

Pension Application for Benjamin Barns or Barnes

S.18700

Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Hampden SS.

On this 29th day of August in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and thirty two personally appeared before Oliver B. Morris Esqr Judge of the Court of Probate for said Hampden County Benjamin Barns of said Granville aged ninety one 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 was born in Middletown in the County of Middlesex and State of Connecticut on the 16th day of March 1741 and he thinks the same is recorded in the records of said Middletown, but he never has seen the record of his age anywhere except in a Bible.

He entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War for the first time as a soldier in Capt Ball's Company and enlisted for the term of Eight months. This company belonged to Col. Danielsons Regiment—this was in the fore part of May 1775—He was immediately marched with said Company to Roxbury in Massachusetts—He came to said Granville when he was about twenty two years of age and was at Granville when he enlisted as aforesaid. He was stationed at Roxbury—he well Recollects the Battle of Bunker hill, land seeing the smoke when Charlestown was burnt.

In consequence of his being a Partner in business with his brother Jeremiah Barns and an agreement on his part to relieve him in his situation in the army--&c the said Jeremiah came to Roxbury at the expiration of Five Months and took his place and said Benjamin came home having served said term as a Corporal to which office he was appointed at the Organization of said Company.

In April 1776 he was chosen Lieutenant and Commissioned by the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in the summer following he went in said capacity in the service of the United States to Ticonderoga—Aaron Coe of said Granville was Captain.

He was in the service at said time for the term of two months.

In the month of June or July 1777 he was ordered by Gen. Poor to march to Fort Edward—marched with Capt William Cooly and Lt David Parsons himself as first Lieutenant in Col. Robinson, Regiment—was stationed at Fort Miller—was employed most of the time on Scouting parties—commanded a Scouting Party of twenty six men to Fort Edward—he made Report of his discoveries to Gen. Poor to whose Brigade he was attached. His report was that the enemy were at the Fort—Having served two months at this time he came home.

On the 8th day of November 1779 he again entered the service of the United States in his said Capacity as a Lieutenant by the orders of Col Chapin to go to Albany Sloper was Capt Chapin. Marched immediately to Albany—was at onetime on guard in the City Hall in that place. Was discharged on the 23rd day of December following and came home.

And said Barnes further says that during the Revolutionary War he spent much time as an officer in mustering and enlisting men and in making provision for their marches, and in urging and encouraging them on.

He claims to have served in the whole thirteen months.

That in proof of his first service he has the deposition of Jeremiah Barns for the Second term that of Rev. Lemuel Haynes—the third that of Caphus Mills and the fourth that of Asa Barnes.

He was at all times regularly discharged but does not recollect that he ever had a written discharge.

He has no documentary evidences that would be positive testimony except his commission. He has lived in said Town of Granville ever since the close of the Revolutionary War.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or Annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

(Signed) Benjamin Barns

Sworn and Subscribed the day and year abovesaid before me. Oliver B. Morris,
Judge of the Court of Probate.