for my sons Allen J. Rivers and Ray J. Rivers, my daughter Irene M. Rivers and my mother Louisa La Bounty and Sam Catoffa who is working the Filex Scullen farm. I am the wife of Oscar Rivers, St. Regis Falls, but have left him because of his drinking and running after other women. He and I have a bill of separation. All of the children are left in my care, and in fact I have always taken care of them and without assistance from him. My father was

Simeon La Bounty. He deserted my mother 26 years ago this last August. I remember the month and year from the fact that I was sick in bed at the time with my child Gilbert Joseph Rivers who was born 26 years ago the 10th of this August. It was just about the time of his birth, anyhow while I was still in bed, that my father left my mother and went away with Albena "Leghorn", "Legon" or "Legeau" or a French woman of some such name. He went with her to Briar Hill, which I think is near Waterbury, VT, and then to Waterbury. Then they went to my grandmother Harriet La Bounty's place at Fish Creek, NY, I believe it was, and stayed perhaps a year or two. Then they separated, I believe there, and they never lived together again. They must have been together about three years as she had two children by him, a girl named Jeannette and a boy named Tommie. I don't know what ever became of that woman after she and my father separated, and I don't think that my father ever knew. No, I never heard that she died at Rome or anywhere else. No, I never saw her. I lived in St. Regis Falls when she did, but I never associated with that kind of people. My brother Ed. La Bounty, then a "grass widower" with one child, was running with her, and later my father got her away from Ed., anyhow got to going with her and living with her afterwards. Later I heard my brother Henry La Bounty say that "Toot" Sprague was keeping house for my father at Saranac Lake, but I don't believe that she was with him long. I don't know what became of her, but I suppose that some other man got her. The next woman I heard of my father being with was Mary LeClair of Peru, NY, and he lived there with her until just before his death and she had six children by him, and five of them are supposed to be still living with her at Peru. She and two of the children came to Santa Clara, NY, after my father's death, but when they learned that my mother was going to be there they went back to Peru. They didn't stay to the funeral. Yes, my mother was at the funeral and burial. All of us children were there too. Q: Name the places in which your parents lived after separating. A: I don't know of my father ever living anywhere after that except around Waterbury, VT; Fish Creek, NY; Fulton, NY; Saranac Lake, NY; and Peru, NY, and the only places I have known of my mother living has been at Dickinson Center, NY; Buck Mountain nar Brandon, NY; St. Regis Falls; Fulton, NY; Madrid, NY; and Potsdam, NY, except that she visited my sister Lena Roy at Waterbury, VT. These are the only places she has lived since the separation. Had she lived anywhere else I should have known it. She has lived with us children and nowhere else. No sir, she has never married since the separation. Neither has she lived with any man or kept house for any man since the separation. My mother is a good woman. Q: Were your parents divorced? A: No. No, neither of them ever applied for a divorce. I have no interest in this claim except as a daughter. I have heard this statement read and it is correct.

AFFIDAVIT, 27 Sep 1921, Louisa La Bounty, age 74, residing near Potsdam, St. Lawrence Co., NY: My age was 74 the 28th of last January. My address is R.F.D. 5, Box 21, Potsdam, NY. I am making my home on a farm with my daughter Louesa Rivers. I have no occupation except helping her with the housework. I am an applicant for pension as widow of Simeon La Bounty. He died on the 26th of last October at Santa Clara, Franklin Co., NY, and I filed my pension claim soon after his death. That is the only claim I have ever filed except one for half of his pension. At the time of his death I was drawing half of his pension on account of his having deserted me. I drew half of his pension for probably 17 or 18 years or more. I was born at Keeseville, NY, but the first place I can remember of living was at Black Brook, NY. I lived in that vicinity and with my parents until my mother's death. She died when I was a little less than 15 years old. I remained there with my father until the following winter when he went to Vermont to live with some of his other children. My mother was his fourth wife. After he left I remained around Black Brook and worked out at housework until my marriage to Simeon La Bounty. My full maiden name was Louisa Lamira Fisher, and I used to sign my name as Louisa L. Fisher, but for years I have not used the middle letter "L". My father was William Fisher, and my mother was Jerusha Miller. My father died about 46 years ago. I have no brother, and my only living sister,

