

Pension Application for Abner Barrows

S.29617

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Suffolk

City of Boston

On this thirteenth day of May 1836 personally appeared before the Municipal Court of the City of Boston now holden in said Boston in & for the said County of Suffolk.

Abner Barrows a resident of said Boston & late a resident of Yarmouth in the Province of Nova Scotia aged eighty 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 provision made by 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.

That on the first day of My AD 1775 he entered as a private soldier at Plymouth in the County of Plymouth & said Commonwealth in Capt John Bridgeham Company of Massachusetts troops in Colonel Cottons Regiment for the term of eight months, he commenced duty in the third day of May & soon after marched to Roxbury in said Commonwealth where his regiment was attached to General Thomas Brigade & took part in the siege of Boston; he served out the full term of his enlistment & at the expiration of said eight month he enlisted again in said Company for the additional term of on year.

His company was soon after transferred to Colonel Baileys regiment in General Heath's Brigade & Y served the American Army besieging Boston until the British troops evacuated that town upon which event he marched with the army to New York & served under General Washington in the Hersey's on the twenty fifth of December 1776 he took part in the capture of the Hessians at Trenton. His terms of service expired Jany first 1777, while the army was a Bennington he remained in service until the expiration of his enlistment & then Volunteered anew for six weeks more & followed General Washington into the field of Battle at Princeton. He served out this period of six weeks on the fifteenth of February 1777, he was honorably discharged from the service.

He received no written discharge that he remembers, but an order for his pay which he presented at New Haven. He does not remember the Captains name under whom he served six weeks as a volunteer but he remembers that Samuel Lucas & Francis Lucas were Sargents and Nathan Cobb a corporal of the company.

Late in the autumn of 1777 & soon after the Capture of General Burgoyne he shipped as a mariner in the public armed Brig of War Hazard Capt. Simeon Sampson of sixteen Guns & about one hundred & thirty men at said Boston sometime was consumed in equipping the brig for sea & before she sailed he distinctly remembers to have seen the troops of General Burgoyne marched into Cambridge a prisoner of war.

The Brig was fitted out by the State of Massachusetts for the purpose of capturing a British Sloop of War which had for some time infested the coast. He sailed in this Brig in Company of with his townsman William Stevens who still survives, about the last of December 1777.

They went in pursuit of the Sloop of War but not finding her cruised in the coast of Maine & Nova Scotia where they took three prize laden with fish & then upon the coast of Portugals the West Indies where they took two more prizes an ship laden with sale and a brig laden with tea & other merchandize. The arrived sale in Boston late in the spring somewhere near the first of June when they were discharged. He feels confident that his service in this vessel exceeded five months & believes that it was as much as six which was the term for which he enlisted.

The whole time for which he claims a pension is two years & thirteen days. And he has not filed his claim at an earlier period because he has but recently here from Yarmouth aforesaid.

He has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his services except that annexed which he is told proved satisfactory to the Department in other cases in respect to the one years service in Captain Bridgeham company. He knows of no survivor except the said Stevens & his wife who can prove his services & he is not acquainted with any clergyman in said Boston.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

In Answer to the several Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department he says.

That he was born at Plympton in said County of Plymouth the third day of April 1756.

He does not know whether any record has been made of his age except that in his family bible.

When he enlisted he resided at said Plympton he moved from there to Yarmouth four years after the Peace in 1787 & has resided there ever since until his return to Boston aforesaid a short time since. He volunteered.

He has enumerated his officers and the particulars of his service.

He served in the continental line of Massachusetts.

He received no written discharge that he remembers. Abner Barrows

Sworn to and subscribed in the open Court, before me on the day and year aforesaid. Peter A. Thracher Judge of the Municipal Court of the City of Boston.