

Pension Application for William Bancroft

S.12046

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Worcester SS.

On this Twenty forth [fourth] day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty two in open Court personally appeared before Nath'l Paine Judge of Probate for the County of Worcester, William Bancroft, a resident of [Dana?] in the County of Worcester and commonwealth of Massachusetts aged ninety years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated:

That he enlisted into the service of the U. States for eight months, was in the company commanded by Capt Robert Oliver of Conway then in the County of Hampshire river to Franklin in the State of Massachusetts.

That he enlisted soon after the battle of Lexington, and was then resident at said Conway. Immediately after his enlistment he was ordered and marched to Cambridge in the County of Middlesex and state aforesaid, and then joined the regiment commanded by Col Ephraim Doolittle. That from the time of his said enlistment down to the time of his discharge, to wit, October 18, 1775, he was constantly employed on guard in entrenching, chopping and such other services as he was directed to perform, but was engaged [engaged] in no battle during said term.

That on the said 18th day of October 1775 he was honorably discharged on account of ill health which appears also from the written discharge then given there and what accompanies this application—that he was in actual service between five and six months, but cannot state the precise time from loss of memory. Lt. Col Holden and Major Moore who was killed in the battle on Bunker Hill were officers of the same regiment—the Subaltern officers in Capt. Oliver's Company even Lieuts Pommel and Grover—Genl Putnam was at Cambridge at the same time he was.

The said Bancroft further declares that on the eleventh day of July 1777 he volunteered into the service of the U. States and joined the company of Capt Benjamin Phillips of Ashfield a town joining said Conway and then marched to New York, crossed the North River at what is called the half moon, passed through Saratoga and stationed near Moses Creek for about three weeks, and was thence ordered by Genl Washington to Stillwater where he remained on Guard till the twelfth day of August then next and was then honorably discharged by Genl Schuyler—but received no written discharge; the said Bancroft further states that he knows of no person now living whom he can get to testify to his services as above described.

We John Willis a clergyman residing in the town of Dana, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with William Bancroft who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be ninety years of age, that he is respected and

believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier in the revolution, and we concur in that opinion.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before Nath^l Paine Judge of Probate for the County of Worcester. John H. Willis, Nath^l Williams. Theophs Wheeler Reg of the said Court.