the only full sister I have ever had, is Addie Skeels, two years or more older than I am. She is living at Essex, Essex Co., NY, with her daughter Emma and husband L. D. Bullis, farmer. Addie is pensioned as widow of Herman Skeels. I was married to Simeon La Bounty at Black Brook, Clinton Co., NY, November 10, 1863, by James Dwyer, a Justice of the Peace, and in the presence of my sister Addie Skeels and her husband Herman Skeels. Addie and Herman were married before I was. They were the only witnesses to my marriage except the Dwyer family. There were two little Dwyer girls, but I forget their names altho I knew them and was well acquainted with James Dwyer, the J. P. He was the one who married my sister Addie and her husband. I had known Simeon La Bounty from the time he was a little boy. We used to go to school together. He was only about a year older than I was. I was 16 years old on the 28th of January just after my marriage, and Simeon was 17 years old the 13th of April just before our marriage. He enlisted in December just after our marriage, and he wrote me from Elmira, NY, that he was eating his New Year's breakfast there. He was in Co. K, 118th NY Infantry, and his father told that he must have given his age more than it was in order to get into the army. He and a fellow named Richard Roberts went around to Plattsburgh and enlisted and got uniforms and then got back towards morning. He stayed around Black Brook with us until after Christmas and then he went to his regiment. We had only just started keeping house when he enlisted. He had been chopping wood in the woods with Richard Roberts, and Richard coaxed him to go, so they came back as far as the barn where he left his dinner pail. Then, without telling me, they started from our home at Potter's kilns, about four miles from Black Brook, to Black Brook and from there to Plattsburgh. Simeon's younger brother Theodore La Bounty, then about 13, came running into the house and told me that Simeon had gone to enlist, but I wouldn't believe it. He told me that he had and that I could catch up with him if I would hurry, but I wouldn't believe until after Theodore had brought his dinner pail from the barn that he had gone, and then it was too late, he had got too far. On his return from Plattsburgh he was sorry he had enlisted, but it was then too late to get out of it altho I suppose his father could have got him out if he had not been married. No, Simeon never enlisted except at the one time. Simeon's parents were Simeon La Bounty and Harriet La Bounty. That was her maiden name. Their fathers were brothers. Simeon's only brother Theodore is dead, and all of his sisters, three of them, Esmira, Charlotte and Sarah, are dead. Neither Simeon nor I was ever married before our marriage to each other. We were only children when we married. After our marriage we lived together until 26 years ago the 14th of this last August and I had 10 children by him. Six of those children, three boys and three girls, are still living. Their names and addresses are Eddie La Bounty, Santa Clara, NY; Louesa M. Rivers, R.D. 5, Potsdam, NY; Henry Francis La Bounty, Madrid, NY; Charlotte, now wife of John Bushey, Saint Regis Falls, NY; Hattie Palmer, wife of Frank Palmer but not now living with him, Camillus, NY, keeping house for a John Brady, a steel worker; and Herman La Bounty, St. Regis Falls, NY, R.F.D. I should have named Louesa first as she is the oldest. On August 14, 1895 and while we were living at Dickinson Center, Franklin Co., NY, my husband left me and ran away with a woman by name of Albena Lageau, a French woman who couldn't talk English at all. My son Ed., whose first wife had left him, got in with her and then after he gave her up, my husband took her and went to the train at North Lawrence and the next I heard of them they were at Briar Hill, St. Lawrence Co., but I don't know where that is. The next I heard was when my daughter Lena Roy, now dead, had a letter written to me telling me that he and that woman were living there at Waterbury, VT. I think that that was the same fall after he left me in August. He stayed out that way a year and a half and then he came back to me at Blake's Mills near St. Regis Falls, NY. I took him back, but he stayed with me only a week or two. He said he was going to stay with me and do right by me, and as the children wanted me to take him back I did so, but before he had been back with me a week he wanted me to write a letter to that woman at Waterbury, VT. I told him that if he wanted a letter written to that woman he would have to write it, that I wouldn't. I told him that he could not have two

