

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Barkley W17252 Ellenor Barkley f43NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 7/13/08 rev'd 8/23/14

[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.]

State of North Carolina, Lincoln County

On this 12th day of January 1841, personally appeared before us William Little and Robert H. Burton two of the acting Justices of the Peace in & for the County aforesaid Ellenor Barkley a resident of Lincoln County in the State of North Carolina aged eighty-seven years, 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 July 4th, 1836: That she is the widow of Robert Barkley, who was a private in the militia in the service of the United [States] in the Revolutionary War, that of his services before their marriage she can only say what she has heard him repeat, That she has heard him say that he served six months & 24 days, under Captain William Knox, but what superior officer she does not recollect, that he was at Wilmington in the tour but has no recollection of his being in any battle & that he was in the Snowy campaign under Colonel Davidson; That after her marriage with the said Robert Barclay he was absent in the Army from 5th September to the 5th December in the fall of the year after the British Army crossed the Catawba at Beatties Ford & Cowan's Ford & was at Duplin Court house in that tour; that he was with the Whigs in the battle of Ramsour's Mill,¹ but how long he served at that time she does not recollect; that he was out in several tours against the Tories, but cannot be particular in them. That in his tour to Duplin Court house said Barkley was under the command of Colonel Waddell; that when he served under Captain Knox before marriage he lived in Rowan County; and after their marriage moved to what is now called Lincoln County, but then called Burke County as well as she recollects, and he lived there at the time he performed the last service, & until his death.

She further declared that she was married to the said Robert Barclay on the 22nd day of August, the particular year she cannot recollect, but remembers it was after his service at Wilmington and in the Snowy campaign and was married one year wanting a day when her son Henry was born; that her husband the aforesaid Robert Barclay, died on the 13th or 14th day of January 1813; and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Sworn to & subscribed before us.

S/ Ellenor Barkley, X her mark

S/ Wm Little, JP

S/ Robt. H. Burton, JP

Henry Barkley swears that he is the child of Robert Barkley and Eleanor Barkley & born as appears by the family record 20th of August 1777; that his mother Ellenor Berkeley is now a widow & has remained a widow since the death of his father; that he has frequently heard his father speak of his services in the Army, that he was at Wilmington in the Snowy campaign, at McCuwin's Ford [?], the day the British crossed at Beatties & Cowan's Ford² & at Ramsour's Mill.

1 June 20, 1780 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/ramsours.htm>

2 February 1, 1781

S/ Henry Barkley

Henry Barkley

Sworn to & subscribed before us 12 January 1841.

S/ Robt. H. Burton, JP

S/ Wm Little, JP

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Mary Clark swears that she lived at the house of Henry Barkley the father of Robert Barkley when the said Robert Barkley was married to Ellenor Cathey; she was not present at the marriage. Said Robert Barkley brought said Ellenor to his father's as his wife & afterwards she traveled with them when they moved from Rowan County to where said Ellenor Barkley now lives in Lincoln County, & she has known her ever since, that she is the mother of Henry Barkley, who has given his affidavit here, & who was her oldest child. She remembers that said Robert Barkley was in the Army & in the Snowy Campaign. That the friends of Robert Barkley went off to attend the marriage of said Robert & she understood he & said Ellenor were married.

S/ Mary Clark, X her mark

Sworn to & subscribed before us 12 January 1841

S/ William Little, JP

S/ Robert H Burton

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“North Carolina Willmington [sic] May the 30th 1776

These are to Certify that the Bearer Robert Barkley Hath Sarved [sic] as a Soldier in my Company Six months And twenty four Days During Which time he Hath Behaved Himself Soberly and Honestly and now is Discharged the said Sarvice [sic]

Given under my hand this 30th Day of may [sic] 1776

S/ William Knox, Capt.”

North Carolina Willmington May the 30th 1776
These are to Certify, that the Bearer Robert Barkley Hath
Sarved as a Soldier in my Company Six months And twenty
four Days During Which time he Hath Behaved Himself
Soberly and Honestly and now is Discharged the said Sarvice
Given under my hand this 30th Day of may 1776
William Knox Capt.

