

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Bentley Outlaw R7833

Martha

fn45SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 10/22/10

[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.]

The State of South Carolina, Chesterfield District

On this thirty first day of March in the year of our Lord 1840, personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Ordinary now sitting, Bently [sic] Outlaw, a resident of Chesterfield District in the State of South Carolina, aged eighty nine 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated. That in the Spring of the year, but in what year this deponent does not recollect, he volunteered for three months & served under Captain Elijah McGee, & James Holmes, Lieutenant, but the names of the other subaltern officers he does not recollect; that he was engaged with Captain McGee's Company in scouring the Country for Tories in the districts of Chesterfield, Kershaw, Darlington & Sumter, and had several skirmishes with the Tories – one on Hem branch<sup>1</sup> in Chesterfield District where Captain McGee's company killed several Tories & disbursed the rest –one on Black Creek Chesterfield District where one Tory was wounded & taken prisoner -- & another on Black Creek in Darlington District, where one Tory named Tomlin was wounded & taken prisoner. That this deponent in Darlington District left Captain McGee's company by permission to go to the house of William Witherington [? could be William Welberington or William Wellmington] (an old Whig) to get something to eat; that just as he finished eating a gang of Tories came up and took him prisoner & started with him towards Camden, as they said, to put him in Jail; that they permitted him to ride his own mare; that they carried him about 2 miles & he broke & fled, the Tories pursued but did not fire; this deponent was well acquainted with the woods and knew where to find Captain McGee's company. One of the Tories pursued him clear up to Captain McGee, the Tory then turned & fled and was so closely chased by the Whigs that they got his hat, but he escaped; that he served out the three months under Captain McGee.

This deponent further saith that shortly afterwards, but the day he does not recollect, he entered the service under Captain John Watts & Lieutenant Evans as a volunteer for six months; that he was engaged during the whole time in scouring the Country for Tories; he served in Chesterfield, Kershaw, Darlington & Sumter Districts; that they caught some Tories, but killed none.

That he afterwards served under Captain McGee, Captain Alexander McIntosh & Captain

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1 Jack Parker notes: There was a skirmish at Hem Branch, Chesterfield County. It is located on the National Wildlife Refuge just east of McBee, SC and just north of Highway U.S. 1. The old name was Hem Branch, but over the years, it has become Ham Branch.

William Watts until the end of the War, but the precise length of service under each, this deponent does not recollect. The Tories were so bad in the neighborhood where this deponent lived that he dared not remain at home. This deponent was in a skirmish not far from Eutaw Springs under Captain Watts. He says that he is confident he served in the war of the Revolution Three years – that he served the whole time as a private & as a volunteer.

This deponent further saith that he was born in Chesterfield District in the State of South Carolina; that he has no record of his age, but believes from the best information he has received that he is of the age above stated; that he is illiterate – can read a little in the testament, but cannot write; that he never received any discharge from the officers under whom he served; & has no documentary evidence of his service; that he resided in Chesterfield District at the time he first entered the service & has resided there ever since; that he knows of no person who can testify to his service, except Ephraim Gandy [or Gaudy],<sup>2</sup> Silas Hails<sup>3</sup> & Nat Jones,<sup>4</sup> the latter of whom is over 100 years old, lives in Kershaw District & is from age & infirmity unable to get to Chesterfield Court House.

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 the agency of any State.

S/ Bentley Outlaw, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year above-mentioned, before me  
S/ Turner Bryan, Judge of Court of Ordinary Chesterfield District

Ephraim Gandy personally came before me & being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say, that he knew you Bentley Outlaw in the Revolutionary war & has known him ever since; that he was present at the skirmish on Hem branch stated in the foregoing declaration; that the said Outlaw there fought on the side of the Whigs, that he saw him sometimes in the service during the war, that he was always on the side of the Whigs & this deponent has no doubt he said Bentley Outlaw served three years as in his declaration he has stated. This deponent lives in Darlington District, South Carolina & is himself a Revolutionary pensioner.

