

Pension Application for Simeon Alden

S.30246

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Norfolk SS.

Town of Randolph

On this third day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared Simeon Alden of Randolph in said County Currier now in the sixty ninth year of his age, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make and subscribe the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed, June 7th 1832.

That I entered as a private, the service of the United States, as a volunteer in the militia of this commonwealth in the month of October AD 1778 and in the month of December following I was inspected and passed muster by Major [blank] Brown and soon after repaired to our Stations in Boston in said Commonwealth where I served for the term of three months under the following named officers, biz. Abner Crane Capt., Robert Cushman, and [blank] Smith, Lieutenants, Capt Crane's company together with two other militia companies were commanded by Major [blank] Rice, There was stationed at said Boston at the same time a company of Continentals (so called) Invalids, and some Artificers. I was stationed at the foot of Fort hill, so called in said Boston, on the wheelrights wharf in barrack erected there by the British while in said Town of Boston. The duty of the soldiers stationed as aforesaid and with whom I served was to guard the Forts, magazines, war like stores, and guard ships.

General Gates visited Boston while I was serving there as aforesaid and was one of the quarter guard & stood several times centry [sentry] at his door. I received my discharge from said service about the first of May AD 1779, and returned to my fathers in Abington in the County of Plymouth in the Commonwealth aforesaid where I remained untill on or about the fifteenth day of August AD 1781.

I then enlisted as a volunteer and as a private in a company commanded by Capt Luke Bicknell, and Moses LeBarrow and [blank] Clift were Lieutenants, and which company on or about the first day of September AD 1781, mustered and formed at Bridgewater in said County of Plymouth and marched thence to Springfield in said Commonwealth where said company drew three days provisions and then marched to Litchfield in the state of Connecticut, where said company again drew three days provisions and marched to Fishkill and thence to West Point in the State of New York where said Company remained stationed and did military duty untill the fifteenth day of December AD 1781, with which company I remained and did duty during the whole of said time, Major General McDugal commanded at that time at West Point. The regiment to which said company was commanded by Enoch Putnam Col. & [blank] Orr Major, and was attached to the Brigade commanded by General [blank] Patterson. On leaving the service at West Point I returned to my fathers in Abington aforesaid, where I continued to reside until I removed to Randolph my present place of residence and where I have ever since resided.

I received no written discharge at the expiration of my term of service at Boston above mentioned, but was dismissed by the commanding officer or by his order as was so far as I know, the then practice in cases of that kind. At the expiration of my tour of service at West Point I received a regular discharge to the best of my recollection under the hand of the commander in chief Gen Gorge [George] Washington which discharge on my return home I gave to my father; I then being a minor, that he might obtain a settlement for my wages, who kept the same among his papers and was never returned to me, and has been probably destroyed since his decease which took place many years since as also that of his administrator several years since.

There were stationed at West Point at the time of my service there, some regiments of the regular Troops of the U.S. Army and the circumstances of my enlistment in that service were a call for a detachment of the Militia to supply the place of those detached from the regular army to go to YorkTown against Cornwallis. My services there were intermixed with the regular troops & I recollect one regiment of them commanded by Col. Sprout & also a captain in said Regiment by the name of [blank] Drew. (Signed) Simeon Alden