

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Rowe W57

Ruth Rowe f27SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 12/07/09 & 6/7/15

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

[p 6]

State of Tennessee, Lincoln County

On this 16th day of October in the year of our Lord 1832, personally appeared in open court before T. H. Shaw [?], Jacob E. Waggoner, John Loner [?] Gentlemen Justices of the Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions for Lincoln County, Tennessee now sitting, Benjamin Rowe, a resident of the County of Lincoln and State of Tennessee age Seventy four 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 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was born in Halifax County, State of Virginia on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of April 1758 and that he has a record of his age taken from his father's family Bible and that it is at his house. He was drafted in September 1778. This applicant cannot now recollect the day of the Month he entered the Service at that time he was living in Lawrence [sic, Laurens] district State of South Carolina. James Pollard was his Captain his lieutenant's name he has forgotten, Robert Finney was his Ensign; James Williams was his Colonel and Robert McCrary Robert McCreary], Lieutenant Colonel for the term of three months. They marched through Abbeville district and crossed the Savannah River and went into the State of Georgia; went on into the Cherokee nation and there attacked a small party of the Indians and defeated them. The place where the battle took place was on the head waters of the Okmulgee River. They after the battle returned again to the State of Georgia and from thence home to Laurens district in South Carolina where they were dismissed some time in December of the same year. He further states that he never received any written discharge for this term of service.

This applicant volunteered in 1779 in Laurens district South Carolina where he was living when called into service about the first of the month of March under lieutenant Dial who commanded the company; James Williams was Colonel commandant of the regiment; Frank Taylor was adjutant of the Regiment; William Mulwee [sic, William Milwee]<sup>1</sup> and James Henderson were Captains in the same Regiment; they marched on and joined General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] who was at that time encamped near Augusta; crossed the River Savannah at Augusta and pursued the British forces towards the town of Savannah Town in the State of Georgia; then recrossed the river and joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] who was encamped near the same river. General Lincoln then proceeded with his forces to

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<sup>1</sup> [William Milwee W9200](#)

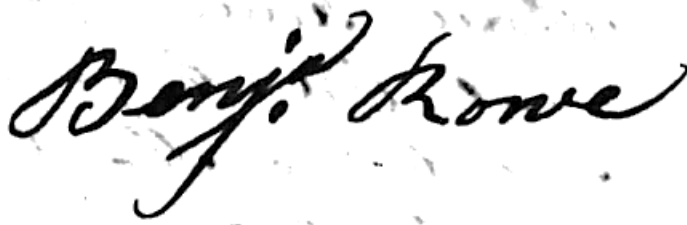
Dorchester South Carolina and stayed there some days and then marched near Stono fort in the same State and on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 1779 attempted to storm the fort but failed in doing so and about the 10<sup>th</sup> of July of the same year the Campaign broke up and the troops were dismissed and sent home. This applicant states that in this tour he served four months and ten or twelve days and also that he never received any written discharge for said term of service. A man by the name of Mason was Colonel of one of the regiments in General Lincoln's continental Brigade and Captain Doggal [sic, Doggett or Doggatt] commanded a company in Colonel Mason's regiment and was killed at the Battle of Stono fort and Lieutenant Dial was killed also in the same battle. This applicant volunteered again in the month of March 1780 in Laurens District South Carolina where he was living when called into service and went out under Lieutenant Watts [Richard Watts] who had command of a company under Colonel Williams. They marched into the State of Georgia near Augusta and joined General Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke] near Augusta; stayed there some time; Crossed the river again into South Carolina under the command of Colonel Pickens afterwards General Pickens; marched thence to Camden South Carolina at which place they heard of the surrender of Charlestown; after hearing of which they marched into Newberry District South Carolina and were discharged until further orders which was about the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1780. We took home with us our arms.

