

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Samuel Dudley S6806 CT
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia } ss
county of Monongalia }

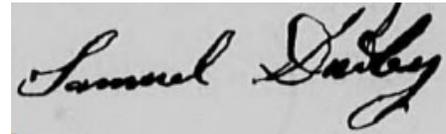
On this 28th day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared before the County court of Monongalia, Samuel Dudley, a resident of said county, aged seventy years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States as a private soldier at Saybrook, in the state of Connecticut, early in the month of June, in the year (as well as he can now recollect) 1778 with Capt. John Shipman – that his company was engaged in defending the mouth of the Connecticut river at Fort Fenwick and was discharged in the month of May 1779, the time then being out for the most of the men, he being enlisted after the company was nearly filled up.

That in July 1780 he believes, he enlisted at Saybrook with ensign Samuel Doty, and immediately marched to Horseneck, a town in Connecticut, where the Connecticut troops were stationed. Col. [Samuel] Selden commanding a regiment of Light horse on the right of our encampment and the main army near the White plains and West point [both in NY] – that his enlistment was for two months – that he cannot recollect the name of his captain, but believes that [John] Mead was the Colonel, and Bazil Bebee [sic: Bezaleel Beebe] was the Lieut. Colonel. Edward Shipman was major – that during these two months he was on picket guard and scouting parties on the neutral ground between us and the enemy, and part of the time on cattle guard near Horse-neck – that he was discharged at Palmers hill by a discharge by Col. Bebee, which he has long since lost.

That in the fall of 1780, he volunteered to go for two months, and marched to near the same place as his former tour and was placed in Capt. Simeon Says company in a regiment commanded by Col. Wells, and employed in the same kind of service as he had been the previous two months service & keeping the British from stealing cattle – that at the end of his term he was discharged, which he has long since lost.

That altogether he served about fifteen months. He hereby relinquishes evry claim whatever to a pension or an 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 and year aforesaid



Asa Dudley of said county aged sixty five years personally appeared before the court, and made oath that he is the brother of the above named applicant Samuel Dudley – that their father lived at Saybrook in Connecticut, that he has a perfect recollection of his brothers first enlistment and his service in the fort at the mouth of the Connecticut river, and also knew that his brother went out in the two months tours, as stated in the foregoing declaration, and saw his discharge for one of those tours – that the said Samuel removed to the county of Monongalia aforesaid from the state of Connecticut in 1796, where he has continued to reside.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. [signed] Asa Dudley
[Certified by Thomas P. Ray as Clerk of Monongalia County.]

County of Monongalia }
State of Virginia } Ss

This day personally appeared before me Wm T Willey a justice of the peace in & for said county

Mary Brand aged seventy one yeares who after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that she is the sister of Samuel Dudley a resident of said county who she is informed and beleaves is an applicant for a pension for services rendered during the Revolution that there father lived as Saybrook in the State of Connecticut and that she has a perfect recollection of her brother Samuel Dudley serving one tower of duty in the fort at Saybrook she thinks about a year and two short towers to horsneck of about two months each but she cannot recollect the exact time but it was in the time of the revolution

Given under my hand this 29 day of August 1832

State of Virginia } SS.

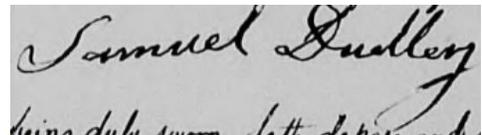
county of Monongalia } On this 25th day of February, in the year 1833, personally appeared in open court, before the County court of Monongalia now sitting, Samuel Dudley, the same person who made oath to and subscribed the foregoing declaration and after being duly sworn, doth depose and say. That he knows of no person by whom he can prove his services, besides those already obtained; that he was born in New London afterwards Middlesex county in the state of Connecticut, on the 21^d or 22^d of February 1763, that if his father kept any record of his age, he does not know what has become of it – that after the Revolution he continued to reside in Middlesex county untill the fall of 1796 when he removed to the county of Monongalia aforesaid, and has resided therein ever since – that he beleives Col. Selden was a regular officer, that he knew many of the officers regular & militia, but he cannot recollect their names, his youth and his present age has effaced them from his recollection – that he has known for many years the Rev'd. Joseph A. Shackelford, Col. John Evans, Col. Dudley Evans, David Musgrave esq'r. John Dent esq'r. and John S Barns esq'r – respectable and old citizens of the said county of Monongalia, who he beleives can testify as to his character for veracity, and their beleif of his services in the Revolution – that since making his former declaration, he has been reflecting on the length of his service, and he is confident it was at least fifteen months on land.

That shortly after his discharge at Fort Fenwick, he entered on board of a sloop privateer Sally getting no other pay than what prizes they took, under the command of Capt. Seth Warner cruising off sandy hook [NJ], whilst out, we took a small British merchant vessel, and was out about month, his share of the prize was about twenty dollars – the vessel struck to two of us, they were five privateer vessels in sight – That in 1781 he again entered on board of the sloop Lively of New London, master Peck, on a privateering expedition, off Sandy hook, we were long time prevented from getting out, and after getting out were soon chased in, (and left the vessel at the end of a month) – after we were chased ashore and the vessel lost.

That in the same year he entered on board of another privateer, master Elisha Hart, we chased a merchantman into Sandy hook, when we were discovered by a British frigate, who slipped her cables and give us chase, we ran upon Cloe-gut bar on South side of Long Island in the night, where we remained three days and nights before we capitulated with the Refugees, who agreed to parole us – we were engaged about four weeks

Sworn and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid

[Certified by Asa Dudley.]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Dudley". Below the signature, there is some faint, illegible text that appears to be a date or location, possibly "being duly sworn at the County Court of Monongalia".

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleet S6111. Singleton wrote "Entitled" on this report.]

Samuel Dudley – draws \$50–

I the undersigned Samuel Dudley at the requisition of the Secretary of War, give the following statement of my age, and services a solder in the war of the Revolution to Wit – I have no record of my age – but from information I am my 72^d year of age – In my sixteenth year of age (I cant tell in what year)

I enlisted at Seebrook Connecticut under Capt. Shipman for one year, and was stationed at fort Fenwick. there were about 30 men at the Fort under Capt Fenwick [sic]. I remained at the Fort for eleven months and was then discharged – one month before my enlistment expired.

I got home in the fall of the year, (cant tell what year) and in the same fall I volunteered at Seebrook for two months under Capt Samuel Say. marched to Horse Neck & remained there for the two months got my discharge & went home. Col. Wells Col. Beebe & Col. Meade with one Regt of [illegible word] were at the Horse Neck.

Shortly after the last mentioned tour I performed a servitude of two months at the same place under Capt. Bebee, who before the term expired was promoted Colonel. all my service was done on quick succession – I cant tell the year or years in which it was done. My services were proved by the witnesses Asa Dudley & Mary Dudly, my brother & sister. T. P Ray wrote my Declaration. In Witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name.

Samuel Dudly

Witness/ Isaac Cooper

NOTE: On 17 May 1833 Samuel Dudley was issued a certificate for a pension of \$50 per year for 15 months of service. His service as a privateer was not counted, since it was civil employment as a pirate sanctioned by the government.