

Pension Application for Lemuel Bates

S.29618 Declaration. In order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

State of Massachusetts

County of Hampshire SS

On this Eighty day of August 1832 in open court personally appeared before the Hon. Saml Hinckley Judge of the Court of Probate now sitting Lemuel Bates a resident of Southampton in the County of Hampshire, and State of Massachusetts, aged seventy six 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 provision made by the act of Congress, passed June 7, 1832.

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

On the first day of May 1775 he volunteered with about twenty others, at Northampton in the County of Hampshire, where he then resided and marched to Cambridge in Massachusetts and immediately joined a company of the Massachusetts State Troops of which Jonathan Allen was Captain and Oliver Lyman and Jonathan Stearns were Lieutenants all of Northampton—said company had for some days been at Cambridge—The field officers were Colonel Fellows, of Berkshire County, Lieutenant Colonel Eagan of [Westhington?] and Major Tupper of Chesterfield, afterwards our officers in the continental army. The Regiment was soon ordered to Roxbury where it remained some weeks, and afterwards was stationed at Dorchester.

While at Roxbury the declarant witnessed the battle of Bunker Hill and the burning of Charlestown—during said battle the same Regiment was commanded from the british [British] Battery on Boston Neck. About the first of September he engaged as a volunteer to go with Colonel Arnold to Quebec, and joined a company of which Jonas Hubbard was Captain and [blank] Brown and [blank] Pierce Lieutenants. The detachment left Cambridge about the twelfth of September and marched to Newbury port, thence by water to the head of navigation on Kennebec River, at Fort Western thence in bateaux up said River—

About the twentieth of October it reached Dead River, a branch of the [?] at which place Colonel Enos, with the rear division returned said declarant continued with the divisions under Arnold, and after many privations and much suffering arrived at the Chanduice the beginning of November and at Point Levi about the ninth. He continued with Arnold crossing the St. Lawrence, encamping on the Plains of Abraham and afterwards retiring to Point Aux Trumbles, where General Montgomery joined—

The whole [?] moved towards Quebec and entered that place—The said declarant was with Arnold in the attack upon the City, on the morning of the thirty first day of December—when he was made a prisoner—after Arnold was wounded, Captain Morgan of the Rifle Corps whom the declarant well knew, appeared to take the principal direction—he was near him when they surrendered—Major Bigelow and Meigs who were Field Officers in the division to which said declarant belonged were among the prisoners—Captain Hubbard received a mortal wound. Eleven of his company were

killed. The soldiers were immediately separated from their officers and placed in the common Gaol [jail] of the City.

They were there confined, suffering much for the want of food and fuel, until the tenth of August 1776—during which time said declarant have the small pox, the natural way—At that time they were liberated, upon signing a parole and making oath that they would not serve against Great Britain until exchanged—They were embarked on board of transports, to the number of about 400 prisoners, and being under convoy of a Ship of War, sailed for New York, and arrived in the harbor of said place about the middle of September and was in the harbor at the time the British took possession of New York. The prisoners were soon after landed at Elizabeth town, in New Jersey. Said declarant, with some others made their way to General Washington's Army at Valentine's Hill where they received some pay. They then found their old Captain, Allen, who was in the years service and was afterwards a Major in the Continental Service.

After staying with the army a few days, the commenced their journey for Massachusetts. Said declarant was in a feeble state of health, in consequence of his long imprisonment and sufferings, and having reached Southwick in Massachusetts gave out. At that place his father met him with a Horse and conveyed him to his home in Southampton, when he arrived about the first of October 1776.

During the winter following, about the first of February as the said declarant believes, he saw a notice in the public prints, that the Canada Prisoners were exchanged at which time, as he supposed, his term of service expired.

The only persons, belonging to Northampton, who were made prisoners with the declarant were Paul Clapp, Joseph Parsons, Russell Clark and Oliver Edwards none of them are living unless it be Paul Clapp, who many years since removed from this part of the county and whether he be living or where he resides, if living is unknown to the declarant.

He has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service after leaving Cambridge excepting Ebenezer Gee, who returned with Colonel Enos, and whose deposition accompanies this declaration.

The said declarant again entered the service in the Militia as a private soldier in a company of which Samuel Pomeroy of Southampton was Captain, September 20th 1777, in what has been usually known as the Bennington Alarm, and went as far as Williamstown, from whence the company returned, having been about seven days.

He again entered the service in the company of militia of which Lemuel Pomerey was Captain, Lemuel Broat and Ebenezer Sheldon, Lieutenants, all of Southampton the twentieth of September in the same year, and served as a private for the term of one month. The Regiment was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel May of Chesterfield or Goshen—Israel Chapin of that field was Major—was marched to Stillwater, thence to Saratoga—The Regiment was annexed to Nixon's Continental Brigade—In the battle of the seventh of October the Regiment was paraded in; line, but did not go into the action. The regiment was discharged after the capitulation with Gen Burgoyne was signed.

The declarant frequently saw Generals Gates and Arnold. Knew Arnold in the Canada Expedition. Recollects Nixon's, Poo's, Glover's and another Continental Regiments—The original Muster Roll of said company in which the declarant's name is born is annexed to the declaration of Zodack Danks.

The said declarant again entered the service in the Militia as a private soldier in a company of which—Fairfield or Williamsburgh was captain in Colonel Sparhawk's Regiment—He entered the service as a substitute for his brother, Aaron Bates, who served the first part of the tour. The said declarant joined the Regiment on Dorchester Heights near Boston, November 1, 1778 and continued in service until January 1, 1777 when the Regiment was discharged—was employed principally in building a Fort.

The declarant was born at Durham in the state of Connecticut August 30th 1755—removed with his father to Southampton, Massachusetts, in the year 1768—at the time of his first entering the service he was living in Northampton as above stated—After his return from captivity resided in Southampton, excepting when absent in the army, until the year 1787 where he with his family moved to the town of Blandford in the County of Hampton, where he resided twelve years. In the year 1801 he returned to Southampton where he has ever since lived.

He knows of no record of his age.

He never received any written discharge form the service.

He would state the names of Deacon Roswell Strong and Asahel Bing Esq who will testify to his character or veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He would also state that the only clergyman now residing in his town is a young man recently settled here and who knows nothing about the subject.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any pension roll of any agency in any State.

(Signed) Lemuel Bates

Sworn to, and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid before me Samuel Hinckley Judge of Probate.