

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to Bezeled Norris VAS427

vsl 2VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

1/21/13: rev'd 9/30/22

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[From bounty land records in the Library of Virginia]

Petersburg September 13, 1784

I do certify that Bezeial Norriss enlisted in the Continental Caly [cavalry] the first of February 1781 for during the War and until the month of May 1783 at which time he left the Regiment with Serjt. Dangerfield¹ who revolted² at that time.

S/ Wm Parsons Jr [?] [William Parsons]

Captain first Regiment L: Dragoons

(a Copy from the original lodged in the Auditors Office
Maskes Vandewall, Clk.

Sir

Please to Issue to Wm Cosby My Land Warrant And deed
I am Sir Your humn Ob Sert

¹ [William Daingerfield \(Dangerfield\) VAS256](#)

² See <https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Madison/01-07-02-0058> [viewed 9/30/22] for some of the documentary evidence of the mutiny led by Sergt. Major William Daingerfield [[William Daingerfield \(Dangerfield\) VAS256](#)] of about 100 members of Baylor's Light Dragoons who, thinking they are about to be abandoned in South Carolina and deprived of their horses, appropriated their horses and back toward Virginia. On May 22, 1783 while in Moravian town (Salem) North Carolina, the mutineers petitioned Thomas Nelson (who they thought was still governor of Virginia but who had left office in November 1782) to address their grievances. Evidently the mutineers were treated with extreme leniency and suffered no consequences as a result of their mutiny. As pointed out by William Dodd Brown in an email to me, this surmise is supported in this case by the fact that Virginia granted this veteran a land warrant found in the Kentucky Revolutionary War Warrants database posted at <https://web.sos.ky.gov/land/revwar.aspx?type=v&warrant=4522.0> [viewed 9/30/22]. The veteran received 200 acres of land for having served as a Private of the Dragoons in the Continental Line. The warrant is No. 4522 and dated April 23, 1791. See generally <https://web.sos.ky.gov/land/> [viewed 9/30/22].

E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra, *A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution, 1774- 1787* (Westminster MD: Heritage Books, 2007, p 104) states: "On November 9, 1782, the 1st and 3rd regiments of Continental Light Dragoons were merged into a unit of five troops, nominally commanded by the ailing George Baylor, but actually commanded by Major [John] Swan. The consolidated regiments remained in South Carolina until peace was declared. On hearing of the peace, about half the men elected Sergeant-Major William Dangerfield as their leader, seized the remaining horses, and rode homeward. By their mutiny they forfeited their pensions and bounty lands. The other cavalymen, unhorsed by the mutineers, were eventually picked up by a troop transport and taken home by sea to collect their discharges."

Bozald Norris

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bozald Norris". The signature is written in black ink on a white background and is positioned below the printed name.