

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Willbanks W26069

Mary

fn85¹NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/13/10

[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. 174]

State of South Carolina Greenville District: On this 2nd day of February 1835 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Court of Ordinary for Greenville district now sitting Richard Willbanks a resident of the District of Anderson and State of South Carolina aged seventy-six 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 June 7th 1832.

That he entered in the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated -- He was living in Union District South Carolina at the commencement of the Revolutionary War but went on a visit to a Brother living in Bute County North Carolina and whilst there he volunteered for 3 months under the command of Captain Benjamin Sowell, and was stationed at Wilmington for the purpose of guarding the arsenal war magazine and public stores at that place. There were only two companies stationed there at this time. The other company was commanded by Captain Benson. The deponent does not recollect the exact date when this tour of service was performed but thinks it was just previous to the Siege of Charleston as he understood that the Regular troops which had been stationed in Wilmington were marched on to Charleston for the defense of that City. It was to supply the guard taken off by the removal of the regular troops, that these two companies of militia were stationed in Wilmington. This deponent served out his tour of three months but was taken sick in Wilmington, and not expected to live. He did not receive any written discharge, but was paid off for his services and dismissed.

After his recovery from sickness in Wilmington he returned to his home in Union District South Carolina and after the lapse of some time was then drafted for three months under Captain Benjamin Jolly and Colonel Thomas Brannon [sic, Thomas Brandon] and marched into the lower part of the State for the purpose of fighting the Tories who were infesting that part of the Country. He was marched near Camden and thence below Columbia. He served out this tour of three months and was marched home and discharged. Nothing of any importance occurred during the tour as they did not fall in with any of the enemy. There were no other troops in the company except Colonel Brandon's Regiment.

¹ At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

The third tour he was again drafted for 3 months and served under Major William Fair [sic, William Farr] & Lieutenant Richard Burgess who was acting as Captain. He was marched to Ancrum's Ferry, five miles below Columbia on the Congaree River and there stationed during the whole tour. He thinks there were not more than two or three companies stationed at that place at this time. He does not recollect the date of this tour but remembers it was in the fall of the year. He was with the rest of the company verbally discharged at the expiration of their service. There was nothing at all done during this tour at Ancrum's Ferry. He does not recollect that there was any higher officer in command than Major Farr.

The fourth tour was but for three weeks. He was drafted or called out under Captain William Wood for the purpose of joining the Main Army under General Greene then at the siege of "Ninety Six." He was marched to Ninety Six and there remained two weeks most assiduously at work in cutting trunks &c until the American Army was forced to retire by the arrival of fresh British troops for the relief of the place. General Greene retreated over towards North Carolina and this deponent got leave to return home having served not less than three weeks.

This deponent was about five years since placed on the pension roll of the State of South Carolina, but by an act of the Legislature passed in December 1833 all the pensioners of the State were stricken from the roll & ordered to make application to the United States for a pension under the act of June 1832. When this deponent was placed on the State pension he procure the affidavits of two living witnesses as to his services -- But now those witnesses have removed and it is not in his power to get their evidence again as he is blind, helpless and poor. He has no documentary evidence of his services & knows of no one whose testimony he can at this time procure as to his services.

He claims a pension for nine months and three weeks service as a private -- He was born in Virginia in 1758 in the month of March. He has no record of his age. He was living in Union District South Carolina when called into service but within a visit to North Carolina when he volunteered. He has lived in South Carolina ever since the Revolutionary War and now lives there. He was three times drafted or called out and once volunteered. He is not acquainted with any of the Regular officers and was not with any of them except at the siege of "Ninety Six." He never received a written discharge. He is known in his present neighborhood to the Reverend Mr. [illegible name] and Esquire Looper [?] who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief in 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 except that of South Carolina and by statute of this State all pensioners are stricken off and ordered to apply to the United States.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. He applies in Greenville District because it is more convenient & nearer.

S/ Richard Willbanks, X his mark

S/ Jno. Watson, O. G. D. & J. Q. E. JP

[fn p. 638: James Dauthit, a clergyman, and William Jameson [?] Gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 54: On June 8, 1854 in Habersham County Georgia, Mary Willbanks, 59, a resident of said County and State filed for her widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Richard Willbanks, a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$33.33 per annum for his services in the revolution; that he died in Pickens District South Carolina June 11, 1836; that she married him in April 1828 in Pickens District South Carolina; that they were married by Henry

Griffin, a Magistrate of said Pickens district; that before her marriage her name was Mary Lee; that she has no record of her marriage or her children's births; and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 116: on May 29, 1855 in Lumpkin County Georgia, Mary Willbanks aged 67, a resident of Cherokee County Georgia filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Richard Willbanks.]

[fn p. 145]

State of Georgia, Cobb County: Before me a notary public for said County came Richard H. Wilbanks aged 38 years a resident of Cherokee County Georgia who being duly sworn according to law says that he and his sister Nancy Lemaster (formerly Nancy Wilbanks) are the only two living children & heirs of Richard Wilbanks & Mary Wilbanks. That their father Richard is the name of the Soldier, who served in the Revolutionary War, but deponent cannot say in what organization or in what company or Regiment he served. That he died in the month of September 1837 in Pickens District South Carolina. That he was drawing a Pension at his death. That afterwards, about the year 1855 his widow Mary Wilbanks, applied for and received a pension, as the widow of Richard Wilbanks, and was paid until the beginning of the late war, when she received no more until June 1866 when she received own until her death, which occurred on the 10th of June 1870. That the widow Mary Wilbanks obtained a land warrant under the act of 1850 or 55 of 160 acres. The papers giving information of her death was sent on to the Department soon after her death in 1870.

S/ Richard H. Wilbanks, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$32.32 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months and 21 days service as a private