Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Elias Barbee S12972

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 June 2011.

State of Kentucky

Green Circuit Court August Term 1832 On this day the 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared before the Green Circuit Court Elias Barbee of Green County aged 69 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration to enable him to obtain the benefit of the provision of the Act of Congress of the 7th June 1832 – That in the year 1781 he resided in Culpepper County and State of Virginia, that on the 19th day of March of that year, he entered the Service of the united States in the Continental line under the following circumstances. It was a regulation at that time in the Militia of Virginia that the men should be classed – ten as well as I now recollect in a class, and there being a call for men each class to furnish a man, either by draft among the class, by voluntary tender of Service or by a substitute procured by the class. The class to which I belonged employed me as their substitute, and then made a draft among themselves to ascertain to whom the credit should be given for a Tour of duty of one year and a half. The draft shewed the name of James Spilman [possibly pension application S14549] as the person entitled to the credit.

On the said 19th March 1781 I was mustered into service for Eighteen months in the Company commanded by Captain A. Kirkpatrick [Abraham Kirkpatrick] in the Regiment commanded by Col [Thomas] Gaskins if I do not mistake the name. The number of the Reg't is not recollected. We were marched from Culpeppure to Fredericksburg, thence to the Potomac River on the return from which I was taken sick. After my recovery I went again to Fredericksburg and finding no troops there I went into Albemarle County where I found a detachment of Troops, with whom I joined the Reg't to which I had been attached commanded as aforesaid by Col Gaskins, near James River somewhere above Richmond, the County not recollected. We then marched back and forth in Virginia till the British landed at the Point of Fork [at the confluence of James and Rivanna rivers], on their return from the South. Baron Steuben being commander of the forces in Virginia ordered a retreat [6 Jun 1781], which we performed across the Stanton [sic: Staunton] River whence we returned again crossing James River a piece above James Town, this was on the day before the battle of James Town between Gen Wayne and the British [Anthony Wayne, Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul]. The Troops were then drawn from all points to York Town and I among the rest, where I remained till the end of the siege [19 Oct 1781], after which I returned to the Barracks near Cumberland old Court House where I served the remainder of my Term of Eighteen months and was discharged. I have lost or so mislaid my discharge that I cannot now find it. I do not know of any person who served with me in the same Reg't. by whom I could prove my service, who are known to be still living.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present. His name is not on the Pension Roll of any State or any agency. Sworn and Subscribed the date first written [signed] Elias Barbee

[Daniel Barbee (pension application S12951) certified that he had seen his brother, Elias Barbee, at the Siege of Yorktown.]

State of Kentucky

Mercer County Sct

On this 14th day of August 1832 personally appeared, before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for said County Joshua Barbee [pension application S12952] aged 72 years, who being first duly sworn according to law states – That in December 1779 I returned home to my fathers in Culpepper County Virginia from the Army having served out my Term of Service that I then found my Brother Elias Barbee

of Green County, but now here present, at my fathers, our father being then in Kentucky. In March following I set out for Kentucky. That in the Spring 1782 I returned to Culpepper for the purpose of assisting my Father to remove to Kentucky – upon inquiring for my Brother Elias I was told by my Father that he had gone into Service in the Militia, and as well as I now recollect for the Term of Eighteen months. That I accordingly returned with my Father to Kentucky. In December after our return Elias Barbee came to Kentucky having completed his Term of Service, where he has resided ever since.

[signed] Joshua Barbee

Kentucky Green County Sct

This day [20 Aug 1832] James Cowherd [S10482] came before me Alfred Anderson a Justice of the peace for Green County and made oath that he was acquainted with Thomas [BLWt258-300], John, Daniel, William and Joshua Barbee five brothers, while they were in the service of the united States in the Continental line – and that he was also acquainted with Elias Barbee the other brother – and believe from report that said Elias Barbee was in the said Service – he believes they all entered the service in the state of Virginia [signed] Jas Cowherd

State of Kentucky }
Green County Sct }

On this 17th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices now sitting Elias Barbee and in addition to his declaration made before the Green Circuit Court on the 20th day of August 1832, and answered to the Interogatories propounded by the court as follows That he was born in Culpeper County in the State of Virginia in the year 1763 on the 14 day of June as he has been informed and the record of his age is yet in existence in a large Bible kept by his father and in his fathers own handwriting —

That I received a discharge from the service which I think was signed by Col. Phebecker [sic: Christian Febiger] which discharge I sent to Richmond by French Strother & which was never returned, & where it is he knows not -

That I am acquainted with most of the citizens of Green County and Capt. John B Marshall, & John Barret Clerk among others can testify as to my character for varacity and a belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] Elias Barbee

NOTE: A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates taken at Albemarle Old Courthouse lists the following: Elias Barbee/ age 18/ height 5′ 9¾″/ dark-brown hair/ grey eyes/ fair complexion/ planter/ born and residing in Culpeper County where he enlisted 19 Mar 1781 for 18 months. Sized on 28 May 1781.