

Pension Application for Daniel Beeman

W.17295 (Widow: Mary) Conn., Mass., & Green Mt Boys. Married February 23, the 1779, he died April 30, 1844.

State of Connecticut

Litchfield County

Probate Court

District of Ken SS at Kent.

On this 2d day of August AD 1832 personally appeared in open court before Nathaniel P. Perry Esquire Judge of the Court of Probate, for the District of Kent aforesaid, holding, and Constituting said Court, now sitting, Daniel Beeman of Warren, in s'd County, said Warren was formerly a part of Kent, residing in said Warren, State of Connecticut aged seventy six 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 of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born the 18th day of January AD 1756 in Kent then so called, but that part in which he was born is now called Warren and is a district town, has no record of his age that he knows of, but has been informed that it was on the town record of s'd Kent, he resided in the state of New York, between Fort Edward and Fort George. That the place was called then Fort Edward.

That the 1st of April AD 1775 he entered into the service of the United States at s'd Fort George and went directly into the fort, into the Company commanded by Capt John Stevens. Capt Stevens left the fort and went directly into the fort into the company commanded by Capt John Stevens, Capt Stevens left the fort in a few days after, he the said Beeman enlisted, & returned to Suffolk his the said Stevens residence, he left Lieutenant Peter Castle in command. He the said Daniel Beeman & Company was transferred to another Company under the Command of Capt Elisha Babcock from Ashford, Windham County, Connecticut, in the Regiment commanded by Col. Easton of Pittsfield Massachusetts of the Massachusetts line, of Pittsfield Massachusetts, of the Massachusetts line.

He the said Beeman further states, that he was then appointed Corporal and assisted in keeping Garrison at Fort George & Ticonderoga through the summer. Schuyler was General and the commanding officer. In the fall of said year he marched to the Siege of St. Johns on the Canada side. Brown was his Major and he under him, about a week before St. Johns was taken he marched on to Fort Chamblee nine miles from St. John, on the River Sorrel as soon as the Americans had taken St. John she marched to the mouth of the River Sorrel. There lay a British vessel of war in the St. Lawrence River against them.

General Montgomery went over & took Montreal the British evacuated it, and he marched in he sent down to the army stationed at the mouth of the river Sorel where he Beeman was, and Express, directing them to intercept British vessels that were in the St. Lawrence. They immediately set out and up the St. Lawrence nine miles, they found Eleven Sail of Vessel wind bound. Genl Carlton had the command of the British vessels, the Americans gave one shot, it was answered by a swivel shot from the British.

Genl Carlton requested 24 hours to consider (on a Flag being sent to him for surrender).

Col. Easton would give only tow, the British surrendered and that night, Genl Carlton with a few of his men, enough to row him, escaped down the River in a Boat, there, he, Beeman, returned to the mouth of the Sorrel, then to St. Johns & then went to Montreal and remained there until his term of service expired which was eight month, and the said Baniel Beeman further states that he as soon as his first term of service expired immediately entered the said Service of the United States again, and enlisted at s'd Montreal which was the 1st Decr AD 1775 for four months into the company under the command of Captain Elisha Painter, from New Haven, Connecticut, in the Regiment commanded by General Wooster, of Connecticut Lieutenants Peter Castle, of Kingsbury or Queensbury, State of New York and Giles Gaylord from Norfolk Connecticut, and served faithfully during said four months at Montreal afores'd in keeping Garrison.

That on the same day his term of four months expired in AD 1776 he again entered the service of the United States by enlisting at Montreal into a company commanded by Captain Joshua Staunton's in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Warner.

The Captain was from Salisbury, Connecticut. Thinks Warner was from Vermont State, enlisted for five and six months and served that time as follows. Immediately after enlisting at Montreal they marched to Quebec, arrived there about the 10th of April when Quebec was besieged & remained till the 4th May 1776 when Genl Burgoyne came there and he Beeman retreated back to the mouth of the River Sorrel, he, Beeman had gone up from Quebec after a load of wheat and on his return to Quebec was met by his Company & the American Army, on the retreat, from thence to St. Johns he marched, and from thence to Montreal, on the 15th June then following he was detached from Capt Staunton, three of them Peter Gosper & Edward Dunston were taken out of Capt Staunton's Company & put under the command of Lieutenant Thomas Grosvenor, & sent down with a raft of timber of Oak plank & cedar knees, for Water Craft, to the mouth of the River Sorrel.

About half way down the River St. Lawrence they met General Burgoyne's Army (which had caused the American army at Sorrell to retreat to St. Johns) & was then coming up the river & he was then taken prisoner with fourteen others by the British. Gen Burgoyne's Army (which had caused the American Army at Sorrel to retreat to St. Johns) & was then coming up the river & he was then taken prisoner with fourteen others by the British. Genl Burgoyne's Army a few of them came up by land along with the shipping. When he the said Beeman & the s'd fourteen men were put on board of a man of war & kept a few days, Lieutenant Grosnervor was then taken from said ship, he that Lieutenant was allowed one waiter he that said Beeman went with him & they were put into a prison ship and taken to Quebec, and there on board of s'd ship they remained until the last of August 1776. He the s'd Beeman was then presented with a parol to sign.

He was then put aboard of a transport with four or five hundred officers & soldiers (there were four Transports) and sailed out the mouth of the River St. Lawrence down

to New York. They lay at New York where they arrived the middle of Sept., a few days, when by order of General Howe, were carried to Elizabeth Town Point, and then landed on the Jersey Shore, near the Encampment of Genl Israel Putnam some 3 or 4 miles, to which place he went & waited 2 or 3 days, until Gen Putnam came in, he Putnam gave him and Gorper a writing which he Beeman has lost, but says, he remembers how it read as follows.

“This Daniel Beeman & Peter Gorper prisoners from Quebec are not to take up arms during the present contest, unless exchanged are at their Liberty to return home to Connecticut, are recommended to the Charity of the People. Elizabeth Town New Jersey, Sept 1776. (Signed by) I. Putnam Maj Genl

This is as near as he can recollect.

A part of the Parol which he the said Beeman signed at Quebec contained expression like the following among other,

“an to return home prisoners of war, not to take up arms during the present contest unless exchanged to return home to the Colonies which he belonged in, not to say or do anything to the hurt a Dishoner, of his Majestys honorable General Carlton.

That he the s'd Beeman has for much in remembrance, also the following “To be transported to New York to be set ashore where Genl Howe thinks it best.

He the s'd Beeman returned & arrived home the 25th October 1776 in Connecticut, he did not land at Elizabeth Town until after his term of Enlistment had expired, That he never received any discharge aside from the said writing from General Putnam.

That Dan Carter, George Stains, Homer Sackett, Sherman Hearthwill, Col Augustus Coleman, to whom he is well known in his present neighbourhood where he has resided ever since the year 1776, and who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his service, as a soldier of the Revolution.

That he has no documentary evidence whatever in existence as he knows of or any testimony further that the enclosed testimony of John Barlors and Samuel Howes.

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll, of the agency of any State. (Signed) Daniel Beeman

Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid. Frederick Chittendon. Clerk of Court