

Transcription of Documents for George Barber

August the 8th 1832

Then came George Barber aged about 68 years before me a Justice of the peace for Ann Arundel County and State of Maryland and made Oath that he was a hand on Board the armed Schooner *Dolphin* the property of the State Commanded by Capt. William Middleton at the time the said Schooner was taken and had been in the said vessel a considerable time previous, that he understood at the time from Capt. Middleton and others that the orders received was to proceed down the Bay, and to be under the directions of Gen'l [*General*] Lafayette, that while the *Dolphin* lay in the Patuxent River Gen'l Lafayette came on board in a Barge, it then blowing a gale of wind, that the Gen'l observed to Capt. Middleton that he could not venture down the Bay with him while the two British ships lay at the mouth of the Patuxent River; that he would go down in the Barge and that the Schooner would follow on as soon as he Capt. Middleton thought he could do so with safety, and that he, Middleton, would make the best of his way to little York. That the *Dolphin* got under way that night it blowing very hard about north and proceeded down the Bay and arrived at little York early next morning. Then Commander Barras applied to Capt. Middleton for a vessel to go down to carry dispatches [*official reports*] to the French Fleet and Capt. Middleton refused to do so and informed him that his Schooner was under the direction of Gen'l Lafayette and could not go with out the Gen'l's permission. Capt. Middleton was then ordered by the Gen'l to receive a French officer with dispatches and proceed as before directed, to go on Board the French Fleet, but it so happened we went on board the British Frigate [*warship*] called the Madaria, But before the Schooner was boarded the French officer in the cabin tore up the dispatches and threw the pieces in the Cabin floor.

I was with the Crew, then carried to England and confined in Fortune Prison about eighteen Months and then sent home in a cartiel [*a ship used to exchange prisoners*] to Philadelphia.

Sworn to Before
Gibson White

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State of Maryland, Anne Arundel County

On this Fourth day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Orphans Court of Anne Arundel County State of Maryland George Barber a resident of the City of Annapolis in the county aforesaid and state aforesaid aged 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 [in the year] 1832. That he entered on Board the named Schooner *Dolphin* Capt. Middleton, about a month or two after Capt. Middleton took the Command of the said Schooner the exact time he doth not recollect but thinks it was about the month of May 1780.

That he was confined on board the British Ship and in Jail in England Two years as near as he can at this time recollect, that he never did keep any record of the particular dates, and all that he now states is from recollection.

That he never was discharged from the service that he was sent home or to this Country in a cartiel to Philadelphia in the year 1783 after the close of the War, that he shipped on Board the above mentioned vessel at the City of Annapolis in Maryland in which place has been his residence all his life and that he never lived anywhere else and which place he was born.

He hereby relinquishes [*gives up*] any 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.

George Barber [*his signature*]

Sworn to and subscribed the day and
Year aforesaid in Open Court

Gibson White

Tho. H. Dorsey

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary sailor and served as he states.

Gibson White

Thos H. Dorsey

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Thomas T. Simmons Register of Wills for Anne Arundel County – do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said Court in the matter of the application of George Barber for a pension and that the signature of same are the proper signatures of the judges of the Court.

In testimony where of I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this fourth day of September in the year of our Lord

One thousand Eighth hundred and thirty two

Thomas T. Simmons Reg./Wills

A. A. County, Md [*Maryland*]

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On this Ninth day of October 1832 personally appears George Barber, before the Orphans Court of Anne Arundel County Maryland in open Court and makes oath on the Holy Evangel of almighty God, that he does not precisely recollect the period of his service on board the *Dolphin*, or of his confinement in prison in England, but that to the best of his Knowledge and belief, his service on board the *Dolphin* was one year and his confinement in prison was two years and for that period of time claiming a pension.

Sworn before

Gibson White

Tho. H. Dorsey