

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Watts R11217 Elizabeth fn37VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 8/16/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Note: the pages of this file have been scrambled as copied on both Fotenote.com and HeritageQuest.com. What follows is my interpretation of how they should be unscrambled.]

[fn p. 10]

State of Illinois County of Washington: SS

On this 20th day of September 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Judge of the County Court now sitting Benjamin Watts a resident of Nashville in the County of Washington & State of Illinois, aged seventy years lacking a few days, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, & served as herein stated viz.: That he entered the service on the 5th day of October in the year of our Lord 1781 at Prince Edward Courthouse in the State of Virginia under Captain or Lieutenant Nathaniel Rice. That he entered as a Substitute for his father Richard Watts, that he marched from Prince Edward to Richmond Virginia, was placed under the command of Captain Thomas Newel & Lieutenant Slaughter. That he continued in the service of [the] United States six months & in guarding stores at Richmond & also at Warwick, and at Manchester Virginia was discharged from service at Richmond under Captain Bush & he thinks Major Hamilton. That [he] got a written discharge but some time after he sent his discharge to Richmond & it was not returned. That he has now no documentary evidence & that he knows of no person in this country whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. That he hereby relinquishes every other claim whatever to a pension or annuity

[fn p. 8]

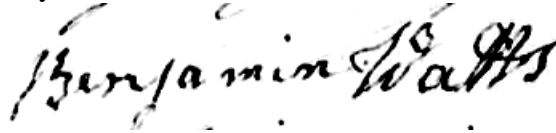
and declares that his name is not on the pension rolls of the Agency of any State.

And he further states that he was born in Cumberland County Virginia in the year of our Lord 1764 (on the 5th day of October in said year). That he has a record of his age in a family Bible taken from his father's record. That he was living in Franklin County in the State of Virginia when called into service. That he has lived since the Revolutionary War a part of his time in the State of Georgia, but for near 20 years he has resided in the State of Illinois in St. Clair County & in Washington County where he now resides. That his Father for whom he was a substitute was drafted into service.

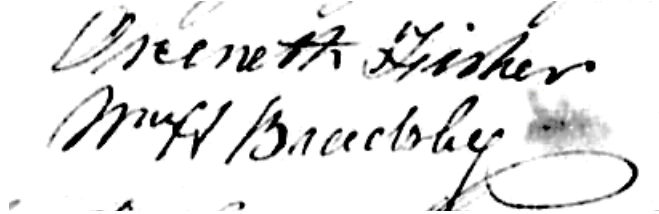
That he was acquainted with a Captain Jones, but has no distinct recollection of any other higher officers excepting those mentioned above.

For testimony in reference to his character he refers to Reverend David S White, Reverend Daniel Whittenburgh, Wm H. Bradly Esquire and many other Citizens of Nashville vicinity who

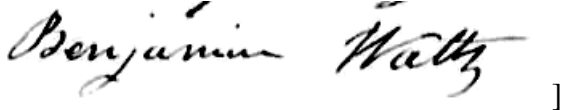
are acquainted with him & among them the Reverend Oneneth Fisher
Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid



[Oneneth Fisher, a clergyman, & William H. Bradsley gave the standard supporting affidavit
[fn p. 7]



[fn p. 5: On January 19, 1844 in Washington County Illinois, Benjamin Watts filed a claim on behalf of the children of Benjamin and Elizabeth Watts under the 1838 act stating that he is the son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Watts; that Benjamin Watts his father was a soldier of the revolution and had drawn a pension of \$20 per annum for his service in the revolution; that his father died March 7, 1840; that Elizabeth, his mother remained a widow until her death on February 11, 1843; that his mother on her death left the following children: Hayden Watts of Clinton County, Richard Ivy Watts and Hull Watts of Georgia, Benjamin Watts of Washington County Illinois and Elizabeth Fisher of Texas who had removed to Texas prior to the death of their mother; that his parents were married November 18, 1784; in support of his claim he offers the family were Bible record in the handwriting of his father.



[fn p. 3: family record:

Marriages

Benja. Watts and Elezebeth Key was married November 18, 1784 by William Jonson Baptist preacher State of Virginia Bedford County Stanton River

Haydon Watts and Lucy Wadsworth was married 2nd of October 1806 by William Portland

Richard I. Watts and Sally Clement was married Maybe 18 1809 by Elisha Winn JP

Hope H Watts and Poley Mconel [?] was married 28 December 1809 by Elisha Dinng

James Watts [balance of entry illegible]

Births

Haydon Watts was born November 8th, 1785 baptized by Hope Hull

Richard J Watts was born April 2, 1788 baptized by Richard Ivy

Hope H Watts was born January 11th 1791 baptized by Samuel Cowln

James Watts was born November 22nd 1793 baptized by Hope Hull

Poley Watts was born March 31 1796 baptized by James Rogers

Susanna Watts was born September 18th 1798 baptized by Ben. Blanton

John J Watts was born December 19 1800 baptized by Thomas Miligan

Benjamin Watts was born December 10th 1802 baptized by Samuel Cowls

Elizabeth Watts was born January 12, 1804 baptized by Meshach Boys

Joshua Gilpen Watts was born first of April 1807 baptized by James Rusil
Judah Watts was born the 30th of October 1804 and baptized by William McGandry

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]