State of Virginia, County of Prince Edward to wit: On this 17th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Prince Edward, now sitting, the Rev’d Abner Watkins a resident of the County of Lunenburg of the state of Virginia aforesaid, aged 74 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 he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1776, with Capt. John Morton of the County of Prince Edward, and served in the 4th Va. Regiment of Continental line, under the following officers: The declarant believes Colo. Robert Lawson commanded the regiment and Gen. Charles Scott the Brigade to which that regiment was attached, and that his regiment was attached to Stephens [Gen. Adam Stephen’s] division and to the grand army under General Washington. This declarant further states that John Holcombe and Thomas Spencer were the Lieutenants of the company to which he belonged. That he resided in the County of Prince Edward at the time he enlisted. That he enlisted for the term of two years and served the whole period. That he marched to Portsmouth, the Company embarked for the Northern army at that place, and landed as he was informed at the head of Elke [sic: Head of Elk, now Elkton MD], but this declarant & others who were on the sick roll remained untill they were able to go on, and afterwards marched by land under the Command of Lieutenant Thomas Spencer and joined his company some where in New Jersey. The Company being then attached to the army, he does not recollect the precise course and progress of the army, nor does he deem it material to specify, as it is a matter of history, but he states generally that he marched with the army through New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York, and that he was high up in New York when the army were informed by express that the enemy had landed at the head of Elke [25 Aug 1777]. That on the receipt of this inteligence the army moved down by forced marches and met the enemy at Brandywine that this detachment was in the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep] and afterwards the battle of Germantown [4 Oct], and that he was in various skirmishes but can not now recollect them so particularly as to undertake detailed accounts of them. That he received a slight wound at Brandywine. That he continued attached to the army under the command of General Washington for the space of two years and was discharged in the State of Pennsylvania. That he had his discharged but is unable to find it among his papers.

That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is [not] on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.  

Abner Watkins