

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Christopher Barlow W8341

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky Washington County Sct.

On this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 1834 personally appeared in open court in the Washington Circuit Court now in session Christopher Barlow a resident citizen of said county aged 77 years on the first day of last January, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions of the act of Congress passed on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 1832. He states that he first entered the service of the united states as a soldier in the american revolution, in the county of Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] and state of Virginia in the spring of the year he thinks about the last of March in the year 1776 as well as he can now remember, in this service he was drafted as a private in the militia, the length of time for which he was drafted he does not remember, he was drafted in this tour and served as he will hereafter state in a company commanded by Captain Rucker he thinks his given or Christian name was Aylett [see endnote]. In this Service he was not called upon to perform any active duty, nor was he in any engagements with the British; After he was drafted, he together with the rest of the company rendezvoused at Col. Ephraim Rucker's place of residence, and there remained for the length of time he continued in this tour and was mustered for service by the company officers, almost daily, expecting to receive orders to march to some other place of destination for active service, but no such orders that he is apprized of were ever received, the troops there stationed & embodied were paid off and discharged, and himself amongst the number. His discharge was given him by the Captain of the company, when he returned home – From old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of time he served as he has stated above but he thinks it was three months; nor can he swear certainly who was the colonel of the company, but he well remembers that Col. Ephraim Rucker was a colonel in the county and he inclines to think the company he was in was under his command after they were drafted for actual service he well remembers that he was drafted by Col James Barber [sic: James Barbour], and that his captain was the son of Colonel Rucker.

The second tour he served was in the regular or continental service, in this he enlisted for two years; at the time of his enlistment he still lived in Culpepper, but he enlisted in Rockingham County Virginia [sic: formed from Augusta County in 1778], under Captain Michael Bowyer, his lieutenant was of the name of Robert Gammel [sic: Robert Gamble], and the Ensign was of the name of John McDowell [see endnote]. Strutton was the orderly Sergeant, and another Sergeant he remembers was of the name of Anthony Mustoe. he enlisted in the service as well as he can remember in the month of June in the year 1776 as to the year he is not confident, but this is his best impression & recollection – In this service there was but a single company embodied, and we were not attached to any Redgiment, and had no colonel or major during the time for which he enlisted. [See endnote.] After the company of Captain McDowell [sic] was completed, it was marched to Tigers Valley [sic: Tygart Valley] on the head or near the head waters of the Monongahala [sic: Monongahela] River, at West Falls fort [sic: Westfall's Fort just S of present Beverly WV] – This force was sent out to the frontiers of the state of Virginia, for the purpose of guarding the settlers from the invasions of the Indians, who were at & about the time of this force being sent there in the frequent habit of committing depredations upon the settlements of the whites. He continued to serve in the fort aforesaid as a soldier under Captain McDowell [sic] until his term of enlistment (two years) expired, when he was discharged by the captain and again returned home.

He has said that this service was in the continental service in this he may be in error, but the service he has stated, and it may have been the case that the said troops were raised by state authority; he enlisted in the ordinary way of enlisting regular or continental soldiers – After he returned from his service at Tigers Valley in the latter part of the summer of 1779 or 1780 he is not confident which but thinks it was 1779 he

