

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of John Bennett, R760

fn56NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 North Carolina, Rutherford County: Court of Pleas & quarter sessions: October Session, AD 1832

On this 24th day of October, AD 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the County Court of pleas & quarter Sessions for the County of Rutherford now sitting, John Bennett, a resident of Rutherford County & State of North Carolina aged ___ years 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 the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

That he entered the Service of the United States in the County of Newhanover [sic, New Hanover] in the State of North Carolina & served five months as a drafted Militiaman under the command of Capt. William Jones; was marched into the State of Georgia & was under Genl. Ashe [John Ashe] at the battle of Green Briar Creek in the fall of 1778 [sic, the Battle of Briar Creek occurred on March 3, 1779] & was discharged on Ashley River at Dorchester in So. Ca. He entered the Service again as a Substitute in the Town of Wilmington, No. Ca. for three months under Capt. David James.

That he again entered the Service in New Hanover, No. Ca. in February 1781 under Capt. Shuflyn [sic, Samuel Flincken?¹] & Col. Kenyon [sic, James Kenan?]. That he entered the service again in August 1781 as a volunteer for three months under Capt. Gillaspie [sic, Robert Gillespie] & Col. Kenyon [Kenan?] -- was in a battle of Rockfish Bridge in Duplin County. That he entered the service again in the Fall of 1781 for one month as a substitute under Capt. Arnold - & again entered the Service in the Summer of 1782 as a volunteer 18 months, but the war ended & he was discharged after having served 11 months under Capt. Robert Rayford [sic, Raiford] - Col. Little [sic, Archibald Lytle?] - Major Blainton [?] marched into South Carolina in the army of Genl. Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] & was discharged at James Island near Charleston -- that he was born in South Carolina on the 17 day of December, 1761. He has at this time no record of his

¹ See NC Comptroller General's certificate at fn. 55.

age, but formerly had, which has been burned. That he lived in New Hanover County No. Ca. when he entered the Service - that he lived in Bladen County No. Ca. until 1822 then he removed to Rutherford County where he now lives. He was drafted when first called into Service, but afterwards volunteered & substituted in the place of Jesse Adkins & Thomas Kemp—that he was acquainted with Col. Little [Lytle?], Genl. Ashe, Genl. Graham, Henry Young, Capt. Rayford of the light infantry—That he is acquainted with Drury Dobbins & William Weathers Esqr. of his neighborhood who can testify as to his veracity & their belief as to his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ John Bennett

S/ Thomas F. Burchett, Clk.

We, Drury Dobbins, a Clergyman & Willis Weathers, residing in the County of Rutherford do hereby Certify that we are well acquainted with John Bennett who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be 71 years of age & that he is reported & believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Soldier of the Revolution & that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Drury Dobbins

S/ Willis X Weathers, W his mark

S/ Ths. F. Burchett, Clk.

State of North Carolina Rutherford County Court of pleas & quarter Sessions April Sessions, AD 1833

On this _____ day of April, AD 1833, personally appeared in open Court before this justice of the County Court of pleas & quarter sessions for Rutherford County, John Bennett, a resident of Rutherford County, North Carolina, aged seventy one years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth, on his oath, make the following statement amendatory [sic] of his former declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he served with Capt. William Jones as before stated for the term of five months, that he served three months under Capt. Davis James, that he served three months under Capt. Gillaspie, that he served one month under Capt. Arnold, that he served eleven months under Capt. Rayford, making in the whole, twenty six months, that any ambiguity or uncertainty about the length of service in the foregoing declaration he believes attributed to the person who wrote it, for as he believes, he then states the length of his service as it is now stated.

That he has not been able to prove his service in any other way than by his own oath, not knowing of any person, now living in the County of his acquaintance with whom he served—that he has no record of his age, he heretofore had a record of his age in a prayer Book of his father's which book has been burned.

S/ John Bennett

Sworn to & subscribed in year aforesaid in open Court

S/ T. F. Burchett, Clk.

[fn p. 40]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify, that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State that John Bennett a private in Captain Raiford's company of the 10th Regiment enlisted in 1782 for 18 months and deserted on the 4th of June 1783.

