

Pension Application for Ichabod Alden

W.21903 (Widow: Mary Partridge, former widow)

B.L. Wt 24_500 Col. Issued Dec 12, 1797 to Calvin & Mary Partridge guardians in trust for John Alden and Rebecca Partridge Alden only children and heirs.

This woman's last husband, Calvin Partridge was a Rev. War Solider.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Plymouth SS.

On this twenty fifth day of March 1837 personally appeared before the Hon. Wilkes Wood Judge of the Court of Probate for said County Mary A. Partridge a resident of Duxbury in said County of Plymouth & State of Massachusetts aged Eighty two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4, 1836 & the act explanatory of said act passed March 3, 1837. That she was married to Ichabod Alden who was a Colonel in the Army of the Revolution in the year 1774 he was Captain of a company of minutemen & in the spring of 1775 (1) he was appointed a Lieutenant Colonel & served at Roxbury about one year under Gen'l Thomas (2) in Col. Cottons Regiment after the British left Boston he served in the Northern Army in the Massachusetts line (3) & was at the taking of General Burgoyne (4) having been promoted Colonel he continued in the Army until he was killed in battle & scalped at Cherry Valley (5) November 11 1778 (6) having served from the commencement of the war a period of three & a half years. She (7) further declares that she was married to the said Ichabod Alden on the eighth day of January 1774 by Rev. Chancy at the house of Capt. Samuel Partridge—Boston, That her husband the aforesaid Ichabod Alden died on the Eleventh day of November 1778; That she was afterward married to Capt. Calvin Partridge who also served in the War of the Revolution, & who died on the twenty third day of November 1815. That she was a widow on the 4th July 1836 & still remains a widow as will more fully appear by references to the proof annexed hereto. (Signed with her mark) Mary Partridge.

Plymouth SS. March 25, 1837, Sworn to & subscribed the day & year first above written & I hereby certify that said Mary Partridge is a credible person & that by reason of bodily infirmity she is unable to travel to attend court to make her declaration Wilkes Wood, J. Clk.

I Josiah Moore Pastor of the First Congregational Church in Duxbury hereby certify that I find recorded in the Church book in my possession that Ichabod Alden & his wife Mary Alden were admitted as member of the church August 3, 1777 & that their son John was baptized the same day & further I find recorded of the persons married October 24, 1779 Capt. Calvin Partridge & Mary Alden & further certify that Mary Partridge an applicant for a pension is the same person that was admitted to the church as the wife of Ichabod Alden & that she was a widow on the 4th of July 1836 & still remains a widow given under my hand at Duxbury this eighth day of April 1837. Josiah Moore

End Notes—W.21903—Ichabod Alden

1. Alden was appointed lieutenant on April 23, 1775 in Colonel Theophilis Cotton's Massachusetts Regiment. He served until the regiment disbanded in December of 1775.
2. John Thomas was appointed brigadier general in the Continental Army on June 22, 1775. Thomas was appointed major general in the Continental Army on March 6, 1776 and he died on June 2, 1776.
3. Alden was appointed lieutenant colonel on January 1, 1776 in Colonel William Bond's 25th Continental Infantry Regiment.

4. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne invaded New York from Canada viz Lake Champlain—Lake George and then the Hudson Valley in 1777. Colonel Alden and his regiment were in Brigadier General John Nixon's Brigade under Major General Philip Schuyler and when Schuyler was replaced at Saratoga in August was under Major General Horatio Gates. In the morning of October 7, 1777 the second battle of Saratoga began, Brigadier General Ebenezer Learned was sent to attack the Breyman Redoubt, which was defended by the Germans Alden's Regiment with two other regiments from Nixon's Brigade were sent to reinforce Learned's Brigade. They carried the redoubt killing, capturing and putting to flight the surviving Germans.
5. According to Lieutenant William McKendry's Journal of 1778, states that Colonel Alden arrived at Cherry Valley on July 30, 1778. Detachments of the regiment had been arriving since June. McKendry was in Alden's Regiment.
6. On the morning of November 11, 1778, Captains Walter Butler and Joseph Brant with a mixed force of crown troops and Indians attacked the settlement of Cherry Valley. During the night of November 10-11 a scouting party of Alden's Regiment under Sergeant Adam Hunter were taken prisoners while sleeping. Captain Butler soon learned from the prisoners that Colonel Alden with his field officers and a guard were staying at the home of Robert Wells and using his home as their headquarters. The Wells' house was now a target besides Fort Alden. Butler had hoped to capture the fort by surprise. Upon entering the settlement a party of Indians came across Nathaniel Hamel on horseback and fired at him. Although wounded Hamel spurred his horse and rode to the Wells' house and informed Colonel Alden of the attack. The Indians were swift and most of those at the Wells' house including the Wells family were killed or captured. Colonel Alden fled towards the fort and was being pursued by the Indians. Alden turned and fired his pistol with no effect and one of the Indians threw his tomahawk at Alden and it struck him dead.
7. Mary's maiden name was Wakefield.