

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Absalom Nixon (Nixen, Nixson) W3033 Edith Nixon f90NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/27/17

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 86]

Declaration of Absalom Nixon

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of “An act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution” approved on the 15th of May 1828. – I Absalom Nixon of the County of Christian in the State of Kentucky – do hereby declare that I enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued in service until its termination, at which period I was a private in Captain Micajah Harris’s Company in the foot infantry, part of the Legion commanded by Colonel Henry Lee [Henry [”Light Horse Harry”] Lee]. –

And I also declare that I afterwards received a certificate for the reward of \$80 to which I was entitled, under a resolve of Congress, passed the 15th of May 1778. And I further declare that I was not, on the 15th day of March 1828, on the Pension list of the United States &

Sworn to before me the 30th day of December 1828

S/ Temple West, JP

S/ Absalom Nixson, X his mark

[p 88]

Additional declaration

This affidavit of Absalom Nixson taken in the town of Hopkinsville in the County of Christian & State of Kentucky before Temple West – a justice of the peace of said County.

The said Absalom Nixson name first duly sworn doth depose & say that he was born in the County of Prince Edward & State of Virginia, that he is aged 69 years – that he served a three months tour under Captain Silas Martin of Surry County, North Carolina as a private & a volunteer & in this tour was at the siege of Charleston.

That he was afterwards a private & a volunteer in a two months tour under Col. Shephard against the Tories on the River Yadkin.

That he joined Colonel Campbell's [William Campbell of Virginia] Regiment at the Shallow Ford of Yadkin & fought in the battle at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780].

That he was a private & a volunteer a three months tour under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], drove out as a Waggoner Major Mulberry's baggage wagon was at the Siege of “Ninety Six” [May 21-June 19, 1781] & there received a wound in his thigh being bayoneted by the enemy in a night Sally – that he served out this tour & on his return enlisted with the foot infantry for the war, in Lee's Legion, Micajah Harris, Captain & William Lee, recruiting Sergeant, the date of his enlistment was about the 7th July 1781 – that he was at the battle of Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1778] in the Station of baggage guard & served until regularly discharged – that he received a regular an honorable discharge from the Continental & three of

the regular discharges from the militia service – that he married Edy Farmer of Stokes County North Carolina and after the war while living in said County of Stokes his dwelling house was burnt & with it his discharges & other papers – that he has had a very large family, having 14 children yet living & four of them & his wife also living with him – that he has recently lost his best horse & has but one indifferent one left, that although of an excellent constitution he is becoming stiff & unable to work & with regret calls upon his Country for aid-- that he is very poor & feels the effects of his former fatigues more and more sensibly – that he has omitted to state that in a skirmish with the British he was thrown from his horse & had his shoulder broke that on this occasion his party being victorious he was rescued from the enemy but was badly wounded & much bruised – that his enlistment in Lee's Legion took place near the mouth of Tiger Creek that John Penix¹ & Garrett Andrews of Prince Edward Virginia & Michael Bryan of Tennessee were enlisted at the same time that he is informed Bryan is dead, & has been unable to learn anything of the others – that he is an ordinary laborer & has no trade.

Witness my hand this 30th day of December 1828.

S/ Temple West, JP

[p 81]

Revolutionary Claims

Treasury Department,
29 January 1829

Absalom Nixson of ___ in the County of Christian in the State of Kentucky has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that he enlisted in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued until its termination, at which period he was a Private in Col. Lee's ~~Company~~ Legion, in the ___ regiment of the ___ line; and that he received a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars, provided by the resolve of the 15th of May, 1778; and further, that he was not on the 15th of May, 1828, on the pension list of the United States, and that he has received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March, 1826, nothing

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary
S/ F. A. Dickins

Treasury Department,
Third Auditor's Office,
2nd of February 1829

~~It appears by the records of this office, that a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars has been issued to ___ in the ___~~

It further appears that Absalom Nixson is not now on the pension list of any agency, and has not been so since the 3rd March 1826—~~at the rate of ___ dollars per month.~~

The name of Absalom Nixson cannot be found among those of Colonel Lee's Legion to whom Certificates for the gratuity of Eighty Dollars were issued

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

General land office

1 [John Penick R8092](#) is the application of a man named John Penix or Penick who claimed service from Prince Edward County, Virginia during the Revolution.

