

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Bennett R8

VA Sea Service

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 27 July 2017.

[The only document in the jacket for the federal application relating to military service is the following letter:]

Pension Office/ January 13, 1846

I certify that I have examined the case of of William Bennett, deceased, who was a Sailing Master in the Virginia State Navy during the revolutionary war; and I find that under the act of the 5 July 1832 half-pay was allowed from the 22^d of April 1783. Half-pay is now claimed from the 19th of May 1781, and it is my opinion that the claim should be allowed. I therefore certify that there is due to the administrator of said Bennett half-pay for service as a Sailing Master at the rate of one hundred and fifty-two dollars and eight cents per annum from the 19 May 1781, when he left the service, until the 22^d April 1783, and that the amount is payable to Covington Bennett, administrator of William Bennett. The amount to be sent in a draft to the administrator at Pungoteague, Virginia.

Approved/ Secretary of War

Commissioner of Pensions

[It is assumed that all the following from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) pertain to the above William Bennett.]

I hereby certify that I was well acquainted with William Bennet who served with me in the State Navy during the Revolutionary war under the Command of Comodore James Barron [Commodore James Barron [VAS1949], that he was occasionally changed from the Boat Liberty to the Boat Patriot as the whole crew were. James Burk [S6649]
[Elizabeth City County, 10 Dec 1830]



I hereby certify that I was well acquainted with William Bennet and his family and their circumstances from the year 1781 when he returned home from the war until 1784 when he died, that he was very poor, having a large family and almost entirely dependant, and I am satisfied that he never did receive pay for his services in the war, nor did he ever receive any thing for his land warrant.

Jane herXmark Massenburg

Elizabeth City County towit

Personally appeared before me Jane Massenburg and made Oath to the facts and things stated in the above certificate this 11th day of Feb'y 1831. Wm Hope JP

State of Virginia } S.S.

City of Richmond }

The deposition of Scarborough Bloxom [Scarborough Bloxom W5842] aged about Seventy Seven years who deposeth and Saith that he enlisted on Board the galley Accomack as a Midshipman before the Gally was launched and continued in that capacity untill orders were received to dismantle and lay the Gally up that he was well acquainted with William Bennett Master of the Gally Diligence that he enlisted in that capacity when the Diligence first went into service and continued in her untill She was ordered to be laid up and dismantled that the said William Bennet as well as this deponent recollects was of the County of Accomack – that he knew [undeciphered] well after the war untill his death – further this deponent saith not

Sworn to & subscribed before me the 5th day of March 1831
J McKeldar[?] JP



I certify it appears from a list of such of the names of the Seamen of the Virginia State Navy as received Certificates for the balance of their full pay, agreeably to the Act of assembly passed the November Session 1781 that a certificate issued on the 28th day of April 1785 in the name of William Bennett Master for £187.11.– which certificate was delivered to Col. John Cropper [W3781]. Given under my hand in the Auditors Office this 8th day of March 1831

JE Heath ASA