

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Wharton (Whorton) Nunn W974

Elizabeth

f105VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 1/25/13

[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. 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 fails 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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 59]

State of Kentucky Whitley County: SS

On this 6th day of January 1838 personally appeared before me Preston C Berry a Justice of the peace for Whitley County Whorton Nunn a resident of Whitley County State of Kentucky aged 85 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. He states that he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the fall of the year 1777 as he believes under Captain Benjamin Casy for the time and space of three years that he served in the 12th Regiment of the Virginia State troops the following named officers were in the Army while he was in the service Colonel James Wood Brigadier General Muhlenberg, General Putnam, General Lafayette, Captain Lee, General Greene, General Wayne, General Washington that he resided in the State of Virginia and enlisted in the town of Winchester and joined the Army at Valley Forge – the British Army then lay at Philadelphia he states he was in the Battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] in which he was wounded in the right arm we then marched to the White Plains and was stationed there near the British Army he states that he served out the time for which he enlisted and was discharged he states that he has lost his discharge and has no documentary evidence of his Services and knows of no living witness by whom he can prove it by. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Whorton Nunn, X his mark

[f p. 54]

State of Tennessee Claiborne County

On this 30th day of April 1838 personally appeared Wharton Nunn of the County and State aforesaid aged as well as he recollects 87 or 8 years old who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed the 7th [June] 1832 that he was enrolled in the Continental line of Virginia in the Army of the United States in the year 1777 at Windsor Virginia under Captain Benjamin Casey in a Regiment commanded by Colonel James Wood and belong to the brigade commanded by General Muhlenberg. Owing to great Bodily infirmity loss of memory he is unable to state the number of the Regiment or Brigade or the exact time that he enrolled but it was early in the year 1777 he enlisted for 3 years as a private in said service and was to have 100 acres of land & \$6 a month as well as he recollects none of which he ever received; and soon after his enlistment he was marched to the Valley Forge on the Schuylkill [River] and remained there until the latter part of June or first of July and marched from there to the North River here we stayed some time in the fall he marched to Sandy hook where we wintered and at Basken [?] ridge; in the ensuing year 1778 we marched to White Plains at the same time the British had possession of New York and from thence we marched to various places & [word

too faint to discern] and to the North River again where we were stationed some time was engaged in the Battle at Monmouth [June 28, 1778] which took place on the ___ day of ___ in the year 1778 and their received a wound in the right arm and remained in the hospital for about seven weeks for several months of his service he belonged to the Wagon guard & was near the action at Valley Forge being attached to guard of the baggage at that time which took place on the ___ day of ___ 1779 and continued under his said Captain during his whole term of service which was three years when he was discharged in the [indecipherable] part of the year 1780; he states that after his discharge about two years he lost his pocket book which contained his discharge was never found is the reason he cannot produce said document & his certificate for his discharge he does not now know of no living witness by whom he can prove his services by & is unable to travel to where he might find those who knows those facts; about four years [paper damaged, text missing] the war he moved to Shenandoah County in Virginia remained there four years then moved to Wythe County and [paper damaged, text missing] there a few years he thinks ten years and in 1810 or 11 he moved to Claiborne County [paper damaged text missing] the state of Tennessee where he has lived ever since; that sometime last year he spoke to a Doctor King Berry which he lives in Whitley County Kentucky to obtain his Pension and made out a Declaration but he supposes that nothing has been done by him in the case and revokes all power vested in said Kingbusy [?] and has no agent for that purpose except Doctor Alfred Noel of Tazewell County Tennessee that this is the first application he has ever made to be placed on the pension list or roll for his land or pay or pension except the one before named; he states he is very infirm and old and lives in a very remote part of the County and at least 40 miles from the Courthouse and no carriage road from where he resides and is entirely unable to ride a horse or walk as he can with difficulty walk across the house; the reason he has not applied sooner he was unapprised that there was any provision for such cases until about three years ago and this is the first opportunity he has had to effectually attend to it since as he supposes the attend before spoken of has not been attended to 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 any State nor of ace state agency. Given to and subscribed to the day and year first above written.

