

Pension Application for John Gardiner

S.3386

To the Honorable Richard Riker—Recorder of the City of New York one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, called the Mayor's Court of the City of New York, which is a Court of Record of the State of New York.

The Declaration under oath of John Gardiner of Southold Suffolk's County formerly a Surgeon's mate engaged in the Service of the United States, during the Revolutionary War, and now a Citizen of the United States, and resident of said Town & County in the State of New York.

Respectfully Showeth, that the said John Gardiner was born in the Town of Southold in the County of Suffolk and State of New York on the Twelfth day of August one thousand seven hundred & fifty two & that on the first day of November one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight he entered as Surgeon's mate on board of the Continental Frigate "Confederacy" of thirty six guns commanded by Seth Harding Esq. and that he continued on board said Frigate in the above said capacity until the nineteenth day of May one thousand seven hundred and eighty as will more fully appear by his discharge hereto annexed.

That the service said Frigate was employed in during the time this deponent was on board of her was as follows: the winter ensuing this deponent's entry on board said frigate, she lay in the Harbor of New London in the State of Connecticut fitting for sea, in the spring the ship went to Philadelphia, the summer was spent in conveying merchant and other vessels off the coast & cruising between the States and the West Indies, late in the ensuing fall the ship was ordered to France for the purpose of carrying out the Hon. John Jay (and sent) as Ambassador to the Court of Spain and likewise to convey home the Hon. ___ Guard the Ambassador from the Court of France to the United States.

But in November the Frigate was totally dismissed on the banks of Newfoundland while on her way to France with the aforesaid gentleman on board after getting up Jerrymasks it was determined to alter the destination and if possible get into Spain but within a week or ten days the ship was again almost a wreck, land to complete the misfortune she lost her rudder, it was then determined to get into Martin so fi in our power & after fifty one days from her sailing she happily gained that fort at which place the ship was repaired & the spring following she sailed for Philadelphia where she arrived in May when this deponent was discharged & went to sea in private ships was then taken prisoner, by which means he all his papers except his discharge, his commission being lost.

And this Declaration further representeth that the said John Gardner is now a Citizen of the United States, and residing in the County aforesaid, and is by reason of his reduced circumstances in life, in need of assistance from his country for support.

Therefore he conceives himself entitled to the benefit of the Act of the Congress of the United States, entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval Service of the United States, in the Revolutionary War" approved, March 18, 1818, and requests that your Honor will examine into the truths of the

matters aforesaid, certify and transmit the testimony in this case, and the proceedings had thereon to the Honorable the Secretary of the Department of War, to the end that such relief may be had in the premises as is by law in such case provided. And in support of the facts above set forth, he refers to the Affidavit of himself and the annexed discharge hereafter set forth, duly signed and authenticated by John Lawrence the Clerk of the Ship. Dated the 19 day of October 1818. John Gardiner
City and County of New York SS.

John Gardiner being duly sworn says, that the matters by him set forth in the foregoing Declaration, are in all respects just and true.

Sworn the 19th day of October 1818 before me, R. Riker Recorder of the City of New York.

City of New York SS. John C. Wells being duly sworn saith that he resides within less than a quarter of a mile from the house of the above named John Gardiner & has known him intimately for twenty five years last past known. That the said John Gardiner is in reduced circumstances in life & in the opinion of this deponent needs the assistance of his Country for support. That he has a wife & one son at home & maintained by him besides other children aboard. That he has now a small house & two acres of land in the country & as this deponent believes is worth nothing beside & that a part of the piece of the house & land remains unpaid. John C. Wells

Sworn the 17 Aug 1819 before me. P. A. Jay
Dr. John Gardiner, Surgeon's Mate on board the Confederacy 1778 to 1780.