

Pension Application for Samuel Bacon

W.20681 (Widow Anna)

A copy of a sampler is included in this file. Apparently different colors were used in the cross stitching and some are not legible.

Samuel Bacon was married to Anna Guiteau jan 17 1787 at lanesborough

Samuel Bacon was born feb 10th 1788

Anna Bacon born March 8th 1790

Luther Bacon born [?] 1792

Harriet Bacon Born May 22 1794

Betsey Bacon born April [?] 1796

Ebennezer

Loren Bacon born Jany 11[?]

Funn[?] Bacon Nov 22

George Bacon Born August 6

State of New York

Oneida County SS.

On this fifth day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court before the court chancery held before the vice chancellor of the fifth circuit, City of Utica, now sitting Samuel Bacon a resident of Trenton, in the County of Oneida, and State of New York, aged seventy seven 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, and served as herein Stated. I enlisted under Lieutenant Young [1] of Lancaster in upper Cohos for, I think three years and received five dollars bounty in April 1777, being fifteen years of age, I afterwards joined Capt. Cooke (2) & company in Col. Woodbridge's Regiment in Gen'l Warners (3) Brigade in old Hadley Hamshire County, Massachusetts of the Massachusetts line.

I was born on the 5th April A.D. 1762 in the Town of Medford, County of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts. I have not my record with me but I expect that my birth was recorded by Mr. Toosil or minister and I suppose the record is now in the parish of Medford. In the year 1777 my mother persuaded me to go with one Abraham Guile who had been a boarder at our house and a sutler at Cambridge to the upper Cohos I was at this time desirous to go a privateering and to prevent this my mother sent me so far away from home with Guile. One of my brother's had already left home and gone on board of Captain Manley's vessel who had also been a boarder at our house. After arriving at the upper Cohos I embraced an opportunity and enlisted under Lieut. Youngs as above stated. At this time I was 15 years old.

I entered the service at Stillwater after the British had left Ticonderoga and before the battle of Bennington (4) fought by Gen'l Stark. (5) Between these two events I joined the army and our brigade was engaged in the first battle at Stillwater (6) How long it was before the second battle I do not exactly remember but on the morning of that engagement ten of us got liberty to go out of the camp into the country. We went out to different houses a mile or two from the camp when we heard [heard] a brisk firing and hastened back to the camp when we arrived there our regiment were all gone and were engaged in the battle (7) but we knew not where our regiment were engaged and went to General Gates (8) to enquire Gen Gates was on the little fort in the rear of the battle and he immediately addressed [addressed] us thus when we asked him where we should go. Stack your arms in the fort and let that young man meaning me stay with them and the rest of you go out and help bring in the wounded.

One of the Aids came in with his fingers bleeding and said the damed British had shot his ring off. After the battle we went back to our tent. The next morning the British retreated back to Saratoga and we were ordered to strike our tents and follow, which we did, but it rained so hard that we were ordered back and pitched them again. But the next day we struck tents and followed on after the British. We marched on through the place where they encamped and then, we were ordered to flank off to the left which we did and marched all day and at night we came in sight of Saratoga. We encamped but did not pitch our tents and after we had built our fires the British fired some shots at us and we were ordered to put out the fires and go back under the hill out of the reach of their shot. The next morning we were ordered on towards the fort and came to Schuyler's Mills (9) but the mills and the bridge were burnt and our regiment crossed on the logs in the milldam. Then we got on the other side we were drawn up in a circle and informed that we were going to storm the fort and the orders were read. Then we formed a line and marched towards the fort till we came to a log-fence and there we halted a while orders were then given to march to another fence perhaps 40 rods ahead where we halted again a few minutes and then marched again till we came to a gutter of considerable depth and width where we were ordered to stop and removing our packs and stack them. One Elias Smith solicited to guard the packs but the Captain said he was a great stout young man and could handle the axe to cut down the pickets and that I was to small then Smith burst out a crying and I said let him stay I had as live go as not. Shortly after we had orders to march up to the fort and we left the gutter and marched a few rods when a cannon was discharged from a embrasure opposite us and the grape shot passed directly over our company. At this we all fell back and made for the gutter as fast as possible. We had orders to march up again but did not and why we did not I never knew.

