

Pension Application for Henry Brasher

R.1161

Letter in folder dated November 29, 1919, written in response to an inquiry.

In response to your letter dated the 15th instant, you are advised that in the Revolutionary War pension claim of Henry Brasher R. File No. 1161 it appears that in the spring of 1775 he was appointed an Ensign in a company of Infantry commanded by Captain James Alner in Colonel William Malcolm's and John Lasher's New York Regiments, and was in the battles of Long Island, Harlem, White Plains and Kingsbridge, that he remained in said service about two years (having risen successively to the ranks of Lieutenant and Captain) when he became afflicted with sciatica and rheumatism and resigned.

He applied for pension September 5, 1818, while residing in Indiana aged 76 years but the claim was no allowed as he failed to furnish satisfactory proof of the dates of his services.

United States of America
Indiana District

Be it remembered that on this fifth day of September eighteen hundred and eighteen before me the subscriber Judge of the District Court of the United States in the District aforesaid personally appeared Henry Brasher aged seventy six years resident in said district who being by me first duly sworn according to law on his oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War."

That he the said Henry Brasher was appointed in the Spring of 1775 an ensign in a company of Infantry commanded by Captain James Alner in the of Infantry regiment commanded by Colo. Malcolm in the New York line on the Continental Establishment in the Revolutionary War, that he remained in the said service somewhat upwards of two years in which service he rose successively to the rank of Lieutenant and Captain, when he became so afflicted with the sciatica or Rheumatism pains as to be unable to continue in service where upon he resigned—he cannot now walk without the aid of crutches—he was in the battles of Long Island, Kingsbridge and White Plains—his several commissions have been lost by accident or carelessness—and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

Sworn to and declares before me the day and year aforesaid. B Parke, Judge of the District Court of the United States.

To: Hon. J. Noble

From: War Department Pension Office, May 8, 1824.

Sir:

In answer to your letter which accompanied the papers in support of the claim of Henry Brasher, I have to inform you that the case has been carefully examined and that we have not been able to discover any trace of his service. He states that he served as an Ensign from the spring of 1775 uill 1777 in Colonel Malcolm's Regt. of the New York line. This cannot be so, because it does not appear that Malcolm was in the service in 1775, nor is there any evidence that there were any Ensigns appointed so early in the war. We have a list of the officers of the New York regts. made out in August 1775, and the names of Malcol m and Brasher are not on it and the lowest grade of officers on it is that of 2d Lieutenant. We have also a list of the Field officers of the New York regts. made out in March 1776 and Malcolm's name is not on it. The presumption therefore is that if Brasher served in Malcolm's regt. the service could not have been performed at the time set forth. This case must remain suspended until more satisfactory proof shall have been furnishes. J.L.E.