

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Sarrett (Sarretts) W312

Mary Sarrett

f62NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/13/09 rev'd 10/29/14

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

State of Tennessee Humphreys County: September Term of the Circuit Court 1832

On this 19th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Humphreys County John Serratt [sic] a resident of the County of Humphreys and State of Tennessee aged seventy-two 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States, as a volunteer, from Caswell County North Carolina, not long before the battle of Kings Mountain in the fall of the year 1780 as well as he recollects under the command of the following named officers, to wit -- his Captain's name was James Faulker [perhaps a mistaken attempt to refer to Capt. John Faulkner?], Major Dempsey Moore and Colonel William Moore, all of the North Carolina Militia of which company declarant was made Sergeant when he first entered the service -- these troops were called together for the purpose of arresting the progress of Major Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson], who was defeated and slain at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780]; he had at first joined the brave Colonel Williams [James Williams] who so gloriously fell in that action but was afterwards prevailed upon to go with his immediate neighbors under the command of Colonel Moore; by which means he was prevented from sharing the dangers and perhaps the glory of that memorable battle, Colonel Moore having joined General Butler [John Butler] who did not arrive at Kings Mountain, having heard of the battle at that place, while lying at the Island Ford on the Yadkin River -- from there declarant marched with General Butler down to South boundary of the State to the Six Mile Creek where declarant was taken sick and was left by the Army, and did not recover until this term of service expired -- which was three months.

The next spring declarant went sixty or seventy miles and volunteered under the command of Captain William Harden and was again made a Sergeant, this was as well as he recollects, in Chatham County -- on Deep River, near the Junction of Deep and Haw rivers -- here General Butler left the company to which declarant was attached to guard some stores for the use of the Army, at Ramsey's Mills, as there were some Tories under the command of Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] in the Country, who it was apprehended might destroy them if not guarded -- he reached this place a few days after the famous battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] -- the Army under General Butler left there so soon after he reached there, that he does not recollect the names of his Colonel and Major -- some time after this his Captain left there on account of the sickness his family, and for declarant was elected Captain pro tem by the Company to fill his place in his absence, which he did but had no commission, this term of

service also lasted three months, during all which time declarant was engaged in the same.

The next fall (perhaps in September) three days after the taking [September 12, 1781] of Hillsboro by the Tories declarant again volunteered in the militia of North Carolina, in the company commanded by Captain John McMullen, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel William Moore, the same with whom he served his first tour and also under the command of General Butler Major not recollected in the County of Orange, during this tour declarant was engaged in the battle of Livingston's Bridge [September 23, 1781], against the Tories and a small British force, the commanders of them, declarant does not now recollect, eight days subsequent to which time declarant was engaged in the battle of Brown Marsh,¹ at a place called Baldwin's plantations; during which engagement declarant lost his horse -- this engagement was against the Tories & British also -- in which he was defeated owing entirely, as declarant is of opinion, to the bad management of General Butler the commanding officer -- declarant recollects during this engagement to have seen Colonel Robert Mayben [Robert Mebane], a brave officer of the Continental line who was afterwards killed by a Tory -- also Colonel Adam Saunders [Adam Sanders] and Colonel Moore was engaged in this battle -- both of the latter of the North Carolina -- this term of service, in which declarant was engaged, lasted also three months, making altogether, nine months, which declarant served as a militia volunteer in the State of North Carolina.

Declarant was acquainted with Colonel Henry Dickson [Henry Dixon], Major Tilghman Dickson [Tilghman Dixon] and Major Anthony Sharp all of the Continental line, while he was in service --

Declarant obtained no discharge for his first tours served (being sick as before stated, when his term expired) for the second he received a discharge from Captain Hardin -- for the third and last tour he received a discharge from Captain Thomas Barnet, by authority of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], not being then with his regular Captain McMullen, both of which has long since been lost, he not supposing he would ever have a use for them. Declarant knows of no one living near him by whom he can prove his services -- William Mitchell² of Rutherford County Tennessee and Herndon Haralson³ of Heyward County Tennessee could establish the facts of his services, if he could procure their testimony.

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 -- to his knowledge. Declarant has for many years lived a neighbor to Jacob Browning and Mitchel Childress who can testify to his character as a citizen and as to the reputation of his having been a revolutionary soldier etc.

Questions by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer -- I was born in Caswell County, then attached to Orange, in the State of North Carolina, in the year 1760, according to the family records kept by my father, which record (copied from that of my father) I now have at home) in this County -- for answer to the second interrogatory I refer to the answer to the first

¹ Hershel Parker points out that if veteran is correct in placing the Battle at Brown Marsh as occurring 8 days after the engagement at Livingston's Bridge, it would date the Brown Marsh engagement as occurring on October 1, 1781. J. D. Lewis, however, says that based on all the sources he has seen, he remains convinced the engagement most likely occurred in late September, perhaps September 30, 1781.