12 February 1829

the name of Absalom Nixon does not appear on the List of Warrants issued by the Register of the Land Office at Richmond Virginia as far as they have been received.

S/ Geo. Graham
Commissioner

[p 65]

Commonwealth of Kentucky, Christian County

Before me – Samuel Younglove – a Justice of the place of Christian County aforesaid and the said Commonwealth of Kentucky personally appeared this day George Barnes of the said County, who did make Oath that he this deponent is about seventy-three years of age and doth further depose that Absalom Nixon is generally reputed and believed to have been a private in the Army of the Revolution, and this deponent being informed that the said Absalom Nixon has made his declaration & applied for the benefit of “An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution” approved on the 15th day of May 1828, doth further depose that he saw the said Absalom Nixon in service in the infantry of Lee's Legion at the siege of Ninety Six in the year 1782 [sic, May 21-June 19, 1781] from the fourth or fifth May in that year until the fourth or fifth of July then following that the said deponent frequently saw the said Absalom Nixon on duty as a sentinel and performing other duty as a private soldier as aforesaid in the infantry of said Legion, and this deponent further saith that he afterwards saw the said Nixon still in the same service at the high hills of Santee in the same year 1782 – and further saith that this deponent was at the siege of Ninety Six aforesaid at the time afore mentioned as a private in the Virginia Continental line in a Company commanded by Captain Pait (a rifle Captain) & also under the command of Major Ward. And further saith not.

Witness my hand this 29th day of August 1829.

S/ Saml. Younglove, JP

S/ George Barnes, X his mark

[p 4]

[State of Kentucky] County of Christian SS

On this fifteenth day of August 1831, Personally appeared in open Court being a court of record for the County and Circuit of Christian and the State of Kentucky Absalom Nixson resident of said County, aged Sixty-Nine years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March, 1818, and the 1st of May 1820: that he the said Absalom Nixson enlisted for the term of during the war, between the third and seventh day of July in the year 1781, in the State of South Carolina, in the Regiment or Legion of foot infantry commanded by Colonel Henry Lee in the line of the State of South Carolina on the Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in said Corps until the end of the war when he was discharged from the service in the State of South Carolina near the Eutaw Springs; that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, except the present; that his name is not on the pension roll of any State, except the one now applied for, and that the following all the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension, “When the first act of Congress passed allowing revolutionary soldiers a pension I lived in Rutherford County in the State of Tennessee, I then knew but one man by whom I could prove my service, & shortly after I found him, he was taken sick and died, previous to my removal to the State of Tennessee, my house was burnt in North Carolina and my discharge with it, on my removal to Kentucky I found George Barns² by whom I believe I am

2 Sic, [George Barnes S16316](#)

enabled to prove my services, And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or other wise disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed-- That is to say, One Cattle and yearling Calf, and Six hogs, by occupation a Farmer, old and infirm, six in family, that is myself aged 69, my wife Edy 65 years of age, Absalom 23, Temperance 28, Hesty 26 and Edy 25, all able to support themselves and of age, That, since the 18th of March 1818, there has been but few changes in my property I owned but little at that time or subsequently that I have lost some by death and other casualties, that I owned no land then nor since nor have I made any transfers or sales of property of any magnitude since that period.. Given under my hand.

S/ Absalom Nixon, X his mark

Sworn to and declared on the 16th day of August 1831 in open Court

Attest: S/ Jno. H. Phelps, C. C. C. C.

[p 6]

The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Christian County and Circuit

This day personally appeared in open Court George Barnes aged Seventy-Five years and made oath that he is well acquainted with the with him mentioned Absalom Nixson and knows him to be the identical person who has signed the foregoing declaration, That they were both together at the siege of Ninety Six and at the Battle of the Eutaw Springs, that shortly after the Battle of the Eutaw Springs we were both discharged on or about the same day, I by Colonel Armstrong and Nixon by Colonel Henry Lee.

S/ George Barnes, X his mark

[p 7]

The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Christian County Sct.

