

Pension Application for Sanbun Ford

S.13052 Enlisted as a Musician in the Continental Army.

B.L.Wt.498-100

State of New York

Saratoga.

Be it remembered that on the twenty third day of March in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen personally appeared before me Thomas Dibble Esquire one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Saratoga and State of New York aforesaid Sanbun Ford of the Village of Ballston Spa in the County and State aforesaid Thomas Palmer of the same place and Levi Benedict of Ballston in the County and State aforesaid all to me personally known who being by me duly sworn declared, and first the said Sanbun Ford on his oath aforesaid says that he served as a private soldier in the war of the Revolution against the common enemy in a company at the time of his enlistment commanded by Captain Belden and afterwards by Captain Webb in the Second Regiment of Light Dragoons commanded by Colonel Elisha Sheldon in the Connecticut line.—

That this deponent Sanbun Ford entered the service some time in the fall of the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine, and enlisted to serve during the war and served from that time until the twelfth day of June one thousand seven hundred and eighty three at which time this deponent received an Honorable discharge from the commander in chief at Danbury in the State of Connecticut which discharge this deponent is informed an verily believes is now in the office of the Secretary at War in the City of Washington.

And this deponent further says that he is now sixty years of age has a wife and nine children and is in very indigent circumstances and is in need of assistance for his support.

And the said Thomas Palmer on his oath aforesaid says that six or seven years since the precise time this deponent cannot recollect, the said Sanbun Ford left with him an ancient paper purporting to be an Honorable Discharge granted to the said Sanbun Ford from the Commander in Chief from the late Revolutionary army of the United States in which discharge this deponent believes it was stated that the said Sanbun had enlisted during the war. And that this declarant by request of the said Sanbun Ford transmitted the said Discharge to the Honorable John Thompson Esquire a member of Congress from the Eleventh Congressional District at New York for the purpose of procuring the said Sanbun Ford's Bounty Land and this deponent says he is acquainted with the said Sanbun Ford that he is in indigent circumstances.

And the said Levi Benedict on his oath aforesaid says that he served as a private soldier in the said Second Regiment of Light Dragoons commanded by the said Colonel Elisha Sheldon.

That he us well acquainted with the said Sanbun Ford and knows that he served as a private soldier in the said Regiment and was present when the said Sanbun Ford on the twelfth day of June one thousand seven hundred and eighty three received an honorable discharge of Sanbun aforesaid. And this deponent then

understood and believes that the said Sanbun Ford enlisted to serve during the war.
(Signed) Sanbun Ford, Thomas Palmer, Levi Benedict.

Sworn & Subscribed to the 23d day of March 1818 before me. Thomas Dibble
one of the Judges of the Court of Com. Pleas of the County of Saratoga & State of New
York.

In the application in 1820, he states that his family consists of himself and wife
aged 58, “not off much use & 2 daughters 1 aged 16 years and the other 11 years and
one grandchild aged 7 years.” He adds that for 20 years he has not been able to
labour but very little and some times he has been compelled to ask for private charity.
“I have no trade 2 years past I have run the church bell in the village of ballston spa
for which I received what the villagers are pleased from time to time to give me, but
nights on account of the failure of my sight I sometimes have to get a substitute which
I never did in the war of the Revolution when fighting for my country. I and my wife
cannot subsist without public or private charity. I used on public days sometimes to
peddle gingerbread & been but my wife is now to old to bake and I to [?].”