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State of North Carolina, Iredell County

On this the 8th day of March 1841, came Matthew McPherson³ aged 82 years before me the

3 [Matthew McPherson W5362](#)

subscriber a Justice of the Peace in & for the County aforesaid and made oath in due form of law, that in the month of November in the year 1781 he engaged as a Substitute in the Army of the Revolution in place of one John Thompson, & served in the latter part of a three months tour; that in his service he frequently saw all Robert Barkley a soldier in the army & sole him on his return, and understood & believes that he served three months, before term of service, the Army was stationed at Wilmington North Carolina. The deponent did not serve but six weeks in the Army. Deponent further states, that the said Robert Barkley known to him in the Army, was the same person who died in Lincoln County North Carolina some years past as he understood.

Sworn to & subscribed before me the date above.

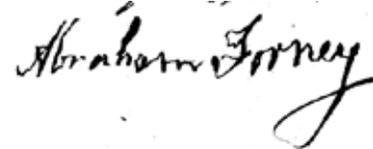
S/ Mathew McPherson, X his mark

S/ Jas Donaldson, JP

Abraham Forney⁴ swears that he was acquainted with Robert Barkley the husband of Ellenor Barkley commonly called Nelly Barkley; she was called Nelly Cathey before her marriage. He says he was not present at the marriage of said Robert & Nelly, but states there was an intimacy between his father's family & John Cathey's family the father of Nelly who lived in Mecklenburg County from the circumstance, that his father had to fly from the Indians with his family across the Catawba River, & forted at said John Cathey's for some time as he understood & from that time there was an intimacy in the families. In the year 1776 as well as he recollects, Polly Cathey a sister to Nelly came to his father's & told the family, that Ellenor (called Nelly) was married to Robert Barkley. Afterwards they moved into what is now called Lincoln County & lived there till said Robert Barkley died; as man & wife. That although he had often heard of said Robert Barkley, he never became personally acquainted with him, till the day before the battle of Ramsour's Mill, in Lincoln County, which was on the 20th day of June 1780, that he then became acquainted with him & knows he was in the battle on the Whig side and he further knows that he remained in the Army of the Revolution with the Whigs till the Battle of Kings Mountain, as a militia man, under the command of Colonel William Graham, & said Robert Barkley was in that battle, these facts are known to him, as he was along with him; the battle of King's Mountain was in October 1780, the 7th day as well as he recollects and further states that he has heard his brother General Peter Forney⁵, say that he was in company with said Robert Barkley in a tour to Wilmington in the year 1781 and in that tour they were in a battle at a place called the Brick House on Cape Fear, how long they were in service he does not recollect, but were blown a considerable time. Said Peter Forney is dead. Said Robert Barkley was always reported & believed to have been in active in the service of the United States & have heard of his being out in several tours, but cannot point out any others.

Sworn to & subscribed before me January 16, 1841.

S/ Abraham Forney



S/ Robt. H. Burton, JP

William Clark swears that he was acquainted with Robert Barkley the husband of Ellenor, in his lifetime, and he knows Ellenor Barkley & she has remained a widow since the death of said Robert; that he has always understood that said Robert Barkley was a soldier in the Army of the United States, in the Revolutionary War, that he was in service at Wilmington in the Snowy campaign; and that after his marriage he was in the Army at the battle of Ramsour's Mill, & in the Army when the British

⁴ [Abraham Forney W3976](#)

⁵ [Peter Forney W4955](#)

crossed the Catawba River at Beatties Ford & Cowan's Ford; that he knows said Robert Barkley was from home after his marriage three months or more, in the Army, reported to be down the country, but when he does not know, he was then his neighbor and he was in several other scouts.

Sworn to & subscribed before us January 12, 1841

S/ Robt. H. Burton, JP

S/ Wm Little, JP

S/ William Clark

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Clark". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat stylized.

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Ellenor Barkley further swears that she was married by Richard Berry Esquire a Justice of the Peace for Mecklenburg County.

Sworn to before me

S/ Robert H Burton, JP

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$34.76 per annum increased to \$44.76 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for her husband's service as a private for 13 months & 13 days in the North Carolina militia.]