S/ Ephraim Gandy, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 1840  
S/ Turner Bryan, Judge of Court of Ordinary of Chesterfield District

Silas Hails personally came before me & being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say, that he did not know Bentley Outlaw, who has subscribed above declaration, personally during the Revolutionary war, but knows that the said Outlaw then had the reputation of being a good soldier & staunch Whig & that he has born that character ever since. This deponent has no doubt that the said Outlaw is of the age & served as stated in his declaration. This deponent is a revolutionary Pensioner.

S/ Silas Hails, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 1840  
S/ Turner Bryan, Judge of Court of Ordinary of Chesterfield District  
[Joseph T Copeland, a clergyman, and Obadiah Gullede gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 22]

South Carolina Kershaw District: Before me S. P. Murchison one of the Magistrates assigned to keep the peace personally appeared Bentley Outlaw and after being duly sworn saith upon oath that according to his knowledge he is one hundred three years of age and he this Deponent further avers that

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2 S17971 This pensioner's name is indexed as "Gaudy" but it appears to me to be "Gandy" in both this declaration and the one which Gandy/Gaudy filed in his own behalf. [Ephraim Gaudy \(Gandy\) S17971](#)

3 W27546 indexed as Silas Hailes or Hails [Silas Hailes W27546](#)

4 W7918—transcribed in this database under Nathaniel Jones. [Nathaniel Jones W7918](#)

he served in and during the most of the old Revolution with Great Britain as a volunteer and was in severe battle in one on hemp Branch Chesterfield District South Carolina under Captain McGee and in another Battle at the Yewtaw Spring [sic, Eutaw Springs] under Captain Dunbire and Lieutenant Hal M[balance of name runs off the page and is not legible] and the war was over he was Honorably Discharged and this Deponent further swears that his certificate of Discharge he has lost or mislaid so that he cannot find the same and this Deponent further swears that he has never received from the Treasury of the United States and pension directly or indirectly for his services.

Sworn to before me this the 19th Day of December A.D. 1850

S/ S. P. Murchison, Magistrate

S/ Bentley Outlaw, X his mark

[fn p. 23]

South Carolina Kershaw District: before me SP Murchison one of the Magistrates assigned to keep the peace personally appeared Ephraim Gandy and after being duly sworn saith upon oath that according to the old Family Record that he is last September 108 years of age and this Deponent further swears that he became acquainted with Bentley Outlaw in and during the whole Revolutionary [war] with Great Britain and the said Bentley Outlaw first volunteered three months which time he served under Captain McGee during which time he this Deponent in company with said Bentley Outlaw was engaged in a Battle on Hemp Branch in Chesterfield District South Carolina and that they killed several of the Tories in that engagement and this Deponent further swears after the said three months expired the said Bentley Outlaw was Honorably Discharged and then the said Bentley Outlaw volunteered six months and served he believes under Captain Dunbire and Lieutenant Holmes during this six-month service he was in a Battle in company with the said Outlaw at the Eutaw Springs and after the six months expired the said Bentley Outlaw was Honorably Discharged and this Deponent has good reason to believe and does believe that said Bentley Outlaw served during the most of the war and that the said Bentley Outlaw was a real substantial Whig and he believes the said Outlaw to be something over 100 years of age. Sworn to before me this the 19th day of December A.D. 1850.

S/ SP Murchison, Magistrates

S/ Ephraim Gandy, X his mark

[fn p. 8: Power of attorney executed in Chesterfield District, South Carolina on October 23, 1852, by Martha Outlaw, 80, widow; John Outlaw, 60; Nancy Outlaw 57; Elizabeth Clanton, 55; James Outlaw, 40; Benjamin and Lydia Outlaw, 44 (twins); and Syntha Johnson, 39; in which they state they are the legal heirs at law of Bentley Outlaw, authorizing their attorney to seek whatever may be due them as the heirs of Bentley Outlaw.

The image shows a list of eight names in cursive handwriting, each followed by a small mark resembling an 'X' or a signature. The names are: Martha Outlaw, John Outlaw, Nancy Outlaw, Elizabeth Clanton, James Outlaw, Benjamin Outlaw, Lydia Outlaw, and Syntha Johnson. Some names have small annotations above or below them, such as 'widow' for Martha, 'her' for Elizabeth, and 'marriage' for Syntha.