women, that I had given him no cause for leaving, and that if he wanted that woman he had better go back to her, so he went to his mother at St. Regis Falls. She then let him go onto a little place at Fish Creek, Oneida Co., NY, and then he sent for that woman who was then living with our son Ed. and his first wife Belle (Cox) La Bounty. That woman Albena Lageau (phonetic) had a child by my husband while she was living with our son Ed. and his wife Belle, and she and that child went with my husband to Fish Creek. Later they lived in Fulton, Oswego Co., NY, so my daughter Charlotte Sawyer, now Bushey, wrote me. Charlotte was then living in Fulton with her husband Richard Sawyer and she was working there in a woolen mill. She had two little children and she wanted me to come there and live and take care of her children, but as she also wrote that my husband and that woman, Albena Lageau, were there I wouldn't go. Albena had a second child by my husband, but I don't know where the second one was born. The children were Jeanette and Tommie or Thomas and they were raised under the name of La Bounty. Albena finally left him and took the children with her. He finally got the children away from her in some way. He left the girl with a Moody family at Saranac Lake, NY, and the girl has since grown and married there, but I don't know to whom. He wanted me to come and live with him and take care of the boy, but I told him that I was not bringing up bastards, that I had brought up a family of my own and that he and I would never live together again. I was a fool to take him back for the little time I did. I don't know what became of Albena. I don't think he ever heard of her after he got the second child, the boy, away from her. Henry has told me that while my husband was living in Saranac Lake he had "Old Toot Sprague" there awhile taking care of the child Tommie, but I guess she was not there long. I never heard of his being married to "Toot" Sprague, and in fact I never heard that he ever married except to me altho he had children by two other women. About two years ago while I was living with my daughter Charlotte Sawyer-Bushey at St. Regis Falls, NY, he came there to see her and I met him there. I asked him then if he was married to that last woman, the woman he was living with then, Mary LaClair, and he hung his head and said "yes". I asked him how he could get married. He didn't look me in the face, but looked towards the floor and said "Why, people can do anything nowadays", and I told him that I thought that they could. I think that he took up with Mary LeClair at Peru, Clinton Co., NY, as that was where she and her people lived, and I think that he lived right there with her until just before he died. I have never seen this woman Mary, but I was well acquainted with her mother when she was a girl. Mary's mother when a girl was Lydia Howard and she was a daughter of Joseph Howard and Lydia ? Cronk or Eliza Cronk, I guess it was, and they used to live at Black Brook. My husband must have lived with this Mary Leclair quite a number of years as she had five children by him. Just before his death he started, as he said, for some old soldiers' home. He first stopped at the home of our son Ed. La Bounty at Santa Clara, Franklin Co., NY, and I don't think he had been there a week when he died suddenly of heart disease. I was in Madrid, NY at the time, but Ed. telegraphed to me and I went right out there with my son Henry La Bounty, and I stayed there until after his funeral. When I reached there my daughter Charlotte told me that that woman Mary Le Clair had been there but that she had gone back to her home at Peru. No, I did not see Mary there. She didn't come there while I was there. I don't think she wanted to see me, and my daughter Charlotte told her that I was coming. I understood he was dying when she got there and that he died before she left. I also understood that he had a row with her before he left Peru, but he was not a man to hold a grudge. After her return to Peru she sent a telegram directing that the body be sent to Peru, but my sons Henry and Herman telegraphed back to her that the body was going to be buried there at Saint Regis Falls where his people were, and he was buried there. Yes sir, I was present at his funeral and burial, and all of our children and grandchildren were there, and he was buried in a lot belonging to my son Eddie La Bounty. No, Mary LeClair or Mary La Bounty of Peru was not at the funeral or burial. Neither was any of her children by my husband present at his funeral or burial. We had him buried from the Methodist church, and the pastor, Rev. Arthur Pennock, preached the funeral sermon. No,

he did not leave any property at his death. He never accumulated anything. All he had was his pension and I had half of that. My daughter Charlotte told me that there was \$13 or \$14 in his pocket book when he died and that without thinking she gave that to Mary. Then she said that Mary stole his pocket book or big bill book containing all his papers. He had had that pocket book or bill book for years, and always when visiting around among the others he would leave that with me. He trusted me that much. After he left me the second time, the spring of 1897, I never lived with him again, but he visited the children about every year from then until he died and whenever he came to visit the children he would see me. Q: Name all of the places in which he lived after leaving you? A: Waterbury, VT; Fulton and Fish Creek, NY; Saranac Lake, NY; and Peru, NY. Those are the only places I know of. Q: Name all places in which you have lived since he left you? A: Dickinson Center, NY; St. Regis Falls, NY; Blake's Mills, NY; Buck Mountain or Brandon, NY; Fulton, NY; Madrid, NY; and here at my daughter's near Potsdam. I think that I remained at Dickinson Center only until about November 1, 1895, but I was at St. Regis Falls a good many years. From Dickinsn Center I moved to Brandon or Buck Mountain, Franklin Co., NY, but I was there only about a year and a half. Then I returned to Dickinson Center, Franklin Co., NY, where I stayed until fall when I went to Blake's Mills, R.F.D. from St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY. Since my hsuband left me I have not lived anywhere except the places named and one summer at Waterbury, VT. The summer I was in Waterbury, VT was the next summer after he left me the second time, and that summer I was visiting at the home of my daughter Lena Roy, now dead. Yes, she is dead, but her husband Joseph Roy is living in Fulton, NY. I have been at Fulton three or four times for a few months at a time with my children since my husband left me. I never lived at Madrid or Potsdam or anywhere else in Saint Lawrence Co., NY, before last October. Q: How many times have you been married? A: Twice, but both times to the same man. I have never been married except to Simeon La Bounty. No sir, I have never ben married since his death or since he and I separated. I was first married to him on November 10, 1863 at Black Brok, Clinton Co., NY, by James Dwyer, J. P., but in order to be able to go to his church, for him to go, we had to be married over again and by a Catholic priest. He was a Catholic, while I was a Protestant, so in order that he might go to his church we married over again. The second marriage took place at AuSable Forks, NY. We were married there in the back part of the church, the only Catholic church there at that time, and by the priest of that church, but I have forgotten his name. I don't remember the date of the marriage, but it was the next summer or spring after our first marriage, I believe. Anyhow it was when he was home from the army on furlo. He had not been discharged from the army yet. The only witness to that second marriage was his sister Esmira (La Bounty) Young, now dead. Q: How many times was Simeon La Bounty married? A: I don't believe he was ever married except to me. I knew of his living with those two women, but I have never heard anybody say he was married to either of them. Well, he, himself, told me he was married to Mary LeClair, but from the way he told it I didn't believe him. Q: In your application filed November 12, 1920, you alleged marriage to him on November 10, 1863 by Rev. James Devine? A: Well, they have got that wrong. His name was Dwyer. Q: Was the name spelled Dewire? A: No, it was Dwyer. Q: Were you and Simeon La Bounty divorced? A: No sir, and there were never any divorce proceedings at all whatever. He wrote to my lawyer Thompson in Fulton, the one who got my pension, that he got a divorce in Saginaw, Mich., but he was never in Saginaw in his life. Q: Did you and Simeon La Bounty separate before 1895? A: No, we never did. We lived together from the time of our marriage in November 863 until he went away with that Albina LaLeau in August 1895. That Albina came from Montreal, Canada, to St. Regis Falls, NY, but I don't know what ever became of her after she and my husband separated. Q: With whom have you lived or for whom have you kept house since you and your husband separated? A: I have never lived with anybody except my children since he left me, and I have never kept house for anybody except myself or my children since he left me. Whenever I have kept house for myself I have had a room in the home of some of

