

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Bertie W8126

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of N. Carolina } SS  
Yancey County }

On this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D. one thousand Eight hundred and fifty one personally appeared before me David Byrd, an acting Justice of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions (a Court of record) in and for said County and State, Hanah Bertie, a resident of sd County, aged ninty five years, and who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7 day of July 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows": That she is the widow of John Bertie who was a private soldier in the company commanded by Captains Pope & Smith in the Regiment of NCarolina State line commanded by Colonels Sumpter [sic: Thomas Sumter] & [John] Butler in the war of the Revolution, the officers above named are all that she can now recollect, though she yet remembers the names of many persons with, and under whom her said husband stated he served, but her memory being deficient she cannot state for a certainty whether they were Captains or Colonels. That her husband lived at the time he entered the service as aforesaid in the County of Orange and state of N.Carolina, and that as well as she can now recollect (from his own statement) he enlisted for during the war, and that she has often heard him state, that he served to the end of said war. She states that, she has frequently heard her husband the said John Bertie speaking of being in several Battles, and one that she recollects was Guilford Court House [15 Mar 1781], and at that time she thinks he (her husband) was attached to General Green's [sic: Nathanael Greene's] Army. She says that she was personally acquainted with the said John Bertie before he entered the service of the Revolution, and that the war had been going on but a short time when he enlisted, and she thinks he came home some four or five times, while the war lasted, and then only remained but a short space of time.

Declarant further states that she has no documentary evidence of her marriage nor of her husbands service, that in the year AD 1834 before said John Bertie's death, Thomas Gardner Esqr prepared declaration for him, and that he informed her husband that he could get evidence of his services at Raleigh, and which he was to do, but before all the papers were completed and sent on, her husband the aforementioned John Bertie Died, and the whole stoped. That the only reason she can assign for not making application for a pension before this period is this, "she knew not where she could find any one to prove the marriage, as they had written to Rowan County N.C., and could find no evidence there She further states, that a short time since Mr William Ledford returned to this county, and being an old acquaintance of her husband he came to see her, and in conversation informed her that he was an eye witness to that marriage of himself and John Bertie, and that if this circumstance had not have ocured she should not have applied for the Pension, as her relations had made diligent search for evidence of Marriage, but had found none before this as above refered to. That she was married in Rowan Co. N.C. She further declares, that she was married to the said John Bertie on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine, (or about that date) that her husband the aforesaid John Bertie died on the ninth day of January one thousand eight hundred and thirty five, that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January seventeen hundred and ninty four, viz at the time above stated.

Hanah herXmark Bertie

State of N. Carolina } SS  
Yancey County }

On this 3<sup>d</sup> day of February AD one thousand Eight hundred and fifty two personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County & State Thomas Gardner Sen and who being by me first duly sworn according to Law declares on his oath that about the year 1834 one John Bertie a citizen of said county applied to him to get a

Declaration wrote claiming the benefit of the Act of Congress 7 June 1832 & that he wrote out one, and as well as he can now recollect said Bertie stated that he enlisted for & served during the Revolutionary war & that one of his Captain's names was Pope (the others he can't recollect) and that his Colonels were of the name of Sumpter, Lopp and Buttle, and that said Bertie also stated that he was under Generals [Horatio] Gates & Green. That the above is all he can now recollect, though he mentioned several other officers. Declarant further states that about the time he finished said Declaration, the aforementioned John Bertie died (that is before he sent it on) and the whole stoped, that he preserved said paper for some time, but thinking it of no use, he is of the opinion that he (Gardner) burned it, at least he cannot find among his papers and that he has made diligent search for it. That said John Bertie died in January 1835 and left a widow by the name of Hanah.

[signed] Thomas Gardner