was drafted in the Militia to serve three months, at the time he lived in the county of Rockingham State of Virginia – he was put into a company commanded by Capt John Peters, soon after he had been put under his command however he was marched with other troops to the city of Richmond where they were put under the command of superior officers, but who was the Colonel of the Redgiment to which he belonged he does not remember Major Rush as well as he recollects, was the commandant of one of the Battallions of the redgment, and it was his battalion to which he belonged – the troops to which he belonged were stationed all the time of his service at Richmond and were discharged there himself amongst the number, but he inclines to think the three months for which they were drafted had not expired; nor can he swear with any degree of certainty as to the exact length of time he did serve on this tour. His best recollection is, that it was two months. After he returned home he again, in the year 1781 in the early part of the month of June was again drafted, in the militia to assist in expelling the British forces, who were then, endeavouring to over run the country at the time of his being drafted to serve this tour he resided in Rockingham county Virginia he served in a company commanded by Captain Rush [possibly John Rush] from Rockingham the company marched to a place called the Maubin hills [sic: Malvern Hills, 15 mi SE of Richmond], and the Burnt Chimneys, at which places we remained a considerable while, here the forces assembled, and Generals Wayn, Campel, Steuben, & Layfette [sic: Anthony Wayne, William Campbell, Baron von Steuben, and Lafayette] were with the troops from the Maubin hills the troops moved to the burnt chimneys. there he was put in the infantry, under the command of Captain Haring [probably William Herring], in a redgment commanded by Colonel [John] Willis – Guy Hambleton [sic: Gawen Hamilton] was our major. from this place we marched to the Sige of York [Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep – 19 Oct 1781] where he remained for some time and was discharged having served out the tour for which he was drafted and returned home – he cannot swear positively as to the length of time he served in this tour but feels confident it was not less than three months – he will say it was three months

This was the last tour he served during the Revolution. His discharges he has long since lost or destroyed so it is he has no documentary evidence of his service – If his brother Lewis Barlow [pension application S16619] late of the State of Indiana be alive, he can prove a part of his service by him. His said brother was in the service with him the two years he was in the continental service and also in the two other tours performed after he served in the continental line for which he understands he is now receiving a pension – his said brother was a fifer in the continental service in the same company with him. He can he believes also prove by his Ensign who he understood was alive about a year ago living near Georgetown Ky his two years service if he is now alive – he is informed he can prove part of his service by Richard Whitman [pension application S38464] of Hart County Kentucky. He was born in Culpepper County Virginia on the Robinson river, has now no record of his age, but his father had kept such a record, and from that he distinctly remembers his age to be as he has stated. He resided in Rockingham county about eight years after the Surrender of Cornwallis & from thence removed to Washington county Kentucky where he has remained ever since, which is now more than forty years. He was called into service as he has stated, and was acquainted with the continental officers he has stated. At Maubins hills there were several companies of continental soldiers at the time he was stationed there. He was not acquainted with any other of the continental officers than those mentioned above he may have heard the names of others then – no doubt did but he does not now remember them

He hereby relinquishes every claim to any pension or annuity from the Government except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll in any agency in any state in the union. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year above stated

Christopher hisXmark Barlow

State of Kentucky Hart County Sct.

On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 1834 Richard Whitman a resident citizen of said county personally appeared before me, a Justice of the peace in and for said county, and made oath, before me according to law that according to a record obtained from his fathers family register he was 78 years of age on the 22<sup>nd</sup>

December 1833. Said Whitman states that he had seen and heard read, the pension Declaration of Christopher Barlow of Washington county Kentucky, and that when he and said Barlow were young men growing up together they lived in the same county in Virginia, Towit in the county of Culpepper, and that in the year 1776 as near as he recollects, they served a three months tour of duty together in the militia of said state from Culpepper, in a company commanded by Captain Rucker, in Col James Barbers redgmt – the declarations of said Barlow in relation to said tour as he has made them, in his declaration are correct, with the exception only of his being in error as to who was the Colonel of the Redgmt he feels very confident in his recollection that Col Barber, (who he thinks was the father of Gov'r. Jas. Barber [James Barbour] & Phillip Barber now, of Orange county Va) was the colonel commandant of the redgmt. Some time after this tour of three months, which he & said Barlow served together & were discharged together, being both in the same company, this affiant removed to the county of Rockingham in said state, as did said Barlow also, and while they lived there he well remembers, the circumstances of said Barlows enlisting in a company commanded by Capt McDowell [sic] for two years as he then understood and that he marched off with said company to the back parts of Virginia, this affiant, was present when said Barlow enlisted; this affiant was not in this service with him, but knows of his leaving the country with said company to march for Tigers valley – and he recollects of his being absent a considerable time from Rockingham county, & that he again returned and he always understood in the neighbourhood & from said Barlow that he served out his time for which he enlisted, & was discharged, and never heard it, doubted by any one. He remembers also, that said Barlows brother Lewis was a fifer in the Army with said Christopher, & he presumes if his declaration be examined it will show it, for he understands he is now if alive receiving a pension; His last account of him was that he lived in the State of Indiana. In relation to the other tours of duty which the said Christopher says he served in the militia he knows nothing of his being in them only from, what was said in the country at the time & what said Barlow informed him, after his return. He recollects very well that said Christopher was absent from home at the times he has stated in his declaration that he was at Richmond & the seige of York, and that he was said to be in the army in the neighbourhood where he lived. This affiant was also at the siege of york, but did not reach there until about the time Barlow should have left there, and did not see him, but from all the circumstances & what he has heard said Barlow relate in relation to his said service he has no doubt but that he did serve those tours as he has stated, some of his officers he was acquainted with particularly Col. Hambleton, who was a short time before Major Hambleton his name was Guy Hambleton. Said Whitman also states that said Barlow has always been reputed to be an honest man and a man of truth. sworn & subscribed the date above named. Richard hisXmark Whitman