my children. Outside of the half of his pension the only support I have had since he left me has been what my children have given me except that a few times the G.A.R. Post has helped me some. No, I have never received, applied for or been entitled to any compensation on account of the service of any person in the World War. No, I have no attorney in my pension claim. I have not paid anybody anything in this last claim except that, in all, I have given F. J. Merriman \$2.50. No, I have not agreed to pay anybody anything for services in my claim. No, I do not care to be present or represented at any further examination of my pension claim here or elsewhere. I believe Tommie La Bounty is at Plattsburgh, NY. I have heard this statement read and it is correct.

CERTIFICATE OF SEARCH, 8 Oct 1921, Utica, NY: I have searched the Judgment dockets of the Supreme and County Courts, Oneida Co., NY, from 1885 to 1921, but have been unable to find any record of divorce of Simeon and Louisa La Bounty, and I am informed that during the period named, no other court in said county had jurisdiction in divorce cases. /s/ Special Examiner

AFFIDAVIT, 10 Oct 1921, Albany, NY: A search finds no record of divorce for Simeon and Louisa La Bounty during the period 1890 to 1920 in this county. The records are complete and divorces were granted only in County Court during the time above stated.

AFFIDAVIT, 10 Oct 1921, Essex Co., NY: A search finds no record of divorce for Simeon and Louisa La Bounty during the period 1890 to 1920 in this county. The records are complete and divorces were granted only in County Court during the time above stated.

LETTER from Bureau of Pensions to Postmaster, Au Sable Forks, NY, 10 Oct 1921: Please inform as to the name of the Roman Catholic church, if any, in your village, and also the name of the pastor of that church. I am informed there was a Roman Catholic church there during the Civil War in the sixties and that is the church of which I ask the name. [Handwritten on bottom: Holy Name Church, Rev. W. A. O'Connor, Pastor]

LETTER dated 12 Oct 1921 from Special Examiner to Rev. W. A. O'Connor, Pastor, Holy Name Church, Au Sable Forks, NY: Claimant alleges she was married to Simeon La Bounty in your church during the Civil War and while he was on furlo. She states she was previously married to him by a J. P. and under her maiden name Louisa Fisher, but that they married again and in your church. If you have a record of their marriage during the period 1862 - 1865, please furnish me a copy of it under seal of your church, together with a statement as to amount of your fee, if any, for the certificate. [Response came from Wm O' Connor, Holy Name Rectory, Au Sable Forks, NY, as follows: Our church records begin only in 1868. Prior to that time they were kept at the Immaculate Conception Church in Keeseville, NY, of which Rev. Father O'Reilly is Pastor.]

LETTER from Bureau of Pensions to Postmaster, Saranac Lake, NY, 17 Oct 1921: Kindly furnish the present address of a Jeanette La Bounty, also her present name if known. Her father was a Simeon La Bounty, but she was raised at Saranac Lake by a Moody family and is said to have grown and married there. Her testimony is required in pension claim No. 1165788. Handwritten notation on bottom of letter: The above person whose name now is Mrs. Albert Brown lives at Saranac Lake, NY, and gets her mail in general delivery living just outside the city delivery.

LETTER from Albany NY to Mrs. Jeanette Brown (wife of Albert Brown), General Delivery, Saranac Lake, NY, 20 Oct 1921: Please inform me as to the present name and present or last known address of your own mother whose maiden name, as I understand, was Albena Legeau or a name of similar spelling. Also state when

you last saw her and when you last heard from her or of her. If she married again after she and your father Simeon La Bounty separated, please give the name of that husband.

