

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Sample W24898

Barbara Sample

PA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of New York

Livingston County Ss:

On this twenty fourth day of September in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty two personally appeared before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County aforesaid John Sample a resident of the Town of Sparta, County of Livingston & State aforesaid aged about sixty 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That according to his best knowledge he is sixty eight years having been about sixteen or seventeen years of age when he entered the army – that he resided in Pine grove township Berks County Pennsylv until the time when he enlisted – he enlisted into the United States Army in the month of August as he thinks in the year seventeen hundred and eighty one for the term of eighteen months. And served in the Artillery in the 4th regiment (he thinks, but will not be certain) under Col'nel Thomas Proctor, in Gen'ral [Anthony] Wayne's army as a private. John Price [sic: John Bryce: see first endnote] was his Captain. [Samuel] Story 2nd Lieut – thinks 1st Lieut was [Thomas] Douglass – was marched to Lancaster Pennsylv – thence to Philad – embarked for Yorktown Virg. but in consequence of delay from injury done to the vessel in striking a sand bank in a storm, and from being obliged to exchange her for another at Baltimore did not arrive till after the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]. After [undeciphered word] marched South into Georgia – lay near Savannah which was occupied by the British – was here perhaps six months and was in two night skirmishes in the first of which [at Ebenezer GA, 23 Jun 1782] occasioned by an inroad of Indians on the artillery which lay about two miles in the rear of the main body Gen'l Wayne in a personal encounter with an Indian had his horse shot from under him – the second [sic: probably at Harris's Bridge, Ogeechee Ferry GA, 20 May 1782] was occasioned by a diversion of part of the British army into the country commanded as this deponent thinks by Col'nel Douglass. After the British had evacuated Savannah [11 Jul 1782] Gen'l Wayne moved his troops into S. Carolina where they remained until the British evacuated Charleston [14 Dec 1782] – in the mean time this deponents time of service expired, but he was not discharged until three or four weeks after when they received from their captain a written discharge – this discharge had a certificate for pay annex'd to it on the same piece of paper, and on selling the certificate at the office in Philadelphia about four years after the discharge was also given and thus lost to this deponent. In support of this declaration this deponent offers the affidavits of Adam Potterf & Daniel Cowheck which were made in the year eighteen hundred and twenty five with the design of applying for a pension at that time. And this deponent further declares that he believes that his name will be found on the army list, but that it will be spelt John Ample & not John Sample, because his name was so calld in the roll during the time of his service and this happen'd from his name not being rightly understood this deponent being a German Pennsylvanian and speaking the English language very imperfectly – afterwards upon procuring the above mentioned affidavits he had his name written in the same manner (John Ample) in order that it might occasion no misunderstanding at the War department – but with the advice of his lawyer has determined to spell his name correctly and submit and submit these facts to the candid judgment of the Secretary.

He moved into the State of New York – to his present place of residence about eighteen years ago.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to any pension or annuity other than the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state.

John hisXmark Sample

Lycoming County Ss [28 April 1825]

The Deposition of Daniel Cowheck of Bald eagle township Lycoming County and state of Pennsylvania Personally Came the subscriber before me Thomas Curts Esq one of our Justices of the Peace in and for said County Doth Depose and say that he hew [knew] John Ample to be an Inlisted Soldier in the Revolutionary War and that the Deponent and John Ample both Belonged to one Company under Capt Price in the 4 Rigment of artillery under Col. Thomas Procter Deponent says that John ample and him self both went to Georgia and their the was Likely to be masecreed by the Indians and then came Back to ashly hill [9 mi NW of Charleston] and ther the both got their Discharg and further saith not
Daniel hisXmark Cowhick

Livingston County Ss: [3 May 1833]

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & for the County aforesaid John Sample, who being duly sworn doth depose & say, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but according to the best of his recollection he served no less than the period mentioned below, as a private in the regular army. I served not less than eighteen months and two weeks and for such service I claim a pension.
John hisXmark Sample

NOTES:

The name "John Ample" is found as a Matross (Private artilleryman) on a payroll for Capt. John Bryce's Company of the 4th Regiment of Artillery for the months of Jan., Feb., and March 1782, signed at "Tenbley[?] Hill" on 2 April 1782. Also on the payroll are the names of Captain-Lieutenant Thomas Douglass, Lt. and Adjutant Samuel Story, and Matross Daniel Cowick.

On 22 Aug 1846 Barbary Sample, 74, applied for a pension stating that she was married by a Lutheran minister named Getz in Sunbury PA to John Sample on 21 June 1792, and her husband died in Northumberland County PA on 3 January 1845. She stated that the ceremony was witnessed by two of her sisters, Judy and Catherine, both since deceased, and also by Philip Hush and Henry Hush. In addition, she stated that when about 12 years old she moved from Sunbury to Harrisburg PA, where she met John Sample, and that they later moved from Harrisburg to Blue Mountain PA, then to Shamokin PA, and finally to Sparta. She listed her children as follows: the first child, not named and since deceased, was born on 10 April 1793; the second child, John, was born 10 Oct 1794; the third, Epha, was born 5 Oct 1796; the fourth, Madalena, was born 25 June 1798; and the fifth, Jacob, was born on 22 April 1801. Her son, John Sample, Jr., certified her statement. Catherine Welch, 83, stated that Barbara Sample's maiden name was Barbara Mowerer (or Morverer).