² [William Mitchell S4221](#)

³ [Herndon Haralson S1828](#)

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans: -- I. lived as above stated in Caswell County, when called into service -- where I lived until a few years since -- when I removed to this state, first to Smith County, then to Rutherford, thence to Davidson, from which County I moved to Humphreys where I have lived ever since, about 13 years --

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans: -- I volunteered each tour I served --

The answer to the 5th question will be found fully in the body of this declaration, to which I respectfully refer the Department.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

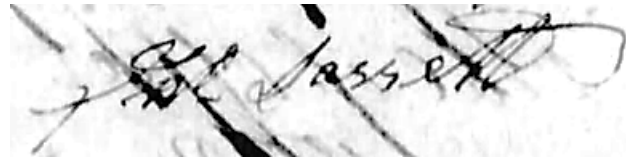
Ans: I received two discharges -- they were given by Captains Hardin and Barnet of the North Carolina Militia both of which I have long since lost.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans: I have already referred to Jacob Browning and Mitchel Childress Sheriff of this County who have long known me, and my character for veracity, and my general reputation as a soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court

S/ Jno Sarrett

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jno Sarrett", written over a light-colored background.

[Jacob Browning, a clergyman, and Mitchel Childress gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 60]

State of Tennessee Humphreys County: SS

In addition to the annexed papers heretofore filed & proven in the Circuit Court of Humphreys County John Serrat [sic] personally appeared in open court this 23rd of April 1833 before the County Court and being duly sworn makes the following additional declaration for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

He declares that the two witnesses to whom he referred in said declaration are individuals that resided in the same neighborhood with him during the time his services were performed as stated in the annexed declaration & he presumed they knew of his having been in the Army & one of them Mitchell served a tour of three months only with him -- & he presumes could prove no more -- that said Witnesses reside at a considerable distance from him -- each over one hundred miles in different directions from him & that the declarant is so aged & infirm that he could not without great inconvenience & trouble procure their testimony & then their testimony would prove but little more, than the affidavits accompanying his petition -- he further states that the accompanying declaration as heretofore made is true.

Sworn to in open Court this 23rd of April 1833

S/ D. P. Hudson, Clerk

S/ Jno. Sarrett



[Jacob Browning, D. D., a clergyman, and Mitchel Childress gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 10: On January 10, 1840 in Benton County Tennessee, Mary Sarrett, about 75 years old, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Sarrett, a pensioner for his services in the revolution; that she married him March 18 1783; that he died September 7, 1834; and that she remains his widow. In an attached affidavit she states that she married her husband in Caswell County North Carolina; that they were married by John Womack, Esquire a justice of the peace; that she has a record of her marriage recorded in the family record 22 years ago in Davidson County by the Reverend Jacob Browning in his handwriting. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 12 family record]

Births

Elizabeth Sarrett the daughter of John Sarrett & Mary his wife was born March the 19th 1784

Sally Sarrett was born September the 24 1786

Joseph Sarrett was born December 30th 1789

William Sarrett was born October 20th 1792[could be 1791]

Deaths

Washington Lafayette Sarrett the son of Wilson M. Sarret & Esabella his wife was born Aug. 4th 1825 and Dec'd April 26, 1789 [this note could relate to the above named Sally Sarrett as it appears opposite the entry of her birth

Eliza Caroline Sarrett was born Febry 11th 1827

| FAMILY RECORD. | |
|---|--|
| BIRTHS. | DEATHS. |
| Elizabeth Sarrett the daughter of John Sarrett & Mary his wife was born March the 14 th 1766 | Washington L. Fayette Sarrett the son of Wilson M. Sarrett & Esabella his wife was born Aug. 15 th 1826 |
| Sally Sarrett was born Sept. the 23 rd 1766 | And Dec. April 26... 1839 |
| Joseph Sarrett was born December 30 th 1768 | Eliza Caroline Sarrett was born Feb. the 11 th 1829 |
| Wilson Sarrett was born Oct. 20 th 1774 | And Dec. 4 th 1839 |

Marriages

John Sarrett and his wife Mary was Married in the year of our Lord 1783 on the 18th of March

John Sarrett and his wife Mary was Married in the year of our Lord 1783 on the 18th of March

[p 14: Affidavit dated January 10, 1840 given by Jacob Browning indicating that he prepared the above family record at the request of the veteran.

Jacob Browning

[p 20: affidavit that Mary Sarrett died October 19, 1843 survived by the following children: Elizabeth Browning, Joseph, Wilson M., Parthena Sarrett, Charles M., Atilla Bruce, Mary Lashter [?], Eliza Stephenson, Mahala. Mary also had the following children who predeceased her: Sarah and John B. Sarrett.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 3 months and as a Sgt. for 6 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]