AFFIDAVIT, 28 Sep 1921, Charlotte Bushey, St Regis Falls, Franklin, NY: My age is 46. I am now the wife of John Bushey, was married to him on June 22, 1921. My former husband Richard Sawyer died three years ago. My maiden name was La Bounty. My father was Simeon La Bounty, and my mother is Louisa La Bounty. My father and mother lived together as husband and wife until about 26 years ago, sometime before the birth of my child Douglass Sawyer, who was 25 last March. Then he ran away with a French woman named Alvena. I forget her last name. She couldn't talk English. He had a child by her and finally left her. Then he came back to my mother and wanted her to take him back and also to take care of the child by the French woman, but my mother would not listen to that. Then he returned to the French woman and she had another child by him. He lived with the French woman and the first child at Fulton, NY, near where I was then living, and my husband and I once went to the door here to see my brother Ed., and I saw that woman there at that time with a baby in her arms. It was talked that she had formerly lived with Ed. My father and that French woman finally separated and I don't know what became of her. Then he went to Saranac Lake and there a "Toot" Sprague took care of his two children. Then he took up with a woman named Mary LeClair and lived with her until just before he died. Then he left her and came to my brother Ed's at Santa Clara near here, but just a week from the day he got there he suddenly died. That woman Mary and two of their children got there about 20 minutes before he died, but they went back again that afternoon and without having stayed over night. After his death I took the pocketbook out of his pocket and found \$12 in it. That Mary came up and took out of my hands and she also took the pension papers out of his pocket, and she kept all of them. She wanted his body sent to Peru, but we didn't send it there. She did not attend his funeral, nor did any of her children, but my mother and all of us children attended his funeral. Q: Where did your parents live after their separation? A: I don't know of my father living anywhere except the places named unless it was at Ausable Forks. After the separation my mother came to me at Blake's Mills near here, and she has lived with me most of the time since then except the time she was with my sister Lena Roy, now dead. She lived with me at Blake's Mills, then here at St. Regis Falls, then at Fort Jackson, St. Lawrence county, then at Fulton, NY. She left me last Fall. No, she has never lived with me anywhere except in the places named. She lived with my sister Lena Roy awhile at Fulton, NY and also somewhere in Vermont. She went from Fulton to Syracuse, but was not there long before going back to Fulton with her. She lived awhile at Dickinson Center with my sister Hattie. I can't name any other place where she has lived since my father and she separated. No, she has never married since she and my father separated, and furthermore she has never lived with any man since then. Q: Were your parents divorced? A: No. He just walked away with that other woman. Neither he nor my mother ever got a divorce. I have no money interest in this claim. I have heard this statement read and it is correct. /s/ Charlotte Bushey (X, her mark) Witnesses: Lottie Sawyer, Mina Palmer

AFFIDAVIT, 28 Sep 1921, Frank S. Young, St. Regis Falls, Franklin, NY: My age is 52. I am a merchant and have lived here all my life. I have known Louisa La Bounty about 35 years, and I knew her husband Simeon La Bounty from the same time. I have also known their children from 1886. I would say that Simeon La Bounty and Louisa La Bounty lived here together about 15 years before he left her. He went away with some woman who had been living with his son Ed. La Bounty, as I understood at the time, but I don't know the name of that woman. The next I heard of him he was living with some other woman in Peru, or somewhere in Clinton county, and had children by her. Then a few years ago he came back here on a visit. Well, I saw him here several times within the last few years. Then about a yar or so ago he was up this way, or at Santa Clara, seven miles south of here,

on a visit to his son Ed., and he died suddenly, and, I think he was buried here. Q: What became of Louisa after he left her? A: The next I knew of her she was living at Blake's Mills, near here or Nicholville, St. Lawrence county, with her daughter Charlotte Sawyer, now Bushey, and she has remained in this vicinity all or nearly all of the time since then. I don't believe that she has been farther away than she is now. Q: Were Simeon and Louisa La Bounty divorced? A: I don't think so. I never heard so. He lived with those two women after leaving her, but he was a drinking man and rather reckless, and the son Ed. is something on the same order, but none of this reflects on the old lady, Louisa, in my opinion. I have never heard a word against her. No sir, she has never married since the separation. No sir, she has not lived with any man or kept house for any man since then so far as I have ever known or heard. I have never heard of her being married to any man except Simeon La Bounty or of her name being associated with that of any other man. I never knew any of the family until they moved into this neighborhood, which was at least as early as 1886. I think they came here from the Black Brook neighborhood. No, I never heard of their being separated more than once. They lived together in this vicinity as husband and wife until their separation, until he ran away with the woman who had been keeping house for their son Ed. LaBounty, but I never heard of their living together after that. He used to come around here after that on visits to his children and even to his daughter Charlotte Sawyer, now Bushey, where Louisa was, but I don't know whether he saw her there or not. However, it would not have phased him any if he had met her. He was quite a worker but addicted to drink. No, I am not related to this claimant or interested in her pension claim. I have heard this statement read and it is correct.