S/ Whorton Nun, X his mark

[Bartholomew Elliott and Reuben Parrott gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee, Claiborne County

Whorton Nunn a petitioner to be placed on the Pension Roll and to obtain the benefits of the acts of congress this 7th of June 1832 whose original declaration is filed at this department amongst the suspended cases Amends his declaration and sayeth that until the year 1833 or '34 he was not apprised of provision being made for such cases, .. that he had understood some years before that provision was made for them that had been disabled; that although he was wounded in the arm with a ball and his arm made somewhat stiff he still by the dent of industry made out to live; and thought he could not succeed, from what he had heard and for the last seven years he has been worn out with age and totally disabled in his arm he has been living on the charity of his son who is also very poor and large family very destitute, and was not informed on the subject in any way that held out a hope of obtaining a pension until the trial he made in Kentucky about thirty miles from this, when I was then carried to see a son of mine that lived near this place when the declaration was made aforesaid to; that shortly after he returned home to a remote part of this County entirely secluded from any intelligence surrounded by Mountains and at least forty or forty five miles from the County Seat and very seldom ever see any person acquainted with such business and entirely unable to attend to anything or go anywhere by reason of bodily infirmity and old age should have starved and died without the benefits of the provision made by Congress for the suffering soldiers of the revolution had it not been that Dr. A. Noel happened to see me where I now live and made inquiry into my case and after hearing the narrative of my case told me he thought I could be placed on the pension roll and drew up my declaration

accordingly and he had always been informed also that he would have to prove by an army Surgeon that his wound entirely disabled him and he did not know where to find one if he had been able to go and until lately he did not know where to find any person that knew of his services for he had understood his elder Brother Thomas Nunn was dead and not until lately did he know to the reverse but is in hopes from his age the part of the County he was raised in and his character and others testimony which will accompany this his amended declaration to place his case beyond suspicion. He further states as it respects his serving under any other Captain he can only state by his memory not having an education that on various occasions he was detached for certain services sometimes for weeks & even months under other Captains Lieutenants and ensigns but always when he returned to the Main Army he went under his same Captain he would also state that his name might have been transferred to other rolls than that of Captain Casey's; and his name might never been reinstated again on Capt. Casey's Roll; as he could not read he further states that his extreme age his memory has failed him but he still can name some of those officers Captains & Lieutenants &c that at times had the command of detachments he was attached to the Baggage Wagon when we went under General Stark to Bennington. I was under Lieut. Knox when the detachment was sent to take Stony Point [July 16, 1779]; Gen. Wayne Commanded. I was in Major Lee's detachment the Winter of 1777 we wintered at Valley Forge and the British in Philadelphia; the Battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] Genl. Washington commanded; I was then under Captain Donovan who was after Wagon Master; in which service I continued the most of the time after the battle of Monmouth, but was several times back again in Captain Casey's Company. I was one of the party under General Sullivan when he went against the Six Nations but was taken sick & returned after I got well to the main army again and to the Wagon guard and when my time was out I went to Col Wood who give me my discharge. I do not know where Captain Casey was at the time my memory does not serve me. I can only state being extremely old feeble both of body & memory. I can only state the leading matters the most of the dates I cannot tell the precise time of the events; I know it was in July that Stony Point was taken and in the October after I enlisted that Burgoyne was taken; for we went into winter quarters soon after and at Brandywine I was there with the Baggage Wagon under Captain Donovan this was in September 1777 we was so often shifted in those times sometimes but few men that is impossible for me to remember half in my feeble old age I have given the best account my memory will afford having no means to refresh it being no scholar cannot read but hope I have put things in a light with this testimony attached hereunto that I may obtain my rights and again relinquish every other claim to a pension except the present this being an amendment to my suspended case.

Sworn to and subscribed to this 13th of October 1838

S/ Whorton Nunn, X his mark

[f p. 21]

1. Mr. Nunn where & in what year were you born.

Ans: I have no record was always told [I was born] in the year of Braddock's defeat.

2. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it

Ans: I never knew of any my father died when I was small & I never knew of any.

3. Where were you living when you were called into service & where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you live now.

Ans: I lived in King George County and went to Winchester on a visit; after the war I lived there about four years and then moved to Shenandoah County and lived there four years and then to Wythe County all in Virginia and then moved to Claiborne County Tennessee & have lived here for the last twenty five years or twenty six

4. How were you called into service were you draughted; did you Volunteer, or where you a substitute if a substitute who for

Ans: I enrolled myself in Winchester or enlisted Voluntarily for three years & was not a substitute I was not sworn in I think called Continental line

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served any regiments either continental or Militia and some of the circumstances of your service

Ans: Besides those that had the command of me There was Col. Nevill, Genl Demarcus [General Lafayette] or some such name Generals Putman [sic, Putnam] we were sometimes in the lines with them -- Gen Washington pursued the British commander towards Sandy Hook after the Monmouth battle

[6th] Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

Ans: I got my discharge from Col Wood in person it was lost with my pocketbook about two years after [rest of answer omitted]

[7th Sta]te the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who will testify to your character for veracity & truth and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution

Ans: George Hamblen, Esqr. Reuben Parrott James Parrott Wm. Buckhannon and indeed all my neighbors.

[George Hamblen, JP certifies the questions and answers above.]

