

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Arnot (Arnold or Arnott) S41417

f49NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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

District of North Carolina, Halifax County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions February Term A.D. 1829

On this 19th day of February 1829 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record for the County of Halifax David Arnott alias Arnold resident in said County aged 75 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress of the 18 of March 1818 & 1st May 1820; that he the said David Arnott alias Arnold enlisted at Halifax North Carolina about the first of the year 1778 to serve from that time until the month of April 1780 (to complete the term of service of a private named Bythal Haynes who had previously deserted) in the Company of Captain __ commanded by Lieutenant Fitzgerald or Gerard in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Hogan [sic, James Hogun] in the line of the State of North Carolina in the Continental establishment – that at this time a company of light horse was raised in the State aforesaid commanded by Captain Medice [sic, Cosmo Medici or Medicie] who were much in want of many articles necessary to equip them for service, such as bridle bits, Stirrup irons, saddle backs &c-- that the said David being considered a good blacksmith application was made Nicholas Long Deputy Quarter Master General of North Carolina to Colonel Hogan to have him the said David detailed from his Regiment for the purpose of making the articles aforesaid; that the Colonel complied with this request without the knowledge or consent of the said David & that he the said David continued to work under the direction of the Quarter Master General (being all the time in the Continental Service aforesaid) until the North Carolina Brigade returned from the Northward from the Northward on its way to Charleston; he then joined Lieutenant Colonel Davidson's company in the first Regiment commanded by Colonel Clark – that he marched with the Regiment to Charleston South Carolina & was there at the time that place was blockaded by the British & the town invested by its Army; that he continued to serve in the said corps as aforesaid until the month of April 1780 when he was discharged from the service in Charleston in the State of South Carolina; that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, except the present; that his name is not on the roll of any State except North Carolina; and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension: that in February 1827 the said David made application to the War Department to be placed on the Pension roll under the provisions of the Acts of Congress of 1818 and 1820, that at that time he was not apprised of his name being on the muster roll of the Continental line of North Carolina – that he had no other evidence of his said services but his own oath which being deemed insufficient by the War Department, his application was rejected; previous to the month of February 1827 he did not make application to be placed on the pension list because by his own labor as a blacksmith he was enabled to provide for himself & family, and though earnestly urged by his friends, he never could consent to throw himself upon the bounty of his Country, so long as he was able to provide for his household by his own exertions: -- neither did he conceive his circumstances so utterly hopeless as to justify it.

And he, in pursuance of the Act of the 1st May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 & 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 provision of an act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land & 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:

One tract of Land containing 256 acres

One Negro woman & child

One set of Blacksmith Tools

Three unimproved Lots in Gainsborough

One cow, calf & yearling

One cart, a few hoes, an axe and some household furniture of little value

All the above property except the Blacksmith Tools have been conveyed by deed of trust now of record in this Court for the benefit of Thomas Burges Esq. to secure the payment of a debt which is justly due him amounting to \$1245 with interest on \$1025 until paid.

I owe G. Halliday & Co \$70

Also a few small debts which will be about equal to several charges which I have against sundry persons for shop work.

I also hold a bond executed by Joseph W. Scott for \$100 & a bond against John Roan for \$40 – they have both removed themselves from this part of the Country & were then & are now believed to be insolvent.

He further states that he is by occupation a blacksmith, that the infirmities attendant on disease & old age render him incapable of much exertion – that his family residing with him consists of three daughters, to wit: Mary about 28 years old, Dorothy 21 & Martha 14. -- that they were tenderly raised & only accustomed to perform the ordinary duties relating to housekeeping – that he is the same person whose name as David Arnold appears on the Muster Rolls of the Continental line of this State in the Revolutionary War & whose name appears in the book containing a settlement of the Army Accounts of the North Carolina line in the Continental Service as settled by Willie Jones, Benjamin McCulloch & Henry Munford, Commissioners at Halifax in the year 1783 & 1784 now deposited in the Comptrollers Office of this State.

Sworn, declared & subscribed in open Court.

S/ David Arnot

S/ Mark H. Pettway, Clerk



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Raleigh, N. C., Comptrollers Office 16th October 1828

Dear Sir

It appears that some difficulty has arisen at the War Department, in obtaining a pension for David Arnold of Halifax County N. C., in Consequence of the manner of spelling his name: I have personally known him for the last Twenty Years, and have always known him as David Arnold, and have not until recently known that he spelt his name Arnot.

Upon an examination of the Books of this Office in a settlement of the Army Accounts of the North Carolina Line, by Willie Jones, Benjamin McCullough, & Henry Montford Commissioners at Halifax in the year 1783 & 1784 It appears that David Arnold was allowed £140.18.3. He is a very Old man; I found him when I first grew into manhood, a very worthy, respectable man, residing in the County of Halifax, & from the Circumstance of his being uniformly called Arnold, I think the mistake

arose, of their entering or enrolling his name, & I have no doubt, of his being the person alluded to.
S/ James Grant

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Raleigh 20th March 1827

James L Edwards Esquire
Sir

I have examined the rolls in my office and also the Warrant Book, but find nothing on them, or either of them in favor of David Arnot, an applicant for a pension from the County of Halifax. One thing stated in his declaration is true (and all may be) that is that Colonel Nicholas Long was a Quarter Master and resided in at Halifax during the Revolutionary War. I have also good reason to believe that Captain Medicie did raise a company of Horse in Halifax about the time Mr. Arnot says he did. I am therefore of opinion that David Arnot did serve as stated in his Declaration, and his being attached to the Quarter Master's Department is the reason why his name does not appear on the roll. –

Very respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Wm Hill

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State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that David Arnold was mustered as a private Soldier and “Lt. Colos” Company in the 10th Regiment of said line in November 1779. The rolls aforesaid does not show how long said Arnold was in service, but it appears from a book in this Office called the Warrant book, that a warrant was issued for the services of said David Arnold for 274 acres of land, the quantity of allowed by law to a Soldier for three years services; which warrant was issued in the year 1785, at which time all such warrants were issued on the certificates of Field Officers. I have understood, and do believe from representations made to me, that the said David Arnold is the same person who has made application for a Pension in the name of David Arnot, who being general [sic, generally] called by his neighbors on gun, his officers of his name Arnold instead of Arnot.

Given under my hand this 16th day of October 1828.
S/ Wm Hill

[Note: This file contains a 3 page affidavit given by the veteran stating in detail his debts and financial transactions between 1818 and 1829. I have elected not to transcribe this document since it contains no reference to his military service or to any other members of his family.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 4, 1829 for service as a private for 2 years and 3 months in the North Carolina Continental line.]