War Department Pension Office January 30, 1835

Sir, The declaration of Christopher Barlow and the testimony in support of his claim have been examined. He alleges that he enlisted in Capt Bowyer's company in Virginia for two years, and was marched to the western frontiers of that State where he served his time out, and that his brother Lewis Barlow, of Indiana served in the same company and now receives a pension. Reference has been made to his brother's declaration on file. He served in Capt. Bowyer's company, but said company belonged to the continental establishment and performed service totally different from that set forth by the applicant. If the applicant served at all, it was as a militia man. No allowance can be made excepting for his three tours of militia service amounting in all to eight months. The papers will be placed on file with suspended cases.

I have the honor to be Very respectfully Your Obet. Serv't.

J. L. Edwards

Hon. B. Hardin House of Representatives

[The confusion over Christopher Barlow's service is discussed below.]

NOTES:

The Aylett Rucker to whom Barlow referred as his captain may have been Elliott Rucker, who was a Lieutenant in the Culpeper County Militia. According to John Slaven (pension application S6110), Michael Bowyer's company in the 12<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment of Foot on Continental establishment commanded by Col. James Wood served in Tygart Valley from late 1776 until March 1777, when it was sent to the North. In September 1778 the 12<sup>th</sup> was renumbered as the 8<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment. Lewis Barlow apparently went North with this regiment, but Christopher Barlow evidently did not go or neglected to say that he did. John McDowell, evidently the Ensign referred to by Christopher Barlow, described only the service in the North in his own pension application (S30578). McDowell's widow stated that he died on 18 July 1835. On 23 Nov 1834 Barlow wrote that he had been unable to locate the John McDowell who was his former Ensign.

Richard Whitman stated in his pension application that while in the service Christopher Barlow had been commonly called Stuffley Barlow.

On 4 Oct 1838 Barbary Barlow, 94, applied for a pension stating that she married Christopher Barlow in 1768 or 1769, and he died on 22 June 1837. Jerusha Adams, 68 or 69, daughter of Christopher and Barbary Barlow, made a supporting deposition. Peter BF Adams (pension application S30814) also made a supporting deposition. The Clerk of Culpeper County certified that he had failed to find a record of the marriage of Christopher Barlow and Barbary Moirers or Moyers. On 29 Nov 1839 Jemima Hudson, 77, of Garrard County KY, widow of Benjamin Hudson (W8956), deposed as follows: "she was born and raised in Culpepper County in the State of Virginia and was well acquainted with Christopher (or Stofte as he was usually called) Barlow and his wife Barbara Barlow whose name before marriage was Barbara Moyers. The deponent lived within about two miles of the said Christopher & in about three quarters of a mile of the said Barbara previous to their marriage."