

Pension Application for Benjamin Barker

W.23548 (Widow: Dorcas) Married December 27, 1787. He died May 7, 1841.

State of Maine.

County of Oxford SS.

On this 17th day of September A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Probate now sitting, Benjamin Barker a resident of Newry in the county of Oxford and State of Maine, aged 77 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

As a private at Methuen in the County of Essex and State of Massachusetts in the Month of October in 1776 enlisted as a Volunteer into a company of Massachusetts State Troops under the command of Captain John Davis the regiment commanded by Colonel James Frye for the term of eight months – Marched to Cambridge was in an engagement at Leachmere Point at which Major Putnam was commander.

Before the expired tour of said term of service he enlisted at Cambridge into the same Company and Regiment, and was discharged after the British evacuated Boston. At said Methuen in December AD 1776 enlisted as a volunteer for four [?] then into a company of volunteer, He listing of Massachusetts commanded by Captain Nathaniel [Marsh?]. The regiment commanded by Colonel Carlton. Marched to Providence in Rhode Island. Thence to White Plains in the state of New York. Thence by Long Island to Wenthers Field in Connecticut. Thence to Densbury—thence to Terrytown state of New York, thence to Fort Independence—and took a stance belonging to the British thence to Peekskill—thence across Kings Ferry to [?]. Was in an engagement with a scouting party of the British, and Major [blank] had his horses eye shut and in “April AD 1777 was discharged.

AD 1778 for three months at said Methuen enlisted as a volunteer into a Company of Militia of the State of Massachusetts commanded by Captain Nathaniel Gage the Regiment commanded by Colonel Jacob Garrish. Marched to Winterhill and was in [?] when Burgoine’s [?] In April was discharged. At Danvers in the State of Massachusetts in the month of May AD 1778 enlisted into a Company on the Continental Line of the State of Massachusetts under the command of Captain Cass the Regiment commanded by Colonel Wessons, General Laernend’s Brigade for the term of nine months. Marched to Fishkill state of New York, put on a guard called Wood’s General three months, the Baracks [barracks] at Fish Kill in the [?] General. After words was detached to go and assist in Building a bridge over Cool Skill River under the command of Colonel Carlton when the Bridge was completed retreated back to the river. General thence marched to join the his [sic] regiment at Danbury Heights. Thence marched back to Fishkill—thence to West Point and staying there a few days marched back to Fishkill and went into winter quarters. He was detached to east Would[?] to a place called Soldier’s Fortune, then returned to camp sick with a Fever—after having been in Camp a few days the Surgeon stated he would not be able to do duty during his

enlistment. Lieutenant Joseph Noyes who had the command of the company furnished him with money and a Furlough to go home and to pass all Generals from thence to Methuen. He then set out for Boston across present?. James Davis of the same company and from the same town as himself—but he was feeble he did not arrive home so early as other soldiers who belonged to said Company. And he would further say that said Davis has been put on the pension roll under the Act of Congress AD 1818- and he would further say that he received a discharge after he arrived home, but that said discharge was destroyed by the Indians at [?] enemy in the County of [?] State of Maine AD 1781 when his house was plundered by them.

Subscribed & Sworn to in open court, the day & year aforesaid. Stephen Emory,
Judge.