

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Bernard Owens R7847

fn34NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/27/10

[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.]

[fn p. 3: Power of attorney dated February 8, 1854, given in Ashe County North Carolina by Rhoda Owens, a resident of Elk Cross Roads in Ashe County North Carolina, who states that she is the daughter of Bernard Owens who she states was a veteran of the revolutionary war. She authorizes James Calloway of Wilkesboro North Carolina and B. C. Calloway of Ashe County as her attorneys to pursue whatever right she might have to a pension based on the revolutionary war services of her father.]

[fn p. 5: on March 15, 1854 in Wilkes County North Carolina, Larkin Owens gave testimony that he is about 50 years old and the grandson of Bernard Owens; that his grandfather died at his residence in Wilkes County North Carolina May 18, 1847; that he helped bury his grandfather; that his grandfather had been a soldier of the war of the revolution; Patsy Hammons, also 50, stated that she knew Bernard Owens for about 30 years and was present at his burial.]

[fn p. 6: on March 15, 1854 in Wilkes County North Carolina, Elijah Church, Senior, gave testimony that he is 86 years old (although he has no record of his age); that he was well acquainted with Bernard Owens in the time of the Revolution; that "the said Owens was a soldier in said war – he thinks & believes a large portion of said war. That they lived close neighbors at the time and most of the time ever since – That the said Bernard Owens lived in the time of said war in Wilkes County North Carolina and he states that said Owens died in said County of Wilkes he thinks about six years ago or thereabouts." He also states that he thinks said Bernard Owens was about 100 years old at the time of his death and lived in a very remote part of the country across the Blue Ridge about 23 miles from the courthouse of his County. He also states that Rhoda Owens of Ashe County, Peggy Owens, Polly Owens and Mrs. Nancy Church of Wilkes County all the living children and lawful heirs of Bernard Owens deceased]

[fn p. 7: on March 15, 1854 in Wilkes County North Carolina, Mrs. Charity Church, 83 in may next, gave testimony that during the time of the revolution she had a brother, Charles Craft who was a soldier in that war; that she was at that time acquainted with one Bernard Owens, that she always heard at that time and ever since that an art Owens was a soldier in the revolution. She also identified the children of Bernard Owens.]

[fn p. 12]

State of North Carolina County of Wilkes

On this 21st day of July A.D. 1854, personally appeared before the worshipful the Justices of the County Court for the County of Wilkes State of North Carolina, now in session, Benjamin C Callaway, Administrator the estate of the late Bernard Owens of Wilkes County State of North Carolina now deceased, who made the following declaration on oath – to wit – That he was personally well acquainted with said but on Owens for many years. That the said Owens lived for many years before his death at the place and in the immediate neighborhood in which he died – he states that he well recollects the time when the said Owens died – That he thinks and believes that it was about the month of May 1847. That he lived within about four miles of ham. That he was a very old man – and that for some years before his death that he was very illy able to get about – and that for a year or two before his death as he is informed and believes – that he was not so much as out of his house. That he lived in a cove of the Blue Ridge near the Top of the mountain – in a very inaccessible part of the Country – and quiet remote from the Court House of his County not less than 22 or 23 miles – that in the lifetime of said Owens – there was no person in that section of the Country – that was engaged or knew how to procure the pensions do the old soldiers – he states – That he always heard – ever since he can recollect – That the said Bernard Owens, was a soldier and officer in the war of the Revolution. That – that was what was said and believed by the whole County and especially by the old people of the County he further states that his Father the late Elijah Calloway now deceased who was born on the 12th day of October a D 1769 always said that he was well acquainted with the said Bernard Owens in the time of the War of the Revolution. And that my said father always said that he knew that the said Bernard Owens was in the War of the Revolution – and that he was an officer in said War – he further states that some few years before the death of my father which took place in the County of Ashe State of North Carolina – at his residence – the 3rd day of March 1847 – that he was present – when his said father – and the said Bernard Owens, and that amongst other matters of conversation between the two old man – that the subject of the old war was spoken of – and that at that time his said father told the said Bernard that he knew that he had served in the Revolutionary War that he knew he had been a Lieutenant in said war and that he ought to have a pension – and that if he would make application for it – that he would make affidavit for him – as to his services – and what he knew of them and that at that time the said Owens said that he had been in said service and was an officer – as aforesaid – And he further states that from what he has always heard of the services of the said Bernard Owens in the War of the Revolution – from all his various sources of information – that he has no doubt – but the said Bernard Owens did serve in said war as stated – That he was a private and Lieutenant in said war – and he thinks must have been for the term of at least two years – and that the said Bernard Owens was the identical man – who did serve as aforesaid. That he served as he is informed and believes under Captain William Lenore [sic, William Lenoir] & Vannoy under the command of Captain Benjamin Cleveland – as a volunteer in the Militia of the United States.

