

### **Pension Application for Lyman Baker**

W.25216 (Widow: Catharine)

State of New York

Oneida County SS

On the 18<sup>th</sup> day of September AD 1832 personally appeared before me Israel Stoddard a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the county of Oneida State of New York Lyman Baker a resident inhabitant of the said County of Oneida aged seventy five years on the twenty third day of September instant, who being 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 services of the United States as a private under the following named officers and served as herein stated; that he was born in the town of Judea (now called Washington) in the county of Litchfield and in the State of Connecticut, on the twenty third day September 1757. There is a record of his age in the old Family Bible which record was made by his Father and which Bible he believes is not in Schaghticoke and was then the last time he saw it, in the possession of his youngest brother.

That he enlisted under Capt Prosper Polly of Lenox County of Berkshire Mass: to go to Quebeck (Canada) at the time, Gen. Arnold marched through the woods from Boston to Quebeck, enlisted at Lenox aforesaid in October (as he believes) in 1776, marched from Lenox to Ticonderoga, through the intervening Country in Mass., Vermont, and thro Skeenesborough (now called White Hall) to Ticonderoga was there about two weeks and then returned home on a furlough – and that in June 1777 he entered the services again as a Musician and carried along with him a Fuscé in Captain Bradby's Company of Lee Berkshire Co. Mass in Colo Powell's Regiment of Mass. Powell lived in Lanesborough in Berkshire Mass., Marched through Pittsfield Lanesborough, Williamstown and through Old Hoosac, Cambridge, Fort Miller, & Fort Edward thence to Fort Ann and four or five miles above to where we met Burgoyne in the State of New York and remained there about two months and was then sent home by Colo Powell with one Daniel Culver who was wounded by a British Scout.

And that he remained at home about ten days and then the Militia was again called out to go and met 500 Hessians at Bennington Vt under Captain Goodrich of Lenox Colo Powells regiment, that his minister went also and fought like a bugger, that the name of the Minister was Munson that the said Munson helped man the Cannon that the enemy will took the cannon from us and we from them three times and at last kept it and they fled. Gen Starke served to care no more for bullets than for snow-balls he fought like a lion some of the prisoners we took in that action, said that the reason they fought so desperately was because their officers told them that he gave no quarters, that this action was fought in the month of August 1777 and not far from the middle of the month according to the best of his recollection.

After the Battle we was ordered to assist taking down the prisoners to Pittsfield Mass and then returned to Lenox.

That about the first September following was called out under the same Captain of the same Regiment and marched to Saratoga and quartered on the east side of the

river and against Schuyler's Flatts and opposite to where Burgoyne lay, we lay there waiting the orders of Gen. Gates, he with others went up twice to Saratoga reconnoitering; and remained until the surrender of Burgoyne in October following and that the whole time he was in service after returning from Ticonderoga was about five months and that the next fall after (in 1778) he went again under Captain Stevens, Lieutenant Backus and as an Orderly Serjeant and had a Serjeant's Warrant but who was his Col. He does not recollect but that he lived near Westfield in the State of Mass. Marched from Lenox, to Stillwater from thence to Saratoga and then the Whole Regiment were ordered back to Stillwater and after we got [got] there one half the Regiment were permitted to return home our company lost lots to see who should go and it fell to his lot to remain and that he remained till he was discharged and the time was in service was ten months and a half and then he returned home.

And that he was afterwards in said service, at short periods, of which services he is unable to state particularly, not being sometimes more than two or three days. That at one time in the commencement of the war he with five others hired a man for three months who served the time out and for which he paid his share being four dollars and that at another time he with five others hired another man for four months and paid his share being four dollars and that the said term of time was performed by their said man.

And that after the war the next year he moved up to Fort Edward in the state of New York lived there three and twenty years, was a constable collector and Deputy Sheriff in the Town of Argyle near Fort Edward and has been a Captain of the Militia – that he then moved into Camden Oneida County State of New York though that part of the town where he lives has since been set off and is now annexed to the town of Annsville—

That he is but just able to crawl about by the aid of a staff, but has not been able to go from home for many years, is excessively poor has an old lady, his wife to support and has nothing to subsist upon except the product of a little spot of land which he does not own nor is he able to till it by letting it on shares—

[?] not in all human probability trouble the Treasury but a little while that he has had several discharges in writing during the Revolutionary War and one Warrant as Serjeant but can not recollect by whom they were signed, but does recollect what became of them viz. that when he was about to removed from Argyle to Camden he committed them with a great many more papers which he then considered were of no value to the fire and thus deprived himself of that evidence which now might be of service in establishing his claim to the benefit of the aforesaid act—

That he does not now know of a single living witness by whom he can prove any of the services above specified that about five years ago Dr. Ezekiel Baker of Schaghticoke Rensselaer [Rensselaer] Co., N.Y. was living and who could have testified to a good part of the services rendered as above mentioned but that he is informed that he is now deceased and that there was another man by the name of Belden Called Capt Belden of Lenox Mass, who was living there 20 years ago who also could have testified to the same and that he also, he believes is dead, and that he can not ascertain where any of his companions in arms reside if any are living, they are, scattered everyway and

not withstanding, he has made considerable endeavors [endeavors] to find out where they are, he has not been able to discover them, that he can not get about himself and is quite too poor to think of having any body to make the journey to Argyle and to Lenox Mass, in order to see if there are any body living who could give evidence of his services; and therefore he is obliged to have recourse to his friends to have them [?] with persons in those places and procure them to make the inquiries for him—but it has as yet proved unavailing—but time has displaced a most or most all of the old soldiers and he expects never to be able to prove any evidence; but that he has long been known to the inhabitants of Camden and Annsville where he has resided for a great many years and that he is particularly known to Elekin Stoddard who is the nearest Clergyman to him and with whom he has long been acquainted and also with James Southworth—with; whom also he has been long acquainted both of whom can testify to my character for truth, and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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 any agency of any state.  
(Signed) Lyman Baker

Sworn & Subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid. I. Stoddard, Judge of Oneida Com Pleas.