

Pension Application for Samuel Brewster

W.523 (Widow: Sarah S.)

B.L.Wt.26,799-160-55

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

State of New York

County of Saratoga SS.

On this seventh day of September 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the court of Common Pleas now sitting, Samuel Brewster a resident of the town of Clifton Park in the County of Saratoga and State of New York, 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 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. In the year 1776, the day and month he cannot recollect, the company of militia to which he belonged, commanded by Captain Tillman or Tilghman of Lansingburgh in the County of Rensselaer and State of New York was ordered out in the service of the United States to protect the country North from a threatened invasion by the British—

The said company rendezvoused at Lansingburgh aforesaid and there joined the regiment. He then marched to Fort Edward, from thence to Fort Ann—a part of the regiment was ordered to Skeensborough and the remainder were set to work on the road between Fort Ann and Fort Edward, among whom he was included. He was absent on duty at this time at least six weeks—one TenEyck was a Lieutenant and one Cephas was a second Lieutenant in the same company—George Boyd was orderly Sergeant in the same—Stephen Schuyler was Colonel of the Regiment—he does not recollect the names of any other officers—the American forces were under the command of General Philip Schuyler—

In the same year (1776) the day and month he cannot recollect, he volunteered on an expedition to old Schoharrie in a Company of militia commanded by Captain Henry Tinker of Troy in the County of Rensselaer N.Y. he marched through Albany and Hellebark to the upper fort in old Schoharrie where he was stationed sometime—he does not recollect the names of any other officers in his company. Col. Vroman was frequently in the fort, and the applicant thinks he had the command or was entrusted with some authority—there were several other officers regular and militia; but he cannot recollect their names—was absent on duty at this time at least five weeks. The object of this expedition was to protect the inhabitants from Indian depredations. He marched by the way of Schenectady home after being discharged.

During the same year (1776) the particular day and month he cannot state, he belonged to a detachment of man from his company which was ordered to march to the country on the Mohawk river near Schoharrie and Fort Plains—much alarm prevailing in consequence of reports of Indian hostilities.

Cephas was acting as Captain of the company at this time. Colonel VanRensselaer commanded the Regiment—the company marched through Albany and Schenectady and up the Mohawk river to Fort Plain, and from thence to Fort House where he was stationed some time—was absent on duty in the service of the country at this time at lease six weeks.

In the same year (1776) as he this deponent thinks but it may have been the year subsequent his company was ordered to Fort Ann—he marched through Schuylerville and Fort Edward to Fort Ann—the Captain's name at this time was Ten Eyck was absent on duty at this time at least five weeks.

In 1777, the particular month he cannot state he was ordered by Doctors Hovey and Tillotsen to proceed whit his wagon and horses to Bennington Vermont. He accordingly went, and his team with himself were employed in the public service in transporting goods &c and was absent at least four weeks.

He was not hired at this time, but considered that he was impressed in the public service in consequence of the exigency of the times.

In the same year (1777) the year that Burgoyne surrendered) he was frequently out in the service in the United States as a militia man in his company and was almost constantly on duty until that event gave peace and tranquility to the Northern country.

He distinctly recollects being at Fort Ann twice in 1777 where his company was ordered in the service of the United States and was absent on duty at each of these periods at least six weeks but from the desultory character of the service (it being a period of frequent alarms, he cannot state or recollect particular days or months.

He has no doubt that the different periods of his service if correctly enumerated would amount to at least ten months in all.

To the foregoing interrogatories propounded by the court I answer as follows.—

1.—I was born in 1756 in what was then called Chetawket on Long Island—the present name of the place I do not know.

2nd—I have a record of my age in a family register at home.

3rd—I was living in Lansingburgh now Brunswick Rensselaer County New York—Since the revolutionary war I have lived in Clifton Park formerly Halfmoon Saratoga County N.Y. & now reside there.

4.—I was a volunteer, except when ordered out with my team—the general circumstances of my service as stated above in my declaration.

5.—General Schuyler, Colonel Schuyler commanded his regiment, Captain Sharpe commanded a company of militia on one occasion when he was dismissed at Fort Edward—the names of other officers are not recollectd.

6.—I never received a written discharge—was dismissed verbally in all cases.

7.—Elder Gilbert Lyen, James Jones, Joseph Wait, Isaac E. Garnsey and Seth W. Higgings, Roger King and Eliphalet King, and Elder Matthias Swaine.

He has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service—except Joseph Brewster.

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) Samuel Brewster.

Subscribed & sworn in open court this 7th day of September 1832. Thomas Palmer, Clerk