

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Henry Hickerson Barksdale R4636

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

STATE OF VIRGINIA, }

Halifax COUNTY, TO WIT: }

ON this 23rd day of September 1840 personally appeared before Ambrose Haley a Justice of the Peace for said County and State aforesaid Molley Barksdale a resident of the County of Halifax and State aforesaid, aged 77 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836. That she is the widow of Henry Hickerson Barksdale that to her own personal knowledge he enlisted with William McCraw Deputy Quarter Master for the Southern Army at Peytonsburg in the County of Pittsylvania State of Virginia as a Public Waggoner on the last of February or first of March in the year 1781 and that he was in actual service untill February 1783 when he was discharged She further declares that she was married to the said Henry H Barksdale on the 8th day of August in the year seventeen hundred and Eighty two and that her husband the aforesaid Henry H Barksdale died on the 27th day of November 1810 that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. (viz) the Affidavit of Robert Ferguson [pension application W7262] who was also a Waggoner in the same service with the said Henry H Barksdale and Francis Shaw &c
Molley herXmark Barksdale

Pittsylvania County Virginia 20th October 1841

Mr. Edwards [J. L. Edwards, Pension Commissioner]

Sir I Received your letter of the 10th of September last relative to the claim of Mrs. Molly Barksdale for a Pension. You seem to infer from the circumstance of Wm McCraw D Q Master at Peytonsburg having commenced selling out the Public Horses, Waggons &c on the first July that Henry H Barksdale her husband must have left the service before his marriage with her on the 8th August 1782. I have sent you at least Three depositions proving that he was a public Waggoner under the said McCraw. I am under the impression that every Witness says he continued in the Service after his marriage. I have seen Robert Ferguson who was a Waggoner with Barksdale in the same service, he was at his wedding, saw him married, and knows that he continued in the service for some time after his marriage. Ferguson was discharged after Barksdale was married, and left him in the service. Wm. McCraw continued in Service untill after the war ended as you will discover from the inclosed Duplicate returns which I have selected from his papers -, You will discover from Return of the Quarter ending the last of December 1782 That he had then on hand Three Sinnen Covered Waggons and 63 Horses &c That on the last of March 1782, he had on hand Six Horses, so that it does appear that the last of the public Waggons were not sold untill the Winter of 1783. in fact the said McCraw Bought provisions &c. at Peytonsburg as late as the 22nd of May 1783. He received land Bounty for during the War. Mrs. Barksdale says that her husband enlisted for during the War and served as long as the said McCraw kept up the Post at Peytonsburg. I have no earthly doubt but Mrs. Barksdale is justly entitled to her full pay Pension under the Act of July 4th 1836. You will please examine the testimony of Robert Ferguson, Francis Shaw & Jeremiah Martin. I think you will discover that they all say, he continued in the service after the marriage with Molly Bayne, now the Widow &c.

I am Respectfully Your Most Obl

Tho. Williams

NOTE:

The file includes the following: "Sir You'l please to grant Mr. Henry Higgeson Barksdale

Lycence to be married to my Daughter Molly Bayne. Given under my hand.

Witness

I am Sir yours &c.

Jno Rakestraw

Rich'd Bayne

B Barksdale

July 29 day 1782"

There is also a copy of a bond signed in Pittsylvania County on 2 Aug 1782 by Henry Higgerson Barksdale and James M. Williams for the marriage of Barksdale to Molly Bayne.

A document dated 20 May 1850 states that Molly Barksdale died on 28 July 1846 leaving the following children: William H. Barksdale; Richard H. Barksdale; Anna Barksdale; Unity Spencer, wife of Abner Spencer; Judith Pollard, wife of John Pollard; Patsy Grant, wife of William Grant; Cynthia H. Crouch, wife of John Crouch; and Claiborne B. Barksdale. Elisha Barksdale, Jr. was one of the administrators of Molly Barksdale's estate.