Given under my hand this 27th of June 1833

S/ Wm Hill

State of North Carolina Cleveland County

On the 8th day of November (? 1844 or 1840 or 1841) personally came John Bennett into open Court now sitting for said County and after being Duly Sworn according to law, Deposeth and Sayeth in order to amend or correct a declaration made by him Claiming a pension for services rendered the United States in the Revolutionary war, under The Act of Congress of June 7th, 1832, which Declaration was made before the Court of Rutherford County, Sometime about the year 1833 or '34 that he did then and there truly Set forth his Service which was Twenty three months in all with the exception of a few weeks, before his last tour [sic, tour] of service expired he left the army from the fear of sickness of various Diseases for the people was Dying Daily in Charleston and James Island where the army where Stationed at that time and being informed that peace was made and being an eye witness to the enemy leaving Charleston, S. C. and sharing in the Cheers and Rejoicing of the officers, Soldiers and Citizens of Charleston from December 1782 until the first of June 1783, at or about which time he saith others left the army from the fear of Sickness as above stated and for no other reason & were it not from the elapse of years and Death of [?], the above facts could be Clearly Set forth. This deponent further Declares that he knows of no person now living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service or to the above facts set forth in this affidavit-----

Sworn to and subscribed the Day and year aforesaid

S/ John Bennett

[fn p. 11]

State of North Carolina Cleveland County: On this 20th day of November in the year of our Lord 1845 Personally appeared in open Court now in session (viz.) the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions John Bennett a resident of North Carolina in the County of Cleveland aged eighty-four years 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 and served as herein stated. That he entered the service in the year 1778 as a private of the militia in Captain William Jones Company and that Henry Yonge was there Colonel that he served the first tour five months and was at the battle of Briar Creek in Georgia (but was not in the battle from the reason that he had to drive the Doct Cart) & that General Ash was their General & further declares that he returned home at the end of five months and took Jesse Adkins place for two months in Wilmington North Carolina he often went into service under Captain Shuflin & served a

tower of three months and then entered the Services in the cavalry under Captain Gillespie and served one month & then served as a militia one month under the same Captain (to which Captain Gillespie) and then went as a substitute for one Thomas Camp one month under Captain Arnold and then he entered the service under Captain Raiford in 1782 first of August in the Infantry Company & was stationed on James Island near Charleston SC and that General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] was our General while stationed on said Island & that he & that he served in that Army a tour of ten months and that he left the Army about the 4th of June 1783 and that he left before he got his discharge on account of sickness and that he resided in New Hanover County North Carolina when he entered the service & that his service was rendered as above stated that the whole amount of his services was 23 months and he further declares that he has no documentary evidence & that he knows of no person living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services and he further declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and open Court & subscribed the day & date above written.

S/ John Bennett

Sworn to in open Court and subscribed before me
S/ Richard champion, Clerk
November 20th 1845
[Drury Dobbins, a clergyman, and William Mathers gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 25]

State of North Carolina Cleveland County: Personally appeared before me one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County William McKinney² & after being first duly sworn deposed & saith on oath that he was well acquainted with one John Bennett a citizen of this County in the time of the Revolutionary War that he served in that war against the Common enemy of the Country. That he served with him in the Infantry in Captain Raiford's company. That he got acquainted with him while in that Company that they served together in that company at least six months that he did not know the said Bennett prior to that time. That he is recognized in this County as a soldier of the Revolution & that he thinks him to be at least 83 years of age.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 21st day of March 1846.

S/ W. H. Green, JP

S/ William McKinney

State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State
I, William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the muster-rolls of the Continental line of this State, in the Revolutionary War, that John Bennett a private Soldier in Captain Raiford's Company of the 10th Regiment, entered the service on the ___ day of ___ 1782 for the term of 18 months, Deserted in June 11th 1783.

Given under my hand this 18th day of September 1852

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

² [William McKinney S9017](#)

[fn p. 6: On April 22, 1852 in Cleveland County North Carolina, Martha Bennett a resident of said County, filed a claim stating that she is the daughter of John Bennett who applied for a pension for his services in the revolution and that she has been informed his claim should have been allowed and she is directly interested in pursuing the claim.]