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Land Grant Application- Bisbee, Elisha (Sumner)

Elisha Bisbee

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I Olisha Bisbee of Sumner in the County of
Oxford and Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Gentleman, on oath declare that I served that
I served in the war of the Revolution as a
soldier in the Army on the Continental estab-
lishment and in the Massachusetts line for
the term of two years and more - Also that I
served as an Officer in said war and on the
same establishment and in the same line for
the term of twelve months - that having run
through a term of eight months service at
Roxbury. I enlisted at said Roxbury near Boston
I think in the month of November in the year
seventeen hundred & seventy five for the term of
twelve months, into a company commanded by
Captain William Reed belonging to the Regiment
commanded by Col^l John Baily and marched
soon after the British Army left Boston, to New
York and was in the retreat with the American
troops from New York, whence I went to Trenton
at which place my said term expired soon
after the Battle there, when I immediately enlist-
ed again for the term of six weeks under the
same officers & served the same term through
at the expiration of which I was dismissed,
not having any regular discharge in writing?
After the above I again enlisted into said
service at Pembroke in the County of Plymouth
on or about the first of March in the year
seventeen hundred & seventy seven for the term
of one year into a company of Engineers comman-
ded by Captain Ezra Eaton of the Regiment com-
manded by Col^l Jeduthan Baldwin and marched
immediately to Ticonderoga thence retreated
with

with the Army to the Mohawk River and after being engaged in taking Burgoin's Army I was discharged or rather dismissed at Albany on the first day of January in the year seventeen hundred and seventy eight, my said year not being expired, the cause of my leaving it unfinished being this, that I was sent home to Rensselaer by Col: Baldwin with enlisting orders and money to enlist men for a Company of Artificers, having the promise of a Commission if successful - That in pursuance of these orders I enlisted twenty seven men for said service and marched them to Albany about the first of March 1778 the said recruits being joined to the said Company under Captain Eaton I did the duty of Lieutenant of said Company till some time in June when I received a Commission as a Lieutenant in said Company of Engineers from under the hand and seal of General Washington by the agency of Col Rosciusco Col: Baldwin being absent from that station - That I continued to do the duty of Lieutenant in said Company in said Company under said Commission to the end of one year from the time I received enlisting orders as aforesaid during which time I was engaged with said Company in building ten Schooners at Queen's Patten on North River and other services and at the end of my said year received a written discharge on the back of my said Commission on the first day of January seventeen hundred and seventy nine from the hand of General Patterson I further declare that my said Commission

has

has, by some means to me unknown, been lost and that I have no recollection of seeing it within ten years past - And I also declare that I am a resident Citizen of the United States of America that I am not borne on any Pension List of said United States and that by reason of my reduced circumstances in life, I am in need of assistance from my country for support.

Elisha Bisbee

I Joshua Ford of Sumner aforesaid on oath declare that I am well acquainted with the above named Elisha Bisbee, that said Bisbee in January A.D. 1778 enlisted a number of men into the Continental service in the revolutionary war, in the vicinity in which I lived, that said Bisbee with said recruits were absent a little more than one year, and I have not the least doubt that he served the said term in the continental army, that after his return I frequently saw the Commission of Lieutenant, which was given him in said service

Joshua Ford

I Arida Hayford of Hartford in the County of Oxford and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Esquire, testify and say that about nine years since there was an action entered at a Justice Court holden before me as one of the Justices of the Peace for said County of Oxford, against Elisha Bisbee now resident in Sumner in said County, the Plaintiff in which suit I do not now recollect, at which Court the said Bisbee was present and being styled by some other title than that of Lieutenant which title he claimed, he objected to the writ in said action on that account and exhibited a Commission of a Lieutenantcy as evidence of his claim to said title.

I took said Commission into my hand and read it and found it to be a Commission appointing said Bisbee to the Office of Lieutenant in the Army of the United States and dated I think during the Revolutionary war - said Commission was then nearly worn out and was considered by me as insufficient for said Bisbee's defence and in consequence thereof the said action was either abated or was adjusted by the Parties and which I do not recollect.

Arida Hayford

Oxford S.S. May 12 AD 1818 - Then the above named Arida Hayford made oath to the truth of the above Deposition by him signed, before me

Jam: F. Brown

Justice of the Peace

I John Bartlett of Hartford in the County of Oxford and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, testify and say that I was a Soldier in the American Army in the war of the Revolution - that I enlisted in said service at Roxbury near Boston, some few days before the first day of January seventeen hundred and seventy six for the term of one year, into the company commanded by Captain Earl Clap of Col: Wards regiment, which term of service I performed throughout being part of the time at Boston and its vicinity and part at New York - and I further say that I was knowing to the fact that Elisha Bisbee now resident in Sumner in said County of Oxford was also a Soldier in the same year service and that he did serve said year through as I was frequently in his company although he did not belong to the same company or Regiment with myself but to the Company commanded by Capt. Reed of Col: John Baileys Regiment.

John Bartlett

Oxford S.S.

On the thirteenth day of May 1818 the aforesaid Deponent made oath to the truth of the above Deposition by him subscribed before me

Jam: F. Brown

Justice of the Peace

6
I William Hayford of Hartford in the County of Oxford and Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Gentleman testify and say that about twenty eight years ago I was present at a Justice Court holden before Ichabod Berruy Esquire one of the Justices of the Peace for the then County of Cumberland, at Turner then of said County of Cumberland, now in the said County of Oxford, at which Court was had the trial of an action between Jeremiah Dillingham Plaintiff against Elisha Bisbee now resident in Sumner in said County of Oxford at which trial the said Bisbee offered a plea of abatement of the Plaintiffs writ by reason of a misnomer of his addition therein, he being styled Blacksmith while he claimed to be entitled Gentleman in consequence of a Commission which he formerly held from the Government of the United States - During the said trial, said Bisbee produced said Commission which I took into my hands and well remember that it was a Commission from said Government of the said United States appointing him to the Office of Lieutenant, dated in the time of the Revolutionary war and according to my present impression was signed by General Washington.