LETTER to Bureau of Pensions from Mrs. Jeanette Brown, wife of Albert Brown, General Delivery, Saranac Lake, NY, 23 Oct 1921: Dear Sir - In regarding to your letter of Inquirements on behalf of my Mother weather if she was liveing or dead I can not say because my Father came to see me two years ago Last spring and he has spoken of Mother being dead. I have never seen my Mother as I can remember and he told me she died shortly after they parted and my brother's address or near address is In care of Walter Newell, Route 4, Box 77, Plattsburgh, NY. Yours truly.

AFFIDVIT, 31 Oct 1921, Addie Skeels of Essex, Essex Co., NY: My age will be 77 the 29th of next April. I am making my home here with my daughter, Emma D. Bullis and her husband L. D. Bullis. I am the widow of Herman H. Skeels, Co. F, 83rd and Co. I, 97th NY Infantry, and I am pensioned at \$30 per month under certificate number 826359. My maiden surname was Fisher. My father was William Fisher and my mother was Jerusha Burt. Louisa La Bounty of R.F.D., Potsdam, NY, is my own sister and the only sister I have living. She is about three years younger than I am. We were brought up together, mostly at Black Brook, NY. Both of us were born at Keeseville, but when little children we went with our parents to Black Brook, and where we lived until we were married. Q: How many times has she been married? A: Only once. Yes, that is all. She was married to a man by name of Simeon La Bounty. She was married by a Catholic priest at Black Brook. He was a Catholic, but she was not, so the marriage could not take place at the church, and they were married at the home of the priest. They were married before that, but by a J. P. and as the Catholics got after him and told him that his marriage by a J. P. was not a marriage, they married over again. They were married the first time by the same man who married me, Elijah or "Lige" Dwyer, a J. P. I was married quite awhile before she was. I was married on March 30, 1860, and Louisa was married in the fall, in November, shortly before we went to war, 1863, I believe it was. They were married in my father's home in Black Brook. She was keeping house for my father at the time. Our mother was dead. She was married to Simeon La Bounty there in our father's home, and my husband Hermon H. Skeels and I were there as witnesses. Yes, I saw them married. That was her first marriage. They lived together awhile and then he became dissatisfied and

went away to war. He was a rambler anyway. After he came back from the war they were married over again by the Catholic priest. After that second marriage they lived together until they had ten children, a good many years. He finally left her and he never lived with her again, but I can't say just when it was that he left her or where they were then living. I know that he had no cause for leaving her as she was a good woman. She has lived around with her children ever since then, most of the time up around St. Regis. No sir, she has never married since then. She has never been married except to Simeon La Bounty. That was enough for her. Q: How many times was he married? A: I don't know, but I don't believe he was ever married at all except to Louisa. I heard of his living with two other women and of his having children by both of them, but I don't believe he was ever married to either of them. I heard he had five children by one of the women. I don't know name of either of those women or where they live or whether they are living at all. Q: Were Louisa and Simeon La Bounty divorced? A: Never. She never asked for a divorce. Neither did he, and he couldn't have got one if he had. She never gave him any cause for divorce, but he gave her cause enough. No, I don't know where he lived after he left her, and I guess that it would have bothered anybody to have followed him around. No, I have no interest in this claim, but Louisa needs the pension and she ought to have it. I have heard this statement read and it is correct. /s/ Addie Skeels

AFFIDAVIT, 2 Nov 1921, Mary Barber, Peru, Clinton Co., NY: My age was 36 the 26th of last August. No occupation except keeping house for myself and children. I am now the wife of Wallace Barber, but was formerly married to Simeon La Bounty. My maiden name was Mary Clair. My father is Lawrence Clair and he lives at AuSable Forks, NY. My mother is Lydia (Howard) Clair and she is living with my father. I was born here near Peru and I have always lived in this vicinity. My first marriage was to Simeon La Bounty. He and I were married at Schuyler Falls, NY. Here is my marriage certificate. This shows that Simeon Labounty and Mary Clair, both of Peru, NY, were united in Holy Matrimony on the 10th of September 1902 at Schuyler Falls by C. A. Bradford, Clergyman, in presence of Mrs. C. A. Bradford and Will L. Bradford. I lived with him as his wife from then until his death and I had six children by him. Five of them are still living and all are with me except the oldest one, my daughter Mable Harriet Labounty who is now the wife of James Covell, Au Sable Forks. My youngest child is a girl named Charlotte. She will be four years old the 11th of this month, Armistice Day. I have one other daughter, Margaret La Bounty, and I have two boys, Patrick La Bounty and Earl La Bounty, the ones now present. Lily LaBounty died. Simeon La Bounty died at a sanitarium near St. Regis Falls a year ago last month and while on a visit to his son Eddie LaBounty. He always said he wanted to die with his children out there. My next marriage was to Wallace Barber. He and I were married at Au Sable Forks, NY, as shown by my certificate here. This marriage certificate shows that Wallace Barber and Mary La Bounty were united in marriage on May 25, 1921 at Ausable Forks, NY, by T. H. Reinhart of the M. E. church and in presence of Joseph Cobb. Wallace and I lived together less than two weeks after our marriage. He left me right away and has not lived with me or supported me since. He stayed with me two or three nights in Ausable Forks and then after I came here he stayed with me here about a week. Then he returned to his mother's just around the corner from where I am living here and he has been there with her ever since then. His mother has to support him as he won't work except for a day or two at a time. He is 24 or 25 years of age, and his marriage to me was the first I know of. Q: How long did you live with him before your marriage to him? A: I kept house for him on the Green farm near here just two weeks before our marriage, but all of my family was with me. He and I were arrested for living together before our marriage but he skipped out and nothing was done with him, and they could not do anything with me as no harm had been done. No, it was not until after we were married that he skipped out. Mr. Beekman came to the house and told us we couldn't live there unless we got married, so we went to Ausble Forks and got married. No sir, I have never been married except to these two men. Q:

