Pension Application of Benjamin Andrews W4627
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]
State of Virginia
Chesterfield County S.S.
On this 6th day of march 1843 before me Edward F. Perkinson a Justice of the peace, in and for said County personally appeared Mrs. Betsey Andrews – a respectable resident of said County – Aged 92 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 4 1836: That she is the widow of Benjamin Andrews dec'd. of said County, who was a private soldier in the malitia, during the Revolutionary war. That the said Benj Andrews her dec'd. husband served several tours in the malitia during the Revo'y. war, after he was married to declarant – but particularly in the latter part of the war – he being from home in the service nearly the whole of the last 12 months of the war. Declarant recollects distinctly that he returned home in May of 1781 (from a tour of 3 months) it being the time of planting new-ground corn – that he remained at home until July following – when he went into service again – and did not return until the 13th day of Nov'r. of the same year – which was the year of the Capture of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] – that her husband Benj Andrews aforesaid was at the Capture of Lord Cornwallis, in Oct. 1781 in company with Peter Mann – who got a pension (application W18481) – and Ephraim Mann who died before the pension law of 1832 was passed. That Andrews, and the two Manns also composed part of the force, that marched the British prisoners – captured at yorktown – to Winchester Va returning home as aforesaid the 13 Nov 1781 – making 7 or 8 months service he performed in the last year of the Revo'y. war, which added to his other service would make over 12 months service he performed in all – he being often called out both both before and after marriage – the last of which service she recollects most distinctly.

She further declares, that she was married to the aforesaid Benj Andrews in Nov'r. or December, in the year 1776 – and had 3 children by him before the expiration of his last term of service (which was on the 13 Nov 1781) as will appear by her marriage register sent – her oldest child Simon being born the 2nd. of Oct. 1777. That her husband the aforesaid Benj Andrews died on the 11 day of July 1803 and that she has remained a widow ever since that period; as will more fully appear by reference to the proof annexed. Her maiden name was Dodd. Elizabeth herXmark Andrews

On this 7th day of March 1843, before me Edward F. Perkinson a Justice of the peace, in and for said County personally appeared Mr. Isham Andrews [pension application W5620] – a respectable resident of said County, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say—
That he is 94 years old – that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Andrews dec'd. of said County, during the Revo'y. war – the same person who married Betsy Dodd of said county during the Revo'y. war. That said Benjamin Andrews, was called into service after he was married to Betsey Dodd, in company with deponant, and Simon Andrews under Capt. Jno. Royall [John Royall] of the malitia from said county. That the malitia to which said Benj Andrews belonged and dep assembled at Blacks in Manchester on old Christmas day – which would be the 5th or 6th of Jan'y. 1780. That said Benj Andrews and dep. marched together to Smithfield where they made a short stay – was then marched below Smithfield and was marching to and fro in the lower part of said State, until they were discharged, which was in the latter part of the spring – or early part of Summer of 1780 at a place called South Key [sic: South Quay in present Suffolk City]. That the said Benj Andrews served other tours of service in the Revo'y. war but dep. was not with him in any but the one above named – but is satisfied in his mind that

he did perform others – particularly the one at the capture of Lord Cornwallis – and that he was part of the force that guarded the british prisoners to Winchester – which was a long tour of service performed by Andrews on said occasion. That while in the service at Smithfield and the lower part of the State as aforesaid with said Benj Andrews 24 of us volunteer'd and layed in ambush, and fired on the British vessel with troops on board as it ascended Jas. River [James River] – it being dark dep. could not tell whether any was killed but thinks there were. That the said Benj. Andrews died about 40 years ago leaving his present widow Betsy Anders [sic] – the same person who is now claiming a pension, as the widow of said Benj Andrews dec'd. Isham hisXmark Andrews

State of Virginia
Chesterfield County S.S.