S/ Benjamin C Callaway

Adm. of Bernard Owens Deceased

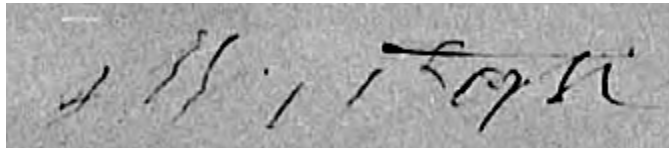
Sworn to in open court July 21st 1854

Test: S/ W. Mastin, Clk

[fn p. 16]

State of North Carolina County of Wilkes: On this 4th day of March A.D. 1854 personally appeared before me M. S. Stokes, a Justice of the peace, within and for the County and State aforesaid Colonel James Welborn a resident of the County and State aforesaid – who after being duly sworn according to law, declares that he was born on the 29th day of November A.D. 1767. That he lived in the County of Wilkes State of North Carolina – during the War of the Revolution – he states that he cannot well recollect the said war and all the leading incidents of said war that took place in this part of the Country – he states that he was at the time well acquainted with one Bernard Owens who was a resident of said County of Wilkes during said war – he states that he always understood at the time and ever since – up to the time of the death of the said Bernard Owens, that he was a soldier in the service of his Country in the War of the Revolution – he well remembers – that at the time the men was organizing to go to the Battle of Kings Mountain, that Bernard Owens – was amongst those who volunteered to go to said Battle – and that he did go – in said expedition as he always understood & believes – he states that he always understood and so believes that the said Bernard Owens was in much of the said war – though the length of time that he did actually serve he cannot state correctly though he thinks it must have amounted to a considerable length of time – he states and believes – and that he always did believe that the services of the said Owens was sufficient to entitle him to a pension – he states that he thinks the said Owens served under Captain William Lenoir in the expedition to Kings Mountain under the command of Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, the Balance of his services was under officers that he does not now recollect – he states that he always at the time and ever since understood that the said Bernard Owens was a true Whig – and brave and good soldier – he states – that the said Owens is now dead – that he died in Wilkes County [indecipherable word] of North Carolina – he thinks some five or six years ago – the said Welborn states that he himself was a Colonel commandant in actual service during the late war with Great Britain and that he has always been familiar with the service of all the wars – in which the Country has been engaged.

S/ J. Welborn

A photograph of a handwritten signature in dark ink on a light-colored surface. The signature is written in a cursive style and appears to read 'J. Welborn'.

[fn p. 23: affidavit dated March 30th, 1854 from the North Carolina Comptroller General showing the following entry:

"Bernard Owens

Book A M No. 15 page 44 £31S h D4 specie

Vol. A. entry 773 Lieutenant Bernard Owens for services of himself and Company allowed October 1779 – £199S10 currency."]

[fn p. 32]

State of North Carolina Ashe County March 11th, 1854

On this day Personally appeared before me a Paul Hartzag a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Philip Church a resident of the County and State aforesaid and after being sworn in due form of law and according to law declares as follows – that according to the account given him of his age by his father John Church he was born the third day of December

A.D. 1767 – that his Father lived in the County of Wilkes State of North Carolina during the War of the Revolution and that he can well remember the war and incidents of said war that he had two brothers in said war Amos Church¹ and John Church,² that he was well acquainted with Bernard Owens who was a resident of the County of Wilkes in State of North Carolina during said war that he the said Bernard Owens lived in about two miles of his Father's John Church and that said Bernard Owens was much of his time a soldier in said war that said Owens went a tower [tour] against the Indians as he was told and believes and was gone a good while but how long he can't exactly state that at another time said Owens went a tower down the Country somewhere he thinks in the direction of Hillsboro North Carolina – or in that direction and was with his said two brothers Amos and John which said two brothers both drew pensions, but are now dead that he heard his Brothers often say Bernard Owens was with them that tour he further declares and says that said Bernard Owens went to the Kings Mountain Battle with his said two brothers that the said Bernard Owens held the office of Lieutenant as he was told and believed a good part of the time during the war he further says that he was very often at said Bernard Owens's house and thinks and believes that said Owens must have been out half of his time in the war that his two brothers always said Lieutenant Bernard Owens was a valuable and good soldier he further says that the said Bernard Owens was a man of family had several children during the war and he thinks about 25 or 30 years of age that his wife's name was Hannah – that he was then and has always been well acquainted with said Bernard Owens up to the time of his death which was five or six years ago he lived and died in the same neighborhood in the County of Wilkes in State of North Carolina and I declare and believe that the said Bernard Owens must have been very near or quite 100 years old he died in Wilkes County North Carolina and in about 10 miles from where I now live and where I have always lived since I left Wilkes, and further this deponent saith not.

S/ Phillip Church, X his mark

¹ [Amos Church S8191](#)

² [John Church W9343](#)