

Pension Application for John Ashley

S.18299

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

County of Hampden SS.

On this thirty first day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared before Oliver B.; Morris Judge of the Court of Probate within and for the County of Hampden John Ashley a resident of Springfield in said County of Hampden and Commonwealth of Massachusetts aged eighty five 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 eh entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That late in the month of July or early in the month of August in the year 1776 he volunteered for four months in the service of the United States in the Massachusetts Militia and immediately marched from Springfield Massachusetts (where he then resided) to Roxbury Massachusetts in a company under the Command of Capt Munn of Monson. Lieut Brewer was an officer in the same company. That they marched through Worcester, and there stationed at Roxbury about two months, while at Roxbury were frequently sent to to [sic] Dorchester Heights on fatigue duty to work upon the fortifications and entrenchments. That they were marched into Boston and remained there while. That they were at Boston Roxbury and Dorchester, in the whole the full Term of Four months the full term of his engagement and was discharged Verbally about the last of November or first of December following.

That he does not recollect the names of any of the Field officers of the Regiment nor any of the Continental officers. Aaron Perry was a Sergeant in the Company and Joseph Bumpstead who now resides in Milbrook and was a Drummer in the company and he has annexed hereunto the Deposition of said Bumpstead as evidence of his service and he does not know of any other person living whose testimony he can procure and that he has no other documentary evidence to offer.

Capt Gideon Bunt of Longmeadow for six months Lt Brown was an officer in the company. That he was stationed at Springfield Massachusetts during the whole six months performing Guard duty for the protection of the Magazine public stores and other property belonging to the United States at that post, and was discharged about the last of December or first of January following having served full six months. That he does not recollect that any Field officers was stationed at Springfield. That he recollects that Morgan was a Sargeant in the Company and that Stephen Newell of Hubbardon Lewis White and Solomon Ferre of Springfield were in the same company at the same time and he has procured the Depositions of said Newell & White which are hereunto annexed as evidence of his service, and further he has been informed that the Company Rolls of Cap Bunt have been found and his the said Applicants name is borne thereon, and that the said Rolls have been duly authenticated and are to be forwarded to the war department and that he would refer thereunto for further Testimony.

He further says that while on this duty a part of Capt Burts Company were detailed to perform the duties of a guard to a part of Burgoyne's men who were prisoners of war on their march to Boston.

That he was born in Springfield Massachusetts on the Eighth day of July in the year 1747 and has always resided in said Springfield and well known to most of the elder Inhabitants of said Town and to Rev'd Besalut Howard, Rev'd Samuel Osgood, Guston Lomberd, George Blake, Jonathan Dwight Esq., George Colton Esq., Col Roswell Lee, John Howard, Esq., Charles Howard Esq., & David Ames Esq., who can all testify as to his character and reputation as having served in the Revolutionary War.

That he never received a written discharge and that he does not know of any record of his age but supposes that his birth was recorded on the town records of Springfield. That he always resided in said Springfield when called into the service.

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 with his Mark) John Ashley

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Olive B. Morris of the Court of Probate.