How many times was Simeon La Bounty married? A: Three times, he told me. He said I was his third wife. He told me his first wife was Louisa Fisher and his second wife was Albena Ledour (phonetic), a French woman from Canada. He told me Albena was dead, but he didn't say where she died. Oh yes, he did too. He told me she died at Rome. I never have seen either of his first two wives. At time of my marriage to him he told me his first wife Louisa was dead and that he helped to fix her grave. I can prove that by my mother, but soon after our marriage half of his pension was given to that first wife Louisa and she drew it right along until he died. Then after her claim was allowed he told me he thought the papers were made up, that he thought it was the children who were drawing it, that he didn't think it was her. I became acquainted with him about May just before our marriage in September. After our marriage we lived here in Peru until his death except we were at North Ferrisburg, VT, or Monkton, VT, Bristol, VT, then eight miles from Vergennes VT. All three places are right around Monkton, but I don't know what county. Q: Were he and Louisa ever divorced? A: Well, I couldn't tell you that. She will know more about that than I do. He told me he had separation papers but that they got burned. He didn't tell me anything about that until after we got married. Before I was married to him he told me Louisa was dead and he told me how nicely he fixed up her grave, how he put cedar around it, etc. No, I never heard of his applying for a divorce from Louisa after we were married or at any other time. No, I never heard of Louisa ever applyilng for a divorce from him at any time. He has Eddie, Herman, Henry, Louisa and Charlotte and Hattie still living and they are by Louisa. That was what he told me, and I have seen Herman, Charlotte and Eddie. When he was taken sick at Eddie's I went out here and I stayed there until he died. I didn't stay to the funeral as I expected his body to be sent here for burial, so I came back here to get ready. But they buried him out there, they said. His son Eddie's wife wrote that to my oldest daughter Mabel. He had two children by his second wife, Jeanette and Thomas. Jeanette is now the wife of Albert Brown and she lives here at Saranac Lake, or did the last I heard from her. She wrote to my oldest daughter Mabel some time ago and asked her to come there. The last I heard of Thomas he was in Burlington VT. No, I have never applied for pension as widow of Simeon La Bounty. Jay Davern, a lawyer in Plattsburgh, told me I couldn't draw pension as Simeon's wife, Louisa was still living, but that he would write and find out if there was any chance for the children. He told me he would write and let me know, but he has never written to me, and I have not written anything to him about it. I have heard this statement read and it is correct. No sir, I have no interest in Louisa's pension claim.  
/s/ Mrs. Mary Barber

LETTER from Special Examiner, Utica, NY, to Commissioner of Pensions, 10 Nov 1921: Claim referred for special examination as to legal widowhood and forfeiture as per Board of Review letter of July 26, 1921. I gave claimant the usual notice and fully explained to her all her rights and privileges, but she waived all and as none of the testimony appears to be adverse I have not taken the time to read any of it to her. I have been unable to hear of the claimant's name having been associated with that of any man other than the soldier, and everybody whom I have seen speaks well of her, but for the soldier himself nobody appears to have a good word. Soldier lived with two different women after deserting claimant, and each of those women had children by him. A letter from Jeanette Brown, a daughter of soldier and the first of these two women, appears as an exhibit in this report, and a deposition from the woman with whom he last lived - Mary (Clair) La Bounty, now wife of Wallace Barber, tho not living with him, will be found herewith. I have been unable to learn what became of the French woman with whom soldier first lived after leaving claimant, but possibly, as the daughter believes, she is dead. While there is no record of the marriage of claimant and soldier, the testimony of claimant's sister Addie Skeels, together with the other evidence in the case, tends to show that they were married as claimed and that it was the first marriage of each, and as they appear to have never been divorced, further examination

appears unnecessary, and the papers are submitted for consideration of Chief of Board of Review.

