

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Arnold S37682

f40VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/14/06 rev'd 7/30/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky, Clarke [Clark] County.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1834 personally came before Richard French, Judge of the Clarke Circuit Court, John Arnold, a resident of Clarke County and State of Kentucky, aged seventy five years past, 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<sup>th</sup> 1832.

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

In the month of August in the year 1778 to the best of his recollection at this time (though of the year he is not certain) he entered as an eighteen months man in the Spotsylvania County Virginia. The said was commanded by Capt. John Benam. He entered as a substitute for his father, Anthony Arnold, who had been drafted or upon whom the lot fell in his class to serve eighteen months. The first few months he served in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. Matthews. He was then marched to Williamsburg where he joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. James Innis or Ennis (which way the name was spelled he does not know) in a company commanded by Captain John Nelson. From Williamsburg we were marched to Richmond, he recollects whilst at Richmond of seeing the Marquis La Fayette, it was the first time he had ever seen him. From Richmond he marched to Petersburg and from there he marched to Charleston. The troops whilst at Charleston were under the command of General Woodford [William Woodford] and Dangerfield. He was in Woodford's Brigade. From there he was marched to Monck's Corner [spelled "Mountscorner"]. From there by way of Camden Courthouse; from there we marched to a place called Brooklin [sic, Brookline or Brooklyn?] and where again marched to the South to Savannah and whilst there his eighteen months being about to expire, he enlisted in Washington's [William Washington's] Corps of Horse in the company commanded by Captain John Lightfoot. He served in said light horse troops in the South until the battle of Cowpens [January 17, 1781]; he was in said battle and received three wounds. After the battle of the Cowpens, he still remained with said light horse and marched toward Charleston, and from thence to Savannah, and from there to Camden and from that [place] to the Pee Dee [River]. He enlisted in Washington's troop of horse for a period of eighteen months, and his time having expired, he was discharged and got a written discharge from Colonel William Washington. His whole service in the United States Army was three years as a private soldier. His written discharge he has lost. General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] commanded at

the battle of the Cowpens and was assisted by Washington's light horse, General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] and Colonel Howard [John Eager Howard] were also at the battle. He recollects in Washington's troop, Captains Fantleroy [sic, Griffin Fauntleroy] and Jamison [Fauntleroy Jamison or Jameson] besides his own Captain. The second in command was Major Scott. His recollection has failed him very much and he cannot now name any of the officers in Wayne's [General Anthony Wayne] troop except Major John Willis. Before he joined Washington's troop, he was transferred to the 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel William Dangerfield in the brigade commanded by General Scott. His Captain's name in said Regiment was John Browning. He fell in with Wayne several times whilst he served. The first time was at Petersburg, and he was with him again at Charleston and also at Big PeeDee. He recollects Generals Thomas, Loman [could be Lomare] & Lewis, Howe & Liveren. They are all the officers he recollects except those who he has named already & except those in the Regiment in which he served. In the 7<sup>th</sup>, the Major was named John Thorn and in the 17<sup>th</sup>, Major James Lewis. General Gates [Horatio Gates] commanded the troops in the South most of the time. He states that he has no documentary evidence of his service, part of it he can prove by John Gravit and Mrs. Sally Benning, his sister, knows that he was in the war three years; he knows of no other testimony living by whom he can prove his services. He did during the year 1833 procure the evidence of John Roche who was his orderly sergeant during the whole of his eighteen months service in the Washington's troop of horse, and sent the same on with his declaration and other papers, directed to the Secretary at War at Washington City but he has been informed that said papers are lost or mislaid and cannot be found. He states that he sent said papers in the year 1833 and he is not now able to procure of the evidence of said John Roche. When he got his testimony he was in the State of Kentucky. If he be now living, he is in Fauquier County Virginia but he does not know whether he is dead or alive. He was a very old man last year when he obtained his testimony, being in his 87<sup>th</sup> year and is no doubt now dead

He states that he was born in Caroline County Virginia on the 24th June 1758. He has a record of his age in his Bible at his house in Clarke County. He was living in Spotsylvania County Virginia when he entered the service of the United States. After the war he lived in Spotsylvania County, Virginia until the fall of the year 1803 when he moved to the State of Kentucky and all the time he lived in Kentucky he has lived in Clarke County where he now resides. He has been absent however 10 or 12 years in the State of Ohio since he first came to Kentucky in 1803. For the last four years he has in residing where he now lives in Clarke County.

He is known in his present neighborhood to David Hampton Esq., Reverend John Alexander, Reverend factor Bush, George Hampton, Ezekeil Elkin, Lewis Grigsby and others who can testify to his character for veracity and they are believe of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Arnold



[p 21: John Alexander, a clergyman, and George Hampton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 7]

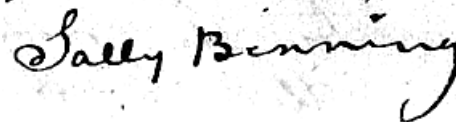
I John Gravit of Clarke [Clark] County Kentucky certify that I am at this time in the seventy ninth year of my age, that I am well acquainted with John Arnold who has subscribed the foregoing declaration for a pension. That during the revolutionary war I resided in the County of Spotsylvania in the State of Virginia, where the said John Arnold at that time resided. I further certify that during the war I served in the same Regiment with the said John Arnold which was the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Matthews and at Williamsburg joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment. I cannot state positively the length of time I saw him in service in the Army, but my best recollection is it was a period of ten or twelve months. I always understood that he served in the Army of the United States during the revolutionary or and or thereabouts. It was generally believed that he had served that length of time among the people in Spotsylvania County, at that time, and I have never heard it contradicted or doubted then or since by any person. I also understood that he had been in the battle of the Cowpens, and had been wounded in that battle, and that fact was generally reputed and believed. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Gravit,<sup>1</sup> X his mark

[p 8]

I Sally Benning of Clarke County Kentucky hereby certify that I am near 69 years of age according to the account of my age in my family. I am the sister of John Arnold the aforesaid applicant for a pension. During the revolutionary war I lived at the house of my father in Spotsylvania County Virginia, where the said John Arnold resided at the time he entered the service of the United States – I recollect the said John Arnold was absent from home in the United States Army sometime upwards of 3 years. And it was always understood and believed in the family that he served 3 years as a soldier in the revolutionary war and was wounded at the Battle of the Cowpens. The same was stated and believed in the neighborhood and I have never heard it contradicted or doubted by anyone. Sworn and subscribed this 9<sup>th</sup> of April 1834 in open Court

S/ Sally Benning

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally Benning". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[p 13: On October 22, 1840 in Clark County Kentucky an order was entered based on the testimony of Richmond Arnold and Henry Arnold that John Arnold, a late pensioner of the United States departed this life July 15<sup>th</sup> 1840; that Richmond Arnold is a lawful son and heir at law of John Arnold and administrator of the estate of John Arnold; that John Arnold resided in Clark County Kentucky for 30 years and upwards prior to his death and that he left no widow at his death.]

[p 16: final pension voucher:

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<sup>1</sup> [John Gravit S31083](#)

**Received from GAO**  
 RECEIVED of J. A. GRINSTEAD, Agent for paying Pensions,  
 LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY,  
 23. December 1840.  
 Dollars *10* Cents, being for *4* months *11* days  
 Pension, due to *John Amold David* from the 4th day of  
*March* 1840 to the *15* day of *July* 1840 for which I have signed  
 duplicate receipts  
*Richmond Amold* Auditor of Solu  
*Mark Amold David*  
*Miss R. Hervey*

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]