

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Leonard Bowers W49

Rebecca Bowers

MD

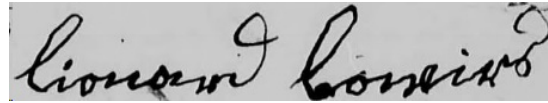
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 6 July 2014.

State of Tennessee Carter County.

September Term 1832.

On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832. personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Samuel Powel Judge of the Circuit Court of Law & Equity for said County now sitting Leonard Bowers aged Seventy two years a resident of s'd County who being 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 is Seventy two years of age. that he enlisted in the Army of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. towit that being at the time a resident citizen of Hagerstown Maryland and rased therein he in the spring of the year 1778. Enlisted in Frederik [sic: Frederick] Town in the State of Maryland for the Term of three years under Colonal Otto H. Williams [sic: Otho Holland Williams] of said Town was put under the command Cap'n Gasland and marched to the Valley forge where had been the winter quarters of Washingtons Army during the preceeding winter. & there placed under the command of Cap'n. James Summervell [sic: James Sommervell], Colonal [Benjamin] Ford & Maj'r. [John] Hardman, where he remained a short time when he was marched to Monmouth where the Army arived about the last of June where there was a severe Battle [28 Jun 1778] in which the american army kept the Ground. when night had caused the Armies to cease fireing & the British retreated from there was marched to the white plains where he remained untill toward the fall of said. from there was marched to the Baskin Ridge [sic: Basking Ridge NJ] where he with the army took winter quarters and remained untill Spring. he states that during the Summer of 1779. he was stationed at the Buttermilk falls on the north River & worked at the west point Fort on said River about one mile & half above the Buttermilk falls. he states that he does not recollect his particular marches during said summer & fall but the Army took winter quarters at wickses farm said to be about four miles from Morristown in the spring of 1780 was marched to Trentown [sic: Trenton] and to Burlington where he with the army took water and sailed by Philadelphia and to a little Town called Middle Town [Middletown] in the State of Delaware as well as now recollected where he was marched to the head of Elk [now Elkton MD]. Christian [sic: Christiana] Bridge then to Baltimore, Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] Va. Richmond, Petersburg Hillsbor [sic: Hillsborough, NC] he states that he also was marched through Salsbery [sic: Salisbury NC] Charlot [sic: Charlotte] North Carolina to Rugeleys Mill said to be within twelve miles of Camden, where he remained some days when the Battle was fought in which General [Horatio] Gates was defeated [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780], in which Battle this declarant was taken prisoner by the British & retaken again by the Americans. the American army again rendezvoused at Hillsborough. at which place, or Charlot, as well as now recollected General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] took the command [3 Dec 1780]. does not know what became of General Gates after the said Battle of Camden he remained under General Green untill General [Daniel] Morgan took three hundred infantry out of General Greens army, at what particular palce he was placed under General Morgan he does not now recollect. was marched under General Morgan across Broad River and lay some days between Broad River & Pacolet River. was then marched up between the two said Rivers, with Colonals [William] Washington & Lees hors [Henry Lee's horse troops]. to the Battle of the Cowpens [17 Jan 1780] near Broad River in which Battle the americans were successful, said to have taken five hundred prisoners & Eleven hundred stand of arms. from there was marched as well as now recollected to a small vilage called Morgantown. from thence to Salsberry across the Yadkin River and on untill he joined General Greens army in Va having been closely pursued by the British from the Cowpens untill he joined General Greens army as aforesaid he states that shortly after he joined General Greens army he was marched to Gilford Courthouse where there was a hard Battle between the Americans & British in which the Americans barely kept their Ground [sic: see note below], which was in the month of March

which was the last engagement he was in & after which he was discharged in the course of some short time his three years having expired, when he was discharged by his said Captain Somerville under whom he had served throughout the whole of his servitude & returned home which discharge he has in the lapse of time lost. He states that he has no documentary evidence, nor is there any person by whom he can prove his said services. nor is there any resident minister of the Gospel by whom he can establish his said services from reputation as directed by the instructions of the War Department. He hereby relenquishes 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.



NOTES:

At the Battle of Guilford Courthouse on 15 March 1781, the British, not the Americans, held the ground.

On 9 Nov 1844 Rebecca Bowers, aged 75 on 24 March 1844, applied for a pension stating that she married Leonard Bowers on 2 Aug 1785, and he died 5 Oct 1840. Abraham Nave, 72, certified the marriage. On 5 March 1845 Abraham Naves, 76, and John Nave, 74, (as each signed) stated that the marriage of Leonard Bowers to their sister took place in their father's house on the farm where Leonard Bowers lived until he died and where his widow still lived, and that the ceremony was officiated by Joshua Kelley, a Baptist minister.. On 8 July 1845 John Nave, Sr. stated that he wrote the family record in Leonard Bowers's Bible, which is transcribed below.

The file includes a copy of the will of Rebecca Bowers dated 31 Mar 1849 naming her son, Lenard Bowers, as heir. Mark W. Nave was a witness. The will also mentions a grandson, Allen Bowers as well as Megetimate Hays, son of Nancy Ann Hays, formerly Nancy Ann Bowers.

On 8 Feb 1851 Leonard Bowers, 49, stated that Rebecca Bowers died on 20 Sep 1849.

Leonard Bowars was born in the 1760 in the fall of the year

Rebekah bowars was born in the year 1769 the 24 day of mach

William bowars was born in the year 1787 the 22 day of may

Valantine bowars was born in the year 1788 the 23 day of Sptember

Henry bowars was born in the year 1790 the 23 day of august

John bowars was born in the year 1792 the 27 of January

[Eliza]beth Bowers was born in the year 1795 the 6 day of march

David Bowers was born in the year 1799[?] the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December

Leonard Bowers Jnr was born in the year [appears to be 1811 but probably should be 1801] the 30<sup>th</sup> day of october

Rebakah Bowers was born in the year 1803 the 22 day of September

Mary Bowers was born in the year 1806 the 13 day of october

Anna Bowers was born in the year 1808 the 10 day of october

Jesse bowars was born in the year 1809 the 30 day of october

Margait Bowers was born in the year 1812 the 11<sup>th</sup> day of September

Mary Bowers waus borned in the 17<sup>th</sup> [two or three illegible words] June

William J Bowers [several illegible words] June 11 day 1831

Leonard Bowers

Leanard Bowers was born in yer 186 the 6 day of oCtober

Lenard Bowers

Lenard Bowers was Born in the [illegible] the 30 day of oCtober

Mary Bawers waus Baurnd in the yer an

David P. Bawers waus baurnd in the yer 1831 the 11 day of June