

## **Pension Application for Samuel Bigford**

W.8142 (Widow: Anna)  
B.L.Wt.26950-160-55  
State of New York  
Montgomery County SS.

On this 20<sup>th</sup> day September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open court before the Court of Common Pleas, of the County of Montgomery now sitting Samuel Bigford, a resident of the Town of Mayfield in the County of Montgomery and State of New York aged about seventy seven years as near as he can recollect from circumstances, 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.

Your applicant says, that in the early part of the spring either in the year 1775 or 1776 (which one of those years it was, your applicant says that he is wholly unable to state, he drafted in the militia for six months; and went from Ballston, then Albany, now Saratoga County under Captain Tynnanus Collins, the other company officers he does not recollect, that the company belonged to Colonel Schoonhoven's Regiment, that this company went to a place called Queaman's [Coeyman's] below Albany for the purpose of cutting and hewing timber at that place, and loading the same on sloops and sending it off to the city of New York where the timber was used for the purpose of Blockade; that he served the full term of six months at that place; but does not recollect the time when discharged.

Your applicant says that he again in the next year as he believes, went out and drafted in the militia service and went from Ballston, aforesaid, to White Hall under Captain White (the other officers names he does not recollect belonging to the company), that this company belonged to a Regiment of Militia commanded by Colonel Gordon & Major Andrew Mitchell, that this was a company of guard out of that Regiment that he does not recollect the time he went out except that it was in the spring of the year, nor does he know the time when discharged, but says that he was out at this time at least six or seven months. Your applicant says that he cannot state the year nor month or day of the month that he went out and was discharged at the time he went to WhiteHall and served as above, set forth.

You applicant says that he believes it was in the spring after Burgoyne was taken at Saratoga, he was drafted out of the company of captain White, aforesaid, to go with Prisoners, who had been taken at the capture of Burgoyne and convey them to Hartford.

That he went at this time early in the spring the day of the month he cannot state. That lthis company was commanded by Captain Bostwick and consisted of fifty men, who were entrusted with the care of about one hundred and fifty prisoners. That he was out in going to and returning from Hartford with the prisoners about five months that he returned to the City of Albany and remained there on guard five or six weeks when his time was out and he together with all was discharged.

And your applicant says in the spring of the year 1779 the next year after he had been to Hartford he again drafted out of the company of Captain White together with some other men of said company and went from Ballston to Stillwater, were they engaged and were employed in conveying, cannon from the latter place to the City of Albany and also in conveying other implements of war and a part of the time he was engaged in guarding the prisoners at Albany and was out at this time six months, that the only officer he had was a sergeant whose name he does not recollect.

Your applicant says that between these different services already stated, he was out frequently and at different times and places on scouts. That he is wholly unable to state the different years, months & places that he was out sometimes two days the times a fortnight, that he was out at least during the Revolution in this manner six months.

That he was born in the County of Waxford, [Wexford] Town of Baricaner [Ballycanew?] Ireland, Kingdom of Gret Britian the year he is unable to state and has no record of his age.

That he resided at Saratoga County Ballston, then called Albany County, when called into service.

Your applicant says that he does not recollect of having served with any regular officers. That he is acquainted with the following persons in his neighborhood who can testify as to his character for truth & their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution, wo wit Hyatt Halstead, Collins Odell & othes.

Your applicant says that he has no discharges or documentary evidence and that he ahs served at least two years and a half.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed with his mark) Samuel Bigelow

Subscribed & sworn in open court the day & year aforesaid. Geo D. Ferguson, Clerk.

Letter in folder dated July 14, 1937, written in response to an inquiry.

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of Samuel Bigford, a pensioner of Mayfield, New York, in 1840.

The data given herein were found in pension claim, W.8142, based upon service of Samuel Bigford in the Revolutionary War.

Samuel Bigford was born in Ballyconnow, County of Waxford, Ireland; the date of his birth and the names of his parents are not shown.

While a resident of Ballston, Albany County (later Saratoga County), New York, he enlisted in the spring of 1775, or 1776, and served six months as private in Captain Tyranis Collins' company, Colonel VanSchoonhoven's New York regiment; he enlisted the next spring and served six or seven months as private in Captain Stephen White's company, Colonel Gordon's New York regiment; he enlisted in the spring of 1778 and served six months as private in captain Bostwick's New York company; he enlisted in the spring of 1779 and served six months, a part of the time engaged in guarding prisoners at Albany; he served subsequently on various short tours in the New York stoops amounting in all to about six months, officers names not given.

Samuel Bigford was allowed pension on his application executed September 20, 1832, at which time he resided in Mayfield, Montgomery County, New York. He was aged then about seventy0-seven years. The soldier died September 13, 1848, in Mayfield, New York.

The soldier married in March or April 1823, in Broadalbin, Fulton County, New York, Anna Reynolds.

Anna Bigford, the soldier's widow, was allowed pension on her application executed November 24, 1854, at which time she resided in Mayfield, New York. She was aged then about eighty-two years; the date and place of her birth and the names of her parents are not shown.

In 1854, it was stated that two children of Samuel Bigford were then living, William Bigford, and Margaret, wife of Truman Canfield.

In 1855, David Reynolds and Rachel Reynolds were residents of Mayfield, Fulton County, New York, no relationship between them was stated.

In 1832, one Betsey Perry was a resident of Mayfield, New York, aged seventy years. She stated that Samuel Bigford resided at her father's house in Ballston, New York, when he served in the Revolutionary War.