In April we received orders to meet again to enter the service under Col. Hays [sic, Joseph Hayes] who succeeded Col. Williams who got killed in the intermediate [?] at Kings Mountain, i.e., Ferguson's Defeat [October 7, 1780]. This was in the year of 1781 and Daniel Williams was my captain who succeeded Capt. James Pollard who was taken by a party of Tories and carried to Charlestown South Carolina and there died with the small pox and Lieutenant Watts moved to the State of Virginia during the time of the discharge, and the orders to meet again. We joined General Greene [Nathanael Greene] at Peach Hill about ten miles from ninety six. Marched to ninety six and layed [sic, lay] siege to the place about 30 days. The siege remained by the British getting a reinforcement from Charlestown under the command of Rodden [sic, Rawdon]; his rank he cannot now recollect. We then retreated a place called the Cross Roads in South Carolina in Chester District where Chester Court house now stands; stayed there some days; moved down to the Congaree River after some days. General Greene sent Col. Hayes with his regiment near Ninety Six to watch the maneuvers of the British; when we got there we found the British were moving position; we followed none in some distance towards Charlestown; we then returned home to Laurens District South Carolina and found the Tories in a scattered situation and Col. Hayes thought it expedient to raise a company of Rangers of which Company the applicant was one under the command of Captain Oliver Toils [sic, Oliver Towles] who had been a continental Captain which last[ed] until the last of October or the first of November 1781 about which time Captain Tolls [sic, Oliver Towles] was killed at his station while a part of the Rangers were out scouting and the company's was dissolved at the different periods of service mentioned. Your applicant live[d] in Laurens District South Carolina. He never received any written discharge for any term of service. He lived in the District and State aforesaid at all the times when he was called into Service. After [the] war, this applicant lived in Laurens District South Carolina until 1816; then he moved to Lincoln County Tennessee where he now lives in all the services he has used or mentioned in this declaration he has served sixteen months. He has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. 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 in the United States. He is known in his present neighborhood to George

W. Harris, Philip Knouce, Esqr., and Absalom Beard who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

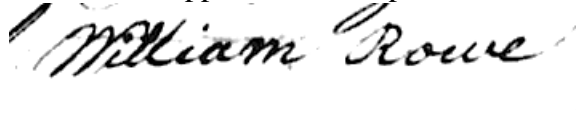
S/ Benj. Rowe

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Benj. Rowe". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[Benjamin Walker, a clergyman, and Absalom Beard gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 12: on Marched 29, 1850 in Lincoln County Tennessee, Ruth Rowe, 80, filed for a widow's pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of Benjamin Rowe a pensioner at the rate of \$80 per annum for his services in the revolution; that she married him August 13 1788; that her husband died May 2, 1849 in Lincoln County Tennessee; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 24: William Rowe testified on the March 29, 1850 in Lincoln County Tennessee that he is the son of Benjamin and Ruth Rowe. He authenticates the family record set out above in support of his mother's application for a pension.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Rowe". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right. A closing bracket "]" is located below the signature.

[p 4: family Record]

Benja. Rowe was born April 16 1758  
and was married August the 13th 1788

Ruth Rowe was born June 10 1770

John Rowe was born June before 1789

Mary Rowe was born December the 21 1790

Rachel Rowe was born October the 7th 1792

Betsey Rowe was born October the 22 1794

Elihu Rowe was born January the 15th 1797

Leseann rose was born January the 26 1799

Temperance row was born October the 14th 1801

Melinda Rowe was born February the 4 [?] 1804

William Rowe was born October the 22 1806

Metilda the Rowe was born August the 29 1809

[Scroll down for an image of the family record]

Benj<sup>a</sup> Rowe was born April <sup>the</sup> 16. 1759  
And was married August the 13. 1788  
Ruth Rowe was born June the 10. 1770  
John Rowe was born June the 11. 1789  
Mary Rowe was born December the 21. 1790  
Rachel Rowe was born October <sup>the</sup> 17. 1792  
Betsey Rowe was born October <sup>th</sup> 22. 1792  
Elihu Rowe was born January <sup>th</sup> 15. 1797  
Lescann Rowe was born Jan<sup>y</sup> <sup>th</sup> 26. 1799  
Somprance Rowe was <sup>born</sup> October <sup>the</sup> 12. 1801  
Melinda Rowe was born February <sup>th</sup> 1. 1804  
William Rowe was born October <sup>th</sup> 22. 1806  
Metilda Rowe was born August <sup>th</sup> 29. 1809  
In Teste of the above Leges  
Signed by me Benj<sup>a</sup> Rowe

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the South Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]