LETTER, ca 3 Dec 1921, from Mr. Thomas Labounty, 37 Lafayette St., Plattsburgh, NY, to Bureau of Pensions: Dear Sir, You are asking questions about my mother. I have never seen her or do not know her name, where she is, wheather she is dead or alive, for my father, Semion Labounty always told me that my mother left him when I was but a year old & then my father gave me away to Mrs. Alphonie La Force from Keevislle [Keeseville]. My father remarried again to a woman from Peru. I do not know her name but there are five children survives him. By my father first wife they had 2 children, my self and a sister that lives in Sarnac Lake & that is married to Albert Brown. If you do find any trace of her I would like very much to have you let me know for I would like to know wether she is living or dead. Please answer.

LETTER from Miss Jeannette La Bounty, 34 Church St., Burnside Connecticut, to Bureau of Pensions, 30 March 1925: I am writing in regards to the claim on my father's pension which you wrote me about quite a while ago. I lived in Saranac Lake at the time. But now I live in Burnside, Conn. Simeon La Bounty's Pension. I am his daughter, Jeannette La Bounty, you wrote for information and I sent it all I new about it. And please sir send me full information regarding the same. I am Respectfully, /s/ Miss Jeannette La Bounty, Box 177.

NOTICE, 24 May 1928: H. R. 2042. Louisa La Bounty, aged 80 years, whose post-office address is R.F.D. No. 3, Canton, NY, is the widow of Simeon La Bounty, late a private, Co. K, 118th NY Infantry, from 16 Dec 1863 to 31 May 1865, and who died 26 Oct 1920. Claimant and the late soldier were married 10 Nov 1863. She is now pensioned as the widow of the soldier at \$30 a month under certificate No. 907255. Medical evidence presented shows she requires the constant aid and attendance of another person because of myocarditis, chronic bronchitis and results of bronchial pneumonia. She has no means or property and her pension is her only income. No one is legally bound to her support. It is recommended her pension be increased to \$50 a month. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to place on the pension roll, subject to the provisions and limitations of the pension laws - The name of Louisa La Bounty, widow of Simeon La Bounty, late of Co. K, 118th Regiment NY Volunteer Infantry, and pay her a pension at the rate of \$50 per month in lieu of that she is now receiving.

A VERIFIED TRANSCRIPT FROM THE REGISTER OF DEATHS, Franklin Co., NY: Louise La Bounty, age 88-8-13, widow, born at Keeseville, NY, died on 11 Oct 1935 at St. Regis Falls, NY of cerebral arteriosclerosis and senility. Father's name Fisher, born U.S., mother's name unknown. Burial at St. Regis Falls, NY. Physician: William A. Gasper.

APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT, Franklin Co., NY, 15 Nov 1935: Charlotte Bushey (Louisa La Bounty's daughter), age 60, St. Regis Falls, Franklin, NY, incurred expenses for burial of Louisa La Bounty, who died 11 Oct 1935 at St. Regis Falls. Louisa's sickness began 8-9 years ago. About 3 1/2 years ago Louisa became so ill as to require daily attendance of another person. Those who attended her in this illness were: Dr. Baldwin of Potsdam, NY and Dr. William A. Gaspar of St. Regis Falls, NY. During the last 3 1/2 years Charlotte lived with Louisa and nursed her. Claimant is owed \$227.35 + \$5.00 (sexton). Witnesses: Adrian and Vivian Kelley of St. Regis Falls NY.

STOP PAYMENT NOTICE, 7 Dec 1935: Payee: Louise La Bounty, effective date of action 11 Oct 1935, reason: death of payee on 11 Oct 1935; name of veteran Simeon La Bounty.

DEPOSITION, Charlotte Bushey, 21 Apr 1936, St. Regis Falls, Franklin Co., NY: Charlotte Bushey says she is the claimant named who executed a claim herein. In said application for reimbursement Form No. 5036 deponent stated that her mother, Louisa LaBounty, last sickness began about eight or nine years before her death. That she really was not a well woman during this nine years. However, her last hard sickness from which she died really began about one year before she died. That during said year the only physician that attended her was Dr. William A. Gaspar of St. Regis Falls, NY. The last treatment of deceased by Dr. Wm J. Baldwin of Potsdam, NY was about two years prior to her death and when she resided at Potsdam. Hereto annexed and made a part of this affidavit and marked Exhibit A is a certificate signed by Dr. Wm J Baldwin in which he states that the account of deceased is fully paid. /s/ Charlotte Bushey, (X) her mark; witness Mildred W. Ward

REIMBURSEMENT - ACCRUED PENSION, 1 May 1936: Undertaker's bill, \$227.35, sexton \$5.00.