

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives
in Congress assembled.

Your humble petitioner John Shepherd, now residing
in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio,
beg leave to represent, that I was born at a place
near the city of Philadelphia, called Chestnut Hill
on the 16th of March 1729, and that on the 16th of March
ensuing I shall be 80 years old, that in the French
war I enlisted and served in Capt Bessly's company
of Pennsylvania, during the campaign, in which
Gen Braddock was defeated, at whose defeat I was
present as a soldier, and acted the part of a
drummer in said company. That in the spring
of the year 1776, I enlisted and served, for the period
of one year in the 2^d Regiment of the Pennsylvania
Line, commanded by Lt. Col William Allen, that in the
year 1777 I enlisted in the 3^d Regiment Pennsylvania
line commanded by Col Thomas Craig, for the period
of 3 years or during the war, such being the terms of
this enlistment, and faithfully served in said 3^d.

Regiment, for more than 3 years, and until I became
sick and disabled, when I was lodged in the Hospital
in the city of Philadelphia, where being wholly crippled
with very severe rheumatic complaints, by the recommendation
of Doct. Benjamin Rush, I obtained a written discharge
from the army, from General Benedict Arnold, then
a commanding officer in the city of Philadelphia,
but this discharge, with all the property I possessed, was
burnt with my dwelling house, at a place called
Williamsport, on the west branch of the Susquehanna
in Pennsylvania some 25 or 26 years ago. That, until recently
with a riged up body, uncommon to a man of my years
I have been enabled to obtain . . .