On this 23rd day of May 1843, before me Edward F. Perkinson a Justice of the peace, in and for said county, personally appeared Mrs. Elizabeth Womack a respectable resident of said county, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath say – That she is 82 years old – that she recollects perfectly, that Benj Andrews who married Betsy Dodd during the Revo'y. War was in the service several times during said War and thinks he was at the capture of Lord Cornwallis, and at Sudsbury's too; but that he was not taken prisoner there by Tarltons horse [see endnote]. That the malitia was constantly out against the British; and Benj Andrews as often as any of them – and must have served at least 12 months in the Revo'y War in all his different tours. Deponant lived close neighbour to Benj Andrews, when he went in to Service – he having married deponants cousin. One circumstance makes her recollect the more througly of said Andrews going in to service – that his wife Betsy was much distressed when her husband went from home in to service – indeed she was almost deranged at the thought of his getting killed — She thinks he was under Cap. Royall in one of his tours and has some feint recollection of his returning home from one tour, a few days after his 2nd or 3rd child was born. Thinks he was towards the south in one tour, and in an engagement when the British took all the waggons, and provision from the Americans – all of his services in the Revolutionary war was after he was married to Betsy Dodd, now Betsy Andrews, his present widow. Said Andrews died about 40 years ago – leaving his present widow Betsy Andrews who is still alive and the identical person who is claiming a pension from the Gen'l. Gov't.

Elizabeth herXmark Womack

On this 8th day of March 1843, before me Edward F. Perkinson a Justice of the peace in and for said County personally appeared Mr. Alex'r. Moore, a respectable resident of said county – who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say – that he is 73 years old – that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Andrews dec'd of said county during the Revo'y war – the same person who married Betsy Dodd in the early part of the Revo'y. and lived in a mile of deponant directly after he was married and performed several tours of Service in Revo'y. war in the malitia after he was married to said Betsey Dodd in said county, by the Rev'd. Mr. Leigh. Deponant recollects distinctly, that the said Benj. Anders [sic] went several times into service during the Revo'y. war and stayed sometimes longer, and sometimes shorter – and deponant recollects one occasin of seeing said Andrews on his way into the service, which was in Jan'y or Feb'y 1781 – dep. was going to mill at the time – there was 50 along going to the Court House to rendezvous there. Jos. Royal [Joseph Royall] was capt. the British were then at Richmond. Deponant also recollects, that the said Benj Andrews was again called into service, in company with Peter Mann, Ephraim Mann, and Simon Andrews, in the latter part of the summer of 1781 under Capt Geo Markham [George Markham], or capt. Haskins [Creed Haskins] and marched to the lower part of the State and was at the Battle of Yorktown and Capture of Cornwallis in Oct'r 1781 and that after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis the said Benj Andrews and the two Manns and Simon Andrews was marched to Winchester with the British prisoners and returned home about the middle of Nov'r. 1781. That the said Benj Andrews also served several short tours of service during the Revo'y war besides the

two mentioned by deponant above. The said Andrews died in said county near 40 years ago leaving his present widow Betsey Andrews, who is still alive. Alexander hisXmark Moore
[Certified by Martha Mann, 78, widow of Peter Mann.]

[Daniel Totty (pension application S13060) also deposed that he had served a tour with Andrews in a company commanded by Capt. David Patterson. John Dyson (S12836) deposed that he did not serve with Andrews, but that it was well known at the time that he was in the service. Mary Perkinson, 84, deposed that she was 12 or 13 years old at the time Benjamin Andrews and Betsy Dodd were married, "being old enough to ride on horseback, with her mother behind on the same horse and well remembers that it was snowing very fast as they were coming from the wedding."]

NOTES:

On 23 May 1781 at Sudsbury, 3 mi from Chesterfield Courthouse, William Womack and other militiamen we captured by Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion. See pension application of John Winfree (Winfrey) W6543.

With the application was a family record taken from "the old Family Testiment belonging to, and in the possession of Mrs. Betsey Andrews" and transcribed as follows:
Simon Andrews son of Benjamin and Elizebeth Andrews his wife was Born October the 2nd day 1777
Nanny Andrews was born 2nd of December 1778
Masey Andrews was born 10th of November 1781
Andrew Andrews was born 24 February 1785
Daniel Andrews was born 12 of May 1787
Benjamin Andrews was born 24th of January 1791
Betsey Andrews was born 18th of December 1793
Terney Ellison Wilson son of william Wilson and betsey wilson his wife was Born April 13th 1802
Lauson wilson was born December the 22 1803