Said Commission being offered as evidence to said Court, was considered by the same as sufficient for said Bisbees defence and judgment was consequently given to him for his Costs or it was paid by the Plaintiff on the action being discontinued

Wm Hayford

Oxford S.S.

7
On the twelfth day of May in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and eighteen the aforesaid Deponent was examined and cautioned and sworn agreeable to law to the deposition aforesaid by him signed, taken at the request of Elisha Bisbee and by the special appointment of the Honble Albion R Paris Judge of the District Court of the United States for the District of Maine and to be used before the District Court of the said United States now in special session at Paris within and for said District, in an application then pending by the said Bisbee and for a Certificate of his having served in war of the Revolution on the Continental establishment against the common enemy for the purpose of receiving a pension from said United States agreeable to the provisions of an Act of Congress passed March 18th 1818. entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war - taken subscribed and sworn to by the said Hayford whose character for truth is unimpeachable, before me

Saml. J. Brown
Justice of the Peace

I Edward Blake of lawful age testify and say that about twenty eight years ago - I was at the dwelling house of Ichabod Berruy Esquire in the Town of Turner and there was an action then on trial before Justice Berruy, Jeremiah

Jeremiah Dillingham vs Elisha Bisbee and
 at that time Bisbee was styled in s^d writ
 Blacksmith and said Bisbee then produced
 a paper to Justice Benney which Bisbee
 said was a Lieutenants Commission in the
 Continental Army and I saw Justice Ben-
 ney take up s^d paper & heard him read
 it & after reading he acknowledged that
 it was a good Commission and that s^d Bisbee
 must recover his cost in consequence of his
 not having the title due to him by his s^d
 Commission and further saith not.

Edward Blake

Oxford fs

May 12th 1778. Then the above named
 Edward Blake made oath to the truth of
 the above Deposition by him signed
 before me

Sam^l Peterson
 Justice of the Peace

I Hazeiah Teton of Sumner in the County
 of Oxford and Commonwealth of Massachu-
 setts testify and say that I served in the
 Army of the United States in the war
 of the Revolution as a Soldier for the term
 of one year and upwards - that I enlisted
 in said service at Roxbury near Boston on
 the first day of January in the year
 seventeen hundred & seventy six for the term
 of one year into the Company commanded
 by Capt William Reed, belonging to the
 Regiment commanded by Col John Bailey
 of

of the Massachusetts line in which Company
 and service I continued to do duty through
 said year - And I further say that Elisha
 Bisbee now resident of Sumner aforesaid
 was also a Soldier in said Company - that he
 did duty in said Company for some
 time and was detached into another corps
 but I know that said Bisbee did serve in s^d
 Army on the Continental establishment for
 the term of one year and upwards for I
 knew him to be in that service at the
 end of my said year service.

Hazeiah Teton

Oxford fs. May 12th 1778. Then the above named
 Hazeiah Teton made oath to the truth of
 the above deposition by him signed before me

Sam^l Peterson
 Justice of the Peace

United States of America
 Maine District fs.

Be it Remembered, that on the
 twenty fourth day of April in the year of our
 Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen
 personally came Elisha Bisbee the Applicant
 named in the papers hereunto annexed and
 after being duly cautioned and examined, made
 oath that the several statements by him made
 in the annexed application, signed in my
 presence are wholly true.

And the said Applicant further offered
 in evidence the affidavit of Joshua Ford, made
 and signed in my presence, and the depositions
 of

of Amida Hayford, John Bartlett, Wm. Hayford
Edward Blake, and Hezekiah Stetson, taken before
Samuel F. Brown a respectable Magistrate, ap-
pointed by Sedimus for this purpose; also the
Certificate of Joshua Ford and other respectable
Citizens, relative to said applicants circumstan-
ces in life; all which are herewith annexed.
And it appearing to me in the examination
here had, that the several persons above named
are credible witnesses, I do hereby admit the
annexed declarations as evidence, and certify
the same as being satisfactory proof to me that
the said Elisha Bisbee the Applicant served
as an Officer in the Revolutionary war, against
the Common enemy for the term of nine
months and upwards in continuation on the
Continental establishment. And I do further
certify, that from the declaration of the ap-
plicant made before me under oath as aforesaid,
it does appear that in consequence of
his reduced circumstances in life, he is in
need of assistance from his country for support
all which I do certify and transmit to
the Secretary of the Department of War, agree-
ably to the provisions of an Act of Congress, passed
March 18, 1818, entitled "An Act to provide for
certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval
service of the United States in the revolutionary
war."

In Testimony Whereof, I have herewith set my
hand and caused my official seal to be affixed the
day and year first mentioned

Albion G. Parris

Judge of the United States
in & for the District of Maine

I do hereby certify that the foregoing pages
numbered from one to ten are truly copied
from the originals on file in the Pension Office
War Department.

Henry S. Addison

I certify that Henry S. Addison who is employed
by the Land Agent of the State of Maine
under a Resolution of the Legislature of that
State passed on the 17th of March 1835 to obtain
from the Pension Office certain documents &
Records has made as full an examination
in the case of Elisha Bisbee as the Books
and Papers of said Office will afford ac-
cording to the best of my judgment and
belief dated at the Pension Office, War Depart-
ment the 20th day of May 1837.

J. L. Edwards
Commissioner of Pensions