

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Barnes W2585      Elizabeth      fn60SC [sic, NC]  
Transcribed by Will Graves      7/15/10

[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.]

State of Tennessee McNairy County: SS

On this the 24th day of September in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of Our court of pleas and quarter sessions for said County now sitting William Barnes a resident of the State and County aforesaid aged seventy 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 7th of June 1832.

That he was born in the State of North Carolina in the year 1764 agreeable to the only best information I have, my Father was killed by the Indians and my mother died a few months thereafter consequently I have no record of my age. Shortly after my mother's death I went from North Carolina to a place not far from the falls of Pedee [River], there I resided until the year as well as he can recollect 1779, when he went to Rutherford County North Carolina where he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer Soldier in the said year 1779 under Captain Nimrod Terrell for the Term of three months. Our company joined Colonel Thomas Branons [Thomas Brandon's?] Regiment in Rutherford County, then we marched to near Augusta in the State of Georgia where we joined General Lincoln's Army, from here we marched to the Saluda River in South Carolina where we made a short stay from here we crossed the Savannah River and marched directly on to Bacon's bridge here we encamped some time from here we marched to Stono River, at this place we met the British when a battle was fought and General Lincoln was compelled to retreat. This Battle was fought sometime in the year 1779.<sup>1</sup> Owing to old age and the consequent loss of memory cannot state the precise date, I was in this Battle, from here my Company marched back to Augusta and my time of three months being out I was discharged. I do not recollect whether I received a written discharge or not if I did I presume it was signed by my Captain and is now lost or destroyed. From Augusta after I was discharged I returned to Rutherford County in North Carolina where I stayed, until sometime in the year 1780 -- the date I cannot now recollect, when I again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer soldier in the light horse which was then called the Dragoons, under Captain Jesse Johnson. Our Company was attached to Colonel Samuel Hammonds [Samuel Hammond's] Regiment. We joined him in Rutherford County North Carolina, from here we marched to near Ninety Six in South Carolina where we joined General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Army.

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<sup>1</sup> June 20, 1779

After being in camp for some time General Greene marched up into North Carolina and fought the Battle of Guilford. My self Company and Regiment did not go to Guilford with General Greene. We was sent through South Carolina to watch the British and Tories. We was marching from place to place, until we heard of General Greene's return from North Carolina and after the Battle of Guilford. We again joined the General Greene's Army not far from the Eutaw Springs -- when the whole marched directly to that place here we had a Battle with the British which was in the month of September 1781<sup>2</sup> as well as he now recollects. I was selected to guard some British Prisoners consequently I was not in the battle, a few days after the Battle our Regiment left General Greene and we marched to the River Saluda near Cook's ferry where we encamped for some time: while here information was received that the Indians called the Overhill Nation had become very Troublesome and doing all the mischief they could -- my Captain and 40 or 50 others together with myself left Colonel Hammonds and marched to a place called Reedy River [sic, Reedy River?] in South Carolina where we joined General Pickens [Andrew Pickens]. We marched under him directly to the nation we accomplished our business there in about one month then returned to General Pickens House in South Carolina, when we arrived there news was brought that Lord Cornwallis had surrendered, so I was discharged. I served in this Tour not less than twelve months the precise time I cannot say owing to old age and the consequent loss of memory. I do not recollect whether I ever received a discharge or not. If I did I presume is signed by my Captain and is now lost or destroyed. I have no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any state -- Dennis Barnes has been acquainted with me for a great number of years he can Testify as to my character, veracity and his belief and the neighborhood's belief generally of my being a soldier of the Revolution -- the said Dennis Barnes can also testify that I was absent from home and it was said I was out in the service of the United States. Achilius Walker a clergyman has been acquainted with me for some time he can also testify to my character for veracity and good moral character and his belief and the neighborhood's belief generally that I was a soldier of the revolution. After my discharge I went to Broad River in South Carolina where I lived six years then I moved to the State of Kentucky lived there about four years then moved to Smith County Tennessee lived there about four years from there to Warren County Tennessee lived there about six years from there to Stewart County Tennessee lived there three months from there to Hickman County lived there two years from there to Perry County Tennessee lived there sixteen years and from there to McNairy County where he now lives. Given under my hand --

Sworn & subscribed in open court the day & date above

S/ Wm S. Wisdom, Clerk

S/ Wm Barnes, X his mark

[fn p. 36: Dennis Barnes residing in McNairy County gave a standard supporting affidavit and adds that he knew William Barnes was absent from his residence and was reputed and believed to be in the United States service during the revolutionary war.]

[Archelaus Walker, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 34]

State of Tennessee McNairy County: SS

On this the 17th day of November in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared in Open Court before the Judge of our circuit Court now sitting for said County – Aaron Gage aged

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<sup>2</sup> September 8, 1781

seventy-six years old who being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and saith that he was acquainted with William Barnes who has sworn to the foregoing Declaration, during the revolutionary war, and that he is the Identical same Barnes to the best of my recollection, and that he recollects that said Barnes was under Captain Johnson and attached to Colonel Hammonds Regiment, myself being in the same company and Regiment with him, this affiant also states that the different marches which said bollards has mentioned in his declaration while under Colonel Hammond he recollects of having been performed from the long length of time and old age he cannot now state the length of time said arms served, but the said Affiant knows it was a long time he was in the service. Given under my hand the date above

Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court the date aforesaid

S/ Aaron Gage<sup>3</sup>

[fn p. 7: On June 6, 1853 in McNairy County Tennessee, Elizabeth Barnes, aged 40, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of William Barnes, a pensioner of the revolution at the rate of 60 dollars per annum; that she married him May 15 1834; that he died February 17 1844; that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 10: On February 11, 1857 in McNairy County Tennessee, Elizabeth Barnes aged about 45 years, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of William Barnes; in this application she states that her husband died in February 1849; that they were married April 15, 18\_\_by one Archillis Walker, a minister; that her name prior to her marriage was Elizabeth Bailey.]

[fn p. 13: copy of a marriage license issued May 13, 1834 in McNairy County Tennessee for the marriage of William Barnes to Elizabeth Bailey.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of 60 dollars per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one year service as a private in the cavalry and 3 months service as a private in the infantry during the revolution.]

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<sup>3</sup> [Aaron Gage S2229](#)