

Pension Application for James Bancroft

W.18550 (Widow: Sarah) Married November 15, 1786. He died May 17, 1831.

State of Massachusetts SS.

County of Middlesex.

On this twenty first day of August in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty eight personally appeared before the Honorable Judge of the Court of Probate, in & for the County of Middlesex in the State of Massachusetts now sitting.

Sarah Bancroft a resident of Reading in the county and State aforesaid aged eighty four years, who, being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows";

That she is the widow of James Bancroft of said Reading, who was, according to the best of her knowledge & belief, a lieutenant of a company of minute men & afterwards a captain in the army of the revolution; that he went to Concord on the nineteenth day of April, in the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy five as a lieutenant in Col. Bridges regiment, Capt. Batchelder's company in the Massachusetts line; that he followed the British army to Boston & was stationed at Cambridge in the same company, where he remained until about the first of January in the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy six; that in June following he was appointed Captain of a company in Col. Reed's regiment stationed at Ticonderoga, & remained there until December of the same year.

The term of enlistment of the company which he commanded then expired & in January of the following year he was appointed Capt on the eighth Massachusetts Regiment commanded by Col. M. Jackson, and was in the battle at the taking of Burgoyne, & stormed the Hessian line; that he afterwards joined General Washington & wintered at Valley Forge; & that he continued in the service till about the twelfth of May in the year One thousand Seven hundred & eighty, when, being in poor health, he resigned.

That he was a pensioner of the United States under the Act of Congress passed March 18, 1818, & that the necessary evidence in support of this claim is to be found in the office of the War Department at Washington; and she further positively declares that she is widow of the aforesaid James Bancroft, & has never been married since his decease--& that during the time of the above mentioned services he was an inhabitant of the Town of Reading in the County & state aforesaid, & that his name was placed on the Pension; List Roll of the Massachusetts Agency on the 22d March, 1818.

She further declares that she was married to the said James Bancroft on the sixteenth day of November in the year seventeen hundred & eighty six; that her husband the aforesaid James Bancroft died on the seventeenth day of May in the year eighteen hundred & thirty one; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January, seventeen hundred & ninety four viz; at the time above stated. (Signed) Sarah Bancroft.

Sworn to & subscribed on the day & year above written before L.P.P. Fay Judge
of Prob.