

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joel Barnett R534

fn16SC[sic, GA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/20/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Georgia Oglethorpe County:

On this fifth day of November personally appeared in open Court before us Peter W. Hutcherson, Robert Freeman & Burwell Pope judges of the Court of Ordinary now sitting, that Joel Barnett a resident of the State of Georgia and County of Oglethorpe aged seventy years on the 17th day of October 1832 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 his Country in his 15th year (to the best of his knowledge) as a volunteer; and Substitute, to guard the legislature while sitting in the City of Augusta on Savannah River = For this purpose he was stationed at Measles Ferry on the Ogeechee [River] during the performance of this service, applicant's father was drafted to go in the Florida Expedition (so-called in Georgia) & he, applicant, marched in his place, under the command of General How [Robert Howe of NC] and Governor Houston [John Houston of Georgia] -- in Buggs Regiment [probably Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Bugg] -- Lewis Gardner commanded, he thinks at that time as Captain, but was shortly after promoted to Major. Thinks this was in the month of February; (year not recollected only by reference to applicant's age) and served till the following July or August thereafter. In the same year in the month of November, applicant was drafted to go against the Cherokee Indians -- he served in Few's [Benjamin Few's] Regiment and in Barnetts Company and was commanded by General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] -- he cannot recollect the time consumed in this Expedition -- after he was frequently called on in excursions against the Tories. In most of these he was commanded by Colonel Dooly of Wilkes County [Georgia] and Colonel Few of Richmond County [Georgia]: applicant does not recollect the dates of these several transactions or does he recollect the precise duration, but thinks & believes they comprised twelve months or more. Applicant next volunteered to go to the Siege of Savannah,¹ in the State of Georgia, under the command of Colonel Few & Captain Charles Crawford, he remained in service during the Siege -- after which he returned home -- but not to rest from his labors, for he was generally under arms against the Tories until called to the siege of Augusta on Savannah River, -- in the State of Georgia; he marched on the expedition under Colonel Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke] -- remained during the Siege -- Colonel Clark retreated from

¹ The Siege of Savannah occurred from early September 1779 until the disastrous attack on October 9, 1779.

Augusta to North Carolina applicant was almost constantly engaged against the Tories -- he thinks the Siege of Augusta commenced in the month of October -- & applicant served till the following July or August. In Clark's retreat to North Carolina applicant got separated from him and had to walk along and conceal himself for fear of the Tories but as Providence would have it he did not fall into their hands but had the good fortune, (if anything could be called good in those days of bail [?]) to join his comrades on Fair Forest River in the State of North Carolina [South Carolina]: From Fair Forest applicant returned to Georgia under the command of Colonel Williamson, one of Clark's officers, who kept a sort of flying camp near and round about the City of Augusta, and had frequent skirmishes with the enemy -- this lasted for some time, as we were then too weak to give them battle -- as soon as Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee], regular commander of the Virginia horse joined us, we laid close siege to the town & until it surrendered -- applicant thinks this took place in October 1780² = After the Siege of Augusta was finished, applicant joined Colonel Samuel Hammond's Corps of light dragoons of the State of South Carolina -- our subject was to go to the Siege of Ninety Six, but after we reached it, it had been raised by General Greene home we joined on Brevard River -- & with whom I remained till just before the Battle of Eautaw [Eutaw Springs]³. After leaving General Greene, applicant went on to the State of Virginia, and was at the Siege of Lord Cornwallis -- though not as a soldier -- having gone there to visit his Brother. Applicant came back to Georgia in November or December 1781 and served a one month's tour against the Tories, under the command of Captain Miller and Colonel Bostwick [Bostick?] -- We were stationed on Spirits Creek [sic, Spirit Creek] -- thinks this was in January 1782 after the Expiration of this month's tour -- applicant returned home and volunteered for a six months tour, under Captain David Harris, who was Commander of the Guard to protect the Governor & Council at Augusta -- Applicant remained on this duty during the time for which he had volunteered -- & was engaged in patrolling the Country for 30 to 40 miles around the town -- Applicant finally left the service in 1782 and he has no documentary evidence by which he can establish his claim -- nor does he know of any living witness who can testify to his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any State or territory.

Sworn to & scribe the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William H. Smith, Clerk

S/ Joel Barnett

[fn p. 11: Thomas Dunn, a clergyman, and Robert Smith gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 13: On November 2, 1855 while living in Noxubee County, Mississippi, veteran executed a power of attorney authorizing his attorney to pursue his claim for a pension and other entitlements for his service in the revolution.]

² The successful Siege of did not terminate until early June 1781. Clarke's earlier, unsuccessful Siege of Augusta was in mid-September 1780.

³ September 8, 1781