

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Bazeleel Norman W5429 Fortune Norman MD
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 June 2023.

State of Ohio SS } On this 14th day of May 1818 before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the
Washington County } Court of common Pleas within and for the County of Washington
personally

appeared Bazallel Norman Resident in said County who
being by me first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to
obtain the provisions made by the late 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. I Bazaleel Norman of
the Township of Roxbury County of Washington and State of Ohio being as I believe a person entitled to
a pension under the act of congress passed March 18th 1818 entitled an act to provide for certain persons
engaged in the Land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War do agreeable to the
provisions in said act make this Declaration on under the solemnities of an oath I enlisted in the fall of the
year 1777 into the Company commanded By Capt Richard Anderson as a private soldier and in the 7th
Regiment commanded by Colo. John Gunby in the Maryland line and served my country against the
common enemy until the close of the war on the continental establishment when I was Discharged under a
general order I was in the Battles of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], Campden [sic: Battle of Camden SC, 16
Aug 1780], Cowpens [17 Jan 1781] Gilford Courthouse [sic: Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] &
the Eutaw springs [SC, 8 Sep 1781] I am now 57 years old since the 12th day of July last past and all I am
worth If my Just Debts were paid would not be more that 60 Dollars under these circumstances I can
safely say I stand in need of the assistance of my country for support. And I have no other testimony to
prove my aforesaid services by —

State of Ohio }
Washington County SS }

On this 25th day of July 1820 personally appeared in Open Court being a Court of record for the
County of Washington and State of Ohio Bazaleel Norman aged Sixty three years resident in said County
who being first duly Sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary
war as follows (to wit) in Captain Richard Andersons Company in the seventh regiment of the Maryland
line commanded by Col. Gunby: that he applied for a pension on the 14th day of May 1818 and received a
Pension Certificate numbered 8,229 And 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 in any manner
disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within
the provisions of an Act of Congress passed the 18th day of March 1818. 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. & 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 & by me Subscribed. Bazeleel hisXmark Norman

Schedule

100 acres of land third rate, two old Horses the one 14 & the other 17 years old. One Cow 14 years old
one spring calf, one two years old Heifer, two yearling calves, two sheep & two Lambs, one Sow & Eight
Pigs. Three old Kitchen chairs without bottoms, one old Crock. 4 Pewter plates, 4 old Knives & Forks one
old Bucket one shovel Plough. 1 old broken Pot 1 Log chain. One 7 gallon Kettle one small broken Bake
Pan 4 old pewter spoons. an old drawing Knife. and old handsaw. two old Chissels. One small fire Shovel.
one old axe. one old hoe. one worn wedge

Debts owing by me to others. — One hundred & twenty five dollars to Joel Adams. Thirty six dollars to
Dudley Woodbridge. Fourteen dollars & seventy cents to Augustas Stone. Twenty eight dollars to John

Chamberlin Twenty dollars to Aquilla Norman ten dollars to Jonathan Wilson. Six dollars to Charles Norman. Five dollars to Corner Ellis. Two Dollars & fifty cents to Timothy Blackmore. Twenty eight Dollars to David Gaurd. Twelve dollars to Dr. Baldwin and Twelve dollars to James Biles. – As to my Family I have none at home but my wife, one son & a Grandchild an Orphan my Wife is 63 years of age & very infirm. my son wants only about a month of being 21 years of age. My Grandchild is a Girl about eight years old & very weakly. The rest of my Children are of age & Doing for themselves. I am by occupation a Farmer, but owing to age & infirmity I am unable to do very little toward supporting myself
Bazaleel hisXmark Norman

NOTES:

The 1820 and 1830 federal censuses for Roxbury Township, Washington County OH, list the following “Free Colored Persons:”

1820: Bazzell Norman Males: 2 14-25, 1 over 45; Females: 1 under 14, 1 14-25, 1 over 45

1830: Bazel Norman Males: 1 55-100; Females: 1 under 10, 1 10-24, 1 24-36.

The file includes the following pension application with a large X drawn over it. This application by Matthias Tison does not appear to have been filed. John Tison certified Matthias Tison’s poverty.

State of Ohio } On this tenth day of September 1818 before me the subscriber one of the
Washington County } Associate Judges of the Court of Common pleas within and for the said
County

personally appeared Matthias Tison aged 71 years resident in said County who being by me first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the late 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: That he the said Matthias Tison enlisted in town of Goshen in the State of New York in the Company Commanded by Capt John Little and Regiment Commanded by Collonel Isaac Nichols; That he continued to serve in the said corps Nine months when he was taken sick and obtain’d leave to go home and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services

On 14 Apr 1837 Fortune Norman, “aged upwards of seventy years,” applied for a pension stating that she married Bazeleel Norman near Montgomery Courthouse MD while he was still in service, and he died 17 July 1830. On 18 April 1837 James Stephens certified that he witnessed the marriage of Bazaleel and Fortune Norman in September 1782, and that Bazaleel Norman died “by falling from a rock as is supposed (his family missing him on the seventeenth day and found him Dead at the foot of a precipice the Day following.” On 1 Sep 1837 Fortune Norman stated that she and Bazeleel Norman were married “in Sept. previous to the Declaration of Peace” by Rev. Thomas Reed.

In Sep 1846 David Gard and Joseph Palmer stated that Fortune Norman died 3 Feb 1841, that she and Basil Norman had moved from Virginia to Washington County OH 25 to 30 years previously, and that the following were their children: “First, Rebecca Grayson, a widow, the oldest child, living in Wesley Washington County. Second, Aquilla Norman, living in Union Washington County. Third Basil Norman, living in Roxbury Washington County. Fourth, James Norman, who is dead, leaving two children, Lucinda Baldwin, a widow, and Columbus Norman of Roxbury Washington County Fifth, Joseph Norman who is dead, leaving Sarah Ann Norman, Mary Ann Norman, Betsey Ann Norman, all minors.”

On 16 Jan 1847 Aquilla Norman assigned power of attorney to obtain any pension still due for his mother, Fortune Norman.