This day personally appeared Absalom Nixen in open Court before Benjamin Shackelford Esq. Sole Judge of the Christian Circuit Court for the Comth [Commonwealth] aforesaid and made oath according to law – That after the Revolutionary war he resided for many years in the State of North Carolina – that he removed from there to Lawrence [sic, Laurens] County in South Carolina – and lived there about eleven years from there he removed to East Tennessee near Knoxville where he resided two years – from thence he removed to Rutherford County in West Tennessee where he resided about 16 or 17 years and from thence he removed to Christian County Kentucky – where he now resides. That on the 18th of March 1818: he did not have of his own property more than one horse – 1 or two cows – and some little Household furniture in all not exceeding in Value \$125 – that he owned no land at that time nor since – that he hath made no changes or sales in his property to bring himself under the law of 1818 or any of the law for the benefit of the soldiers of the Revolution – that since the Burning of his Home near 44 years since in which he lost all he had – he has had but little property – that since the 18th of March 1818, he has made no changes or sales of property to bring himself under the law aforesaid – that he had a large family of children in all nineteen – raised fourteen of them – and has never had since that time more than a horse of but small value not exceeding at any one time \$30 – one or sometimes two cows & some few hogs – not exceeding in value more than \$30 together with, some small household stuff – that he has ever since that time been a very poor man

has always had to labor hard for the support of his family – that have ever since the 18th of March 1818 lived on rented land – and with all his labor was hardly able to pay rent for small places & support his family-- that the changes in his property has been generally the death of his Horse and the killing of cows & hogs for the use of his family – that lately he had even to sell his hogs to pay a part of his just debts – that he is not a drinking man – nor has his labor went on that way –That he now owns no land has nothing in trust for him by others – that he now owns one horse worth about \$20 has no cow – has one Sow & six pigs and his household furniture exceeding in value \$20 – that he is now in tolerable good health for his age and works daily for his living-- at light work – such as plowing, hoeing &c – that were it not for his children now with him he would hardly [be] able to subsist – that he makes this additional statement at the request of J. L. Edwards Esq. of the pension office.

Given under my hand this 20 of August 1832.

S/ Absalom Nixen, Q his mark

[p 10]

The Commonwealth of Kentucky, Christian County

This day personally appeared George Barnes in open Court before the Honorable B. Shackelford late Judge of the Christian Circuit Court – and is duly sworn states upon his oath that during the War of the Revolution he was well acquainted with Absalom Nixen and knows him to be the identical person who Served in the Regular Army under the Command of Colonel H. Lee the first acquaintance I had with Absalom Nixon was the said Nixon came with us from Augusta to White Hall in Abbeville County South Carolina – I was appointed Wagon Master in the place of our former one who died – and said Nixon was one of the guard on the route from Augusta to White Hall – and from that to Ninety Six and he was then in the Service of the United States under the Command of Colonel H. Lee and from the Siege of Ninety Six, we marched together to the Eutaw Springs – and that shortly after said Battle we were both discharged – that we now live in the same County and I am well satisfied he is the same man I knew while in the service that we are both very old and infirm – and are much in the need of the benefits that may result to us from the acts of Congress that said Nixon was Honorably discharged by Colonel Henry Lee near the Eutaw Springs – that the Closing of the War – Given under my hand this 20th of August 1832.

S/ George Barnes, X his mark

[p 61]

The Commonwealth of Kentucky Christian County Sct.

This day personally appeared Absalom Nixen of said County & State before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & for the Commonwealth and County aforesaid and made oath according to law that on the 16th day of August 1831 he made his declaration in the Christian Circuit Court and Commonwealth aforesaid in order to obtain a Pension under the Acts of Congress of the 18 March 1818 and 1st May 1820 upon which a Pension of Eight Dollars per month have been allowed him commencing on the 10th day of January 1833 – as will appear by his Pension Certificate from the War Department dated the 26th day of January 1833 – That having made his Declaration nearly Eighteen months before he is at a loss to know the reason why the Secretary of War did not allow his Pension to commence at an earlier period than the 10th day of January 1833 – and therefore desires that the Honorable Secretary of War will examine into the matter – and make him an additional allowance – for the period between the 16th August 1831 and the 10th January 1833 –

He further swears that I enlisted for and during the War of the Revolution – and having Served to the full end thereof and Received an Honorable discharge he is entitled to bounty land

