

Pension Application for Edmund Allen

W.27320 (Widow: Molly) Married September 11, 1777. He died December 23, 1833.
Commonwealth of Massachusetts SS.

Hampden County

Commonwealth of Massachusetts SS.

On this twenty seventh day of [blot] A.D. 1832. Personally appeared in open Court before the Hon. Oliver B. Morris Esquire Judge of the Court of Probate within & for the said County of Hampden now sitting at Springfield within & for said County of Hampden Edmund Allen a resident of Springfield in the County & Common wealth aforesaid aged seventy eight 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 Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

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

That he enlisted as a private at Sturbridge in the County of Worcester & Commonwealth aforesaid for eight months, in th elater part of the month of April 1775 being the names morning after we heard of the battle at Lexington, and marched directly for Roxbury MS, where he joined the Company commanded by Capt. Adam Martin of Sturbridge; the Lieutenant was Samuel Ellis of the same place & Ensign [blank] Plumpton ws in the Regiment of Col. Ebenezer Larned, Lieut Col Danforth Keyes & Major William Shepperd; that he lay at Roxbury with his Regiment which he believes belonged to Genl Thomas Brigade at the time of the battle on Bunker's Hill; that the British then occupied Boston & their lines extended to Roxbury neck so called; that he served in said company, performing such duty as was required of him, being often on fatigue building fortifications.

Then until the latter part of December of the same year when his enlistment expired & many who enlisted at the same time returned home; that he engaged to remain three months longer & continued in the service & he supposes in the same company till the month of March 1776, when he was honorably discharged & returned home to Sturbridge having been in the service the full term of eleven months; that during a part & he believes a considerable part of the said term of three months he performed fatigue duty on Dorchester Heights in building breast works, fortifications &c; that he was often put on such duty, as he had previously learnet [learned] the trade of a stone & brick mason; and that the above term of service was in the Massachusetts line of State Troops or Militia as he understood.

He further states that he remembers the names of some other General & Regimental Officers who were at Roxbury during his term of service before mentioned, biz, Genls Heath & Spencer & Cols Donolson & Putnam, afterwards Genl Putnam; that Major Shepperd of his regiment was promoted, as he believes Lieut Col. or Colonel during this campaign; that was in no engagement but that detachment of our army had occasional skirmishes with the enemy near Roxbury neck; and that he returned home about the time the British evacuated Boston & as he believes a few days previous to the evacuation as it was then daily expected.

That he again enlisted as a private at said Sturbridge in the month of April 1776 into a company of Infantry commanded by Capt John Wolcott of Brookfield MS, Lieut Walker & Hathaway of the same town & Ensign John Lynds of Western N.Y. in Massachusetts Regiment commanded by Col. Jonathan Holman; the Lieut Cols name does not recollect, the Major was B. Sears, both belonged to Holden, MS., that he marched through Springfield, Hartford, New Haven then by notice to the City of New York & remained in the City most of the time till the month of September when an army retreated to Harlem Heights, where an action ensued & from thence retreated to a place called, "Mile Square" & from thence to White Plains & was in the engagement at that place, after which he was ordered to Horse Nick in charge of some wounded of his Regiment; that he afterwards rejoined his Regiment at Cortland's Manor, at which place, in the month of December following he was honorably discharged; that Major Genl Putnam Commanded the Division & Brig Genl Fellows, the Brigade, to which he belonged, as he believes; that he remembers after seeing Generals Wadsworth Spencer Miller, Lee, Glover, Stirling, Greene, McDougal & others; General Washington was in command.

That after the battle commenced at Brooklyn on Long Island, he with his Regiment & he believes other Regiments were ordered to retreat & returned back the same day & that very soon he believes two or three days after the battle the whole American Army left the Island & came into the City of N. York; that some General & Regimental officers were taken prisoners in the battle on the Island & he believes Lord Stirling, Genl Lincoln, & McDougal & Col. Blunt were of the number; that he served in this campaign eight months, but has no means of ascertaining the precise day of the month when he enlisted, although he well remembers that he had not been long home from Roxbury before he enlisted again.

That in the month of March 1777 at said Sturbridge he enlisted again under Capt Gilbert Dench of Sutton or Slopkinton MS for one year; that he was ordered to Boston & when he arrived soon after his enlistment; that he was ordered by the said Denck & assisted in serving & delivering stores for sometime for the army & arsenals, and for the later part of the term assisted in transporting stores & provisions to the public works in Springfield & that he continued in such service during the year, and that he was during all said term an enlisted soldier in the service of the United States & having served out his time, one year, he was discharged by the said Capt Dench at Boston & returned home.

That about the 1st of June 1780 he enlisted at said Sturbridge for two months, under Capt Putnam of Shelton in the Regiment commanded by Col. Greene & marched through Dudley, Oxford & Uzburg MS, Smithfield R.I. to Providence & from thence was ordered to East Greenwich, R.I. where he remained two months on Guard & Camp duty when he was discharged & returned home; that Genl Sullivan was there & he believes in command at this time; & he does not recollect that any other Regiment was then at the time except Col. Greens; while he was at East Greenwich the British were on Newport Island & there shipping almost constantly in sight before us, but had no engagement with them.

That in the month of June or July 1781 he again enlisted at said Sturbridge for two months he with the company of Capt Abijah Lamb & Lieut Elijah Corimpton, the former of the [blot] the latter of Sturbridge and marched through Woodstock & Villingly Ct. to Howland's Ferry near Newport R.I. where he joined the Regiment of Col. Davis of Oxford MS & Lieut Col Timothy Newell of Sturbridge; Genl Sullivan was in command; there was no engagement with the enemy during this campaign; that he served two months and was honorably discharged when he returned home to Sturbridge about the last of August.

That this deponent verily believes that all the above mentioned terms of service were performed in the line of the Massachusetts State Troops, unless it should be adjudged that his service under Capt. Gilbert Denek in the year 1777 was in the continental line; that he has no documentary evidence & knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to testify to his service.

That he was born in Sturbridge aforesaid December 1st A.D. 1753 & resided in said town, except when in the service of the United States till the year 1784 when he removed to Belchertown in the County of Hampshire in this Commonwealth where he lived till the year 1817 when he removed to Springfield where he has ever since resided; that there is a record of his age on the Register of births in said town of Sturbridge. That he never to his recollection had a written discharge but was in every instance discharged by a General or Regiments order read before his company or Regiment.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid. (Signed) Edmund Allen.