[f p. 11]

State of Tennessee, Claiborne County

Personally appeared before me the subscriber & justice of the peace for said County, Thomas Nunn¹ of said County and State aforesaid who first being duly sworn in the holy Evangelist of Almighty god to speak the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth touching the service of Whorton Nunn a pensioner to be placed on the revolutionary pension Roll and whose Declaration is now filed by the pension commissioner as a suspended case for further proof deposes and sayeth as follows that he was been acquainted with Wharton Nunn the term of eighty five years or thereabouts that he knows that he entered the service in the revolutionary war at Winchester Virginia under Captain Casey in Col. Wood's Regiment. I think and in the Brigade or division of Genl. Muhlenberg and that he entered in the service for the term of three years from the time he entered which as well as I recollect was in the latter the year 1777 and was marched then on to Pennsylvania to Valley Forge in Jersey and was at the battle of Germantown Baskin Ridge and White Plains and all the Campaign in them states in 1777 and to 1780 or '81.

Question 1st . How old are you now & how old is Wharton Nunn now?

Answer. I am about eighty seven or eighty eight and Whorton Nunn is about eighty six as well as I recollect perhaps eighty seven.

Question 2nd Do know that the Whorton Nunn that now lives on the Clear Fork of Cumberland in the County is Identically the same that served under the Capt. Casey & in Col. Wood's Regiment and under Genl Muhlenberg.

Answer. I know him to be the same and know the facts of his enlistment as I was near Winchester at the time & saw him [text missing]

Question 3rd do you know what battles he was in if any and whether he did not receive a wound in the right arm with a bullet and whether he was not in the Battle of Germantown.

Answer. He did receive a wound in his arm and I have understood he was at Germantown.

Question 4. Please State if he was not in the battle under Genl Gates & Arnold at the taking of Genl. Burgoyne

Answer I have no recollection that he was there but I do know he served during the three years preceding the first of the year 1781.

Question 5th do you or do you not know that Soldiers of the revolution was frequently detached

1 [Thomas Nun \[Nunn?\] S1576](#)

from their original Company for some particular service & gone for some months and returned again to their same officers again; and frequently that papers and Company Rolls were Lost and never obtained again and had to make new lists at Random

Answer There were frequently lost and troops dispersed & new rolls to be made out.

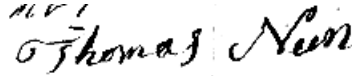
Question 6th do you not know that the accidents in the question previous to this was frequently the cause of the names of many not being found on the original rolls that they entered the service in and although they served nearly through the whole of the Revolution.

Answer According to my recollection and as I believe I know that fact, for at some of the battles that we was in we had to scatter.

Question 7th please State as near as you can the number of years that Whorton Nunn served when he entered the service & what time he was discharged and whether he did not bring his discharge home with him & if you did or did not understand that it was lost some years after the war

Answer I know he enlisted for three years and was gone some longer before he returned I do not recollect at during his discharge but understood he served his whole time further this Deponent Sayeth not

S/ Thomas Nun

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Nunn". Above the first few letters, there are some faint, illegible markings that appear to be initials or a date.

[Peter Neill, JP attested Thomas Nunn's affidavit.]

[Betsy Henderson also gave a supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 17]

State of Tennessee, Grainger County

Personally appeared before me William Colvin the subscriber a justice of the peace for said County John Hammock² of said County being first duly sworn on the holy evangelist of Almighty God to speak the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth touching the services of Whorton Nunn a petitioner to be placed on the pension roll for his revolutionary services and whose declaration is now filed by the war pension commission amongst suspended cases for proof of his services, deposeth and saith that he is about eighty-three years old and that in the year 1776 [last digit unclear, written over], about Christmas he drove a waggon and was waggoning to Winchester Virginia with provisions for the soldiers recruiting there and fell in with my old acquaintance there Whorton Nunn who had then just enlisted for three years under Captain Casey was a recruiting officer I think Colonel Wood was the Colonel. I halted on there until the latter part of the winter and when the soldiers started away Whorton Nunn went on with us I drove a waggon to carry part of the baggage it was called the Virginia Continental line and we went on into Pennsylvania and the Jerseys and up the North River Valley Forge & Brandywine I was a hired wagoner at that time and when they went into Winter quarters at Valley Forge I got my discharge my team being broke down & went home to Pittsylvania County again I saw him again in the fall of 1779 in the Army he was then guarding the Baggage for I was out with loading again for the troops he said then he had been wounded in the right elbow and he was shifted to the wagon guard I there left him in the service I saw him no more until the spring of '81 perhaps it might be the latter part of May when he returned to Winchester on his way to Shenandoah County in Virginia his time was then out I was then a militia man under Captain White guarding prisoners taken at the South on Haw River and Cowpens & perhaps elsewhere at the Barracks there at Winchester.