We lay in the gutter till evening when we were ordered back far enough to form a picket guard and I was one of the first of them on sentry and my post was by a tree where the cannon had raked all day. From that day we lay upon our arms till the surrender of Burgoyne (10) a period of 7 days during which time we were called upon the lines every few hours. It is unnecessary to describe the fatigue and anxiety which we all endured during this time till Burgoyne surrendered; every one knows that our sufferings were grate as it was reported that the Boston forces were to guard Burgoyne. The hearts of many of us were chased with the hope of soon seeing our homes again and our disappointment when after Burgoyne had passed through we heard [heard] that the Connecticut forces were to guard him, was very grate [great]. We were ordered back to pitch our tents where we struck them in the morning and remained there till orders came to march down the river. Our baggage was carried on bateau and we went all the way by land till we came to Newburg. On our way thither we passed through Albany to Cantskill Creek where we lost our boat and all the baggage, blankets and every thing except our guns.

We arrived at the mouth of the creek a little before night and the lost boat not yet arrived and it rained very hard and there being but one house there, and that full; we went up the creek to look for shelter. The boat did not arrive till dark. They drew the boat on the bank and went into the house to warm and the creek rose so fast that the boat drifted so when they returned it had gone and the baggage. Our distress after this for three days was excessive. My eye sight was greatly injured and it was with the greatest difficulty we could procure sufficient food to support life. At Newburg we took a sloop and till the third day at night I had not a mouthful of food. We [?] at Peekskill and thence we marched to Tarrytown where we were dismissed the last of December or the first of January. I can not remember which. I never received a discharge but we were dismissed together without written discharges. I have no documentary evidence and I know of no person, whose testimony I can procure, who can testify

to my services. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

The whole time that I was a soldier was about nine months.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Since the war I resided in Lanesborough Berkshire Co. Massachusetts for 41 years and am now a resident of Trenton in the County of Oneida & State of New York. (Signed) Samuel Bacon

Sworn & Subscribed as aforesaid before me. N. Williams Vice Chancellor.

State of New York

Oneida County SS.

On the 23d day of February 1843, personally appeared in the Court of Common Pleas of Oneida County, Anna Bacon a resident of Trenton in the County of Oneida aged 74 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 7, 1838 entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows". That she is the widow of Samuel bacon who was a private in the war of the Revolution and a pensioner under the act of 1832.

She further declares that she was married to the said Samuel Bacon in the month of January 1787 and on the 17th day of January, at Lanesboro Berkshire County Mass.—That she was married by the Reverend Daniel Collins—That there is no record of her marriage as will appear from the affidavit hereto annexed—That she refers to the annexed affidavits in support of her marriage—That her husband the aforesaid Samuel Bacon died on the first day of May 1840 at Trenton Oneida Co. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service—but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 on the time above stated. Her maiden name Anna Guiteau. (Signed) Anna Bacon

Sworn to and Subscribed in open court the day & year above written. "And on the 17th of January" Interlined. P. Sheldon Root, Clk.

State of New York

Oneida County. SS.

Luther Guiteau of Trenton in said County aged years in June last being duly sworn deposes and says that he is well acquainted with Anna Bacon within named who is a sister of this deponent—That he was present at her marriage which took place at Lanesboro Mass, in the month of January 1787 as stated in this affidavit and the ceremony was performed by the Rev. Daniel Collins—This deponent well recollects the circumstances as this was the first marriage which had taken place in his fathers family.

And this deponent further says that the said Samuel bacon died on the first day of May 1840—This deponent was his attending physician. He died at Trenton Oneida Co.—and that the said Anna Bacon has remained a widow ever since. (Signed) Luther Guiteau

Sworn in open court this 23d day of February 1843 and I certify that Doctor Guiteau the witness above named is a man of truth and respectability. P. Sheldon Root, Clk.

End Notes—W.20681—Samuel Bacon

1. So far Lieutenant Young is unknown and may have served in the Massachusetts Militia.
2. Samuel Cook or Cooke served as captain in Colonel Benjamin Ruggles Woodbridges Massachusetts Militia Regiment.
3. Jonathan Warner was a brigadier general in the Massachusetts Militia.
4. The Battle of Bennington was fought on August 16, 1777.

5. Brigadier General John Stark of the New Hampshire Militia.
6. The first Battle of Saratoga was fought on September 19, 1777.
7. The second battle was fought on October 7, 1777.
8. Major General Horatio Gates of the Continental Army.
9. The mills belonged to Major General Philip Schuyler of the Continental Army.
10. Lieutenant General John Burgoyne surrendered the remnants of his invading army on October 17, 1777.