

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Samuel Arnett R262 and B.L.Reg.50406-1855 Nancy Arnett MD
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Ohio }
Richland County Ss } On this 31st day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court in the court of common Pleas of Richland County Ohio Samuel Arnett a resident of said county aged eighty six years who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of congress passed June 7th 1832

That he enlisted in the arm of the United States he thinks in April 1780 with Col. Henry Hollingsworth Capt Samuel Winket or Wingate Wagon Master, Samuel Hewett Quarter Master, John Hamm Paymaster. He enlisted at the Head of Elk [now Elkton] in Cicel county [sic: Cecil County] Maryland, and that place was considered his head quarters during his term of service – was in no battles Having served out his time he received a written discharge from John Hamm which he has since lost During his time of service he was in Philadelphia, Trenton and other places through that part of the country. He was discharged in April 1781

In the last of August or first of September 1781 he again entered into the service of the United states under Capt. Calafax as he believes Capt of Washington’s life guard He entered into the service at the Head of Elk, from the head of Elk he went by water to James’ River and landed at what was called the College Landing, thence to the encampment near York Town and there he remained until after the capture of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] After having served six months the Term which he entered he was regularly discharged about Christmas. he does not recollect distinctly the time of his entering into the service nor the time he was discharged but knows he received a certificate for six months service which he has lost. He entered for six months and longer if required. He was employed as a waiter during the whole term.

He has no documentary evidence of his service unless it be in the war department and he knows of no person by whom he can prove his services. He resided in Cecil county at the Head of Elk when entered into the service

He hereby relinquishes every claim what ever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state

Samuel hisXmark Arnett

[The following successful claim for bounty land is in a separate file jacket numbered B.L.Reg.50406-1855 under the name “Arnott, Samuel.”]

State of Ohio } SS
Richland County }

On this twenty ninth day of March AD one thousand eight hundred and fifty five personally appeared before me J W Littler a Justice of the Peace within and for the county and state aforesaid, Nancy Arnett, aged ninty one years, a resident of Mansfield in aforesaid County and State who being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow of Samuel Arnett deceased, who was a Teamster (sometimes termed “Continental Teamster”) employed under the direction of competent authority, in the time of the Revolutionary War of independence of the United States of America, in the transportation of military stores and supplies, in a company and under a Captain unknown to affiant, in the (number forgotten) regiment of (kind of troops forgotten) commanded by Colonel Winket; that her said husband enlisted at or near Elkton Cecil County Maryland, on or about (day and month forgotten) the year 1777, for the Term of one year, and continued in actual service in said war for the term of one year, at the expiration of which time, he was honorably discharged at a place and on a time unknown to affiant; as will appear by the Army Rolls

She further states that she was married to the said Samuel Arnett near said Elkton in Cecil

County Maryland on the eighth day of December AD 1782 by one Scott a Justice of the Peace, and that her name before her said marriage was Nancy Cooley; that her said husband died in Washington Township Richland County Ohio, on the 28th day of June A.D 1838; and that she is now a widow; Also that no public or private record of said marriage exists or can be procured; and that forty two years ago the dwelling in which she and her said husband lived in Belmont County Ohio was burned to the ground, and with it were destroyed all the private and family records of said marriage together with their marriage certificate.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she may be entitled the "act approved March 3^d 1855." She hereby appoints Manuel May attorney at Law of Mansfield Ohio to prosecute her claim and receive her warrant when issued

[signed] Nancy Arnett

Dept of State/ Washington, Sept. 18, 1855

Sir [H. J. Minott, Commissioner of Pensions], In reply to your note of yesterdays date, I have to inform you, that one roll only of the non commissioned officers and privates of Gen'l Washingtons Life Guard, can be found on file in this Dept. It is dated 4th June 1783, and does not contain the name of Samuel Arnett. I am respectfully, Your Obedt Servant/ W. Hunter assistant Secretary

NOTES:

Samuel Arnett's application was rejected for the following reason: "His whole service was either as waiter or wagoner." This decision, probably by James L. Edwards, then Pension Commissioner, is evidently a violation of the Pension Office's own regulations for administering the act of 1832, which excludes such service only if it was performed as civil employment rather than as a soldier. Nancy Arnett's claim for bounty land as the widow of "Samuel Arnett" was accepted under a later Commissioner of Pensions.

On 3 Aug 1850 Nancy Arnett, 85 on the previous December 18, applied for a pension stating that she married Samuel Arnett on 8 Dec 1783 in Maryland, where they lived about eight years, then lived in Washington County PA for a few years, then lived in Columbiana County OH for some time before moving to Richland County, where she had lived for about 27 years. She stated that her husband died on 28 June 1837. She stated that her husband told her that "his Waggon lay one and a half miles from where the battle of Bunker Hill was fought at the time it was fought and saw the Battle." The Battle of Bunker Hill occurred on 17 Jun 1775, prior to Arnett's enlistment. Nancy Arnett further stated, "That he enlisted as teamster for one year, and that after the expiration of that time he enlisted for six months aboard a Man of War and served out his time," during which "a Colonel Wallace life guard was taken by the enemy." The latter statement appears to be a confused reference to the capture of Cornwallis. Nancy Arnett's claim for a pension was rejected, because her husband's claim had been rejected.

On 8 Aug 1850 Solomon Culver stated that Samuel and Nancy Arnett had 12 children, five of whom were still living, and that he married their third child, Nancy Arnett, then aged about 54. Nancy Culver also made a supporting statement.