Question 1st do you know that the Whorton Nunn the petitioner named is the same that we served under Captain Casey and to be the same then enlisted in Winchester in 1776 or the first part of 1777

Answer: I do know him to be the same and no when he returned in 1780 or 1781

2 [John Hammock S2601](#)

Question 2nd Mr. Hammock if you know whether he served three years or how long plus to say

Answer: he served the rise of three years I know as before stated or longer

Question 3rd Please state if you know how old Whorton Nunn is and whether he is the age he states and where you were first acquainted with him and where last.

Answer I am now eighty-three years old and he was some three or four years older I reckon, I was acquainted with him in Shenandoah and Pittsylvania Counties in Virginia and last acquainted in Claiborne County in Tennessee & further this deponent saith not.

S/ John Hammock, X his mark

[f p. 46]

State of Tennessee Claiborne County: This day personally appeared Doctor Alfred Noel Physician of this County and maketh oath on the holy evangelists of Almighty God that he examined Whorton Nunn the foregoing applicant to be placed on the pension Roll of the United States and saith that the said Nunn is totally unable to get to the Courthouse and having examined his arm and is fully of opinion that it is a gunshot wound, that he has but little use of the same that he is fully of opinion that he is the [paper damaged, text missing] he states in his declaration & entirely helpless and in the most abject poverty & one and that he is reputable in his neighborhood & credible and at least 40 miles from the courthouse.

Sworn to & subscribed before me one of the justices of the peace for the state and County aforesaid April 3rd 1838

S/ Alfred Noel, M. D.

[f p. 81]

State of Tennessee Claiborne County:

On the 15th day of November A.D. 1838 personally appeared before me George Hamblin a justice of the peace in and for said County in said State Hugh E Duff³ who being first duly sworn upon the holy evangelists of Almighty God to speak the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth in the matters of the application of Whorton Nunn who being first duly sworn upon the holy evangelist of Almighty God to speak the truth the whole truth & nothing but the truth in the matter of the application of Whorton Nunn for a pension as a revolutionary soldier under the law of the United States passed June 7th 1832 deposed and saith as follows

That is that he was himself a soldier in the revolution in Colonel Proctor's Regiment of Artillery under Captain Henry Hendley and Whorton Nunn was in the infantry of the Virginia troops I think Colonel Wood's Regiment he was a part of the time in Captain Casey's Company but we was shifted from Company and from one detachment to another that in the years 1777, 1778, 1779 and 1780 it was hard to tell long [?] at a time what service Company or Regiment a soldier belonged to; the first place I saw Whorton Nunn was at the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] and the winter following while in winter quarters we became intimate he was in the several engagements that took place Monmouth, Bennington and surrender of Burgoyne and at Stony Point, Germantown and continued in the service until sometime in the winter of 1779 or '80 he worked sometimes at Mason work was sometimes in the wagon guard and stayed on some time after he got his discharge toward Virginia I never saw him anymore until now I heard of him recollected his name and went to see him and now know him to be the same that served with me in the Army or was of the revolution through Jersey Pennsylvania and New York

Question: How old are you now; and how long did you think he served

Answer: I am now in my 78th year he must have served 3 years or more

Question 2nd: Do you or do you not know if he got an Honorable discharge

³ FPA R3106

Answer I do not know about the discharge I should think so or he would not have stayed after his time was out

Question 3: Do you know whether he served out the whole time of his enlistment

Answer: I can only answer as I did before he must have served the whole time or he would not have stayed there and further this deponent saith not. Sworn and subscribed to the day and year first above written.

S/ Hugh E Duff, X his mark

[Elizabeth (or Elisabeth) Nunn, 81 or 82, filed a petition for a widow's pension on July 1, 1840 in Grainger County, Tennessee stating that she was Elizabeth Breeden, daughter of Spencer Breeden, raised in Shenandoah County, Va., moved to Surry County, NC, married Wharton Nunn August 1, 1783 at Crutchfield Meeting House by Parson Joseph Murphy and that Wharton Nunn died April 8, 1842.]

[f. p. 24: Family Register, children of Wharton and Elizabeth Nunn the]

John Nunn born July 10th, 1784

Nancy Nunn May 17th 1786

Jerry Nunn February 11th 1788

Elisha Nunn April 6th 1791

William Nunn October 12th 1795

Henry Nunn June 4th 1798

Peggy Nunn born November 16th 1800

Milly Nunn was born August 1st 1804]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount commencing March 4th, 1836 [? how could that be since she wasn't a widow until he died in 1842? First time I've seen this kind of an error by the War Department].]