

Pension Application for Matthew Howell

R.5298

State of New York
Suffolk County SS.

On this 7 day of October 1834, personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of common Pleas in said County now sitting Matthew Howell a resident of the town of South Hampton in the County of Suffolk and State of New York, aged seventy eight 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States as a private at Southampton in the County of Suffolk and State of New York on the first day of March 1776 in a regiment commanded by Colonel Josiah Smith and in a company commanded by the following officers to wit, Zephaniah Rogers Captain, David Sayre Lieutenant and Paul Jones ensign.

That he with the said company were stationed at Sag Harbor in said county to defend the fort—that while at Sag Harbor he was transferred from the company commanded by Zephaniah Rogers to a company commanded by the following officers to wit, Ezekiel Mulford Captain, Thomas Baker Lieutenant and [blank] Daming Ensign—while at Sag Harbor he with fourteen and fifteen men under the command of Lieutenant John Foster were sent to New York to guard some prisoners—which had been taken on east end of Long Island they marched through Long Island to Brooklyn returned and the prisoners and returned back through Long Island Sound by water to Sag Harbor—he was absent on this expedition about five or six weeks.

Some time after his return to Sag Harbor have long he can not state—He marched with Capt Mulford's Company to Montauk, the extreme easternmost part of Long Island and there remained six or seven weeks to guard the Fat Cattle on the Montauk [?] from Montauk they were ordered by Col. Josiah Smith to the west end of the Island. They marched by land through the Island and were stationed on the heights near Brooklyn—and remained there until the Island was given up to the army the last of August of that year.

That while on the West End of the Island he knew General Washington, General Sullivan and Lord Stirling. The other two latter were taken prisoners—that he with Capt. Mulford's Company, crossed over to New York when the Island was given up. Staid there one night, and next morning marched out of the city over Kings Bridge and on to New Rochelle and was then told they might go home. Which was the first part of September that when he entered the service he enlisted.

That he received no written discharge and has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no person living who can testify to his service except as set forth in the affidavits hereunto annexed—that he was seventy eight years old in June Court was born in the town of Southampton County of Suffolk and State of New York and resided there when he entered the service—that he has a record of his age in the Family Bible now in his possession.

That he has always resided in said town of Southampton except thirteen months that he resided in Easthampton in said county as an apprentice.

That he knows Daniel Beers [?] and Selden Foster in his neighborhood who can certify as to their belief of his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open court. (Signed)
Matthew Howell

Attest Joseph R. Huntting Clk