

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of John Bynum S111

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Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee, Rutherford County: County Court August Term 1832

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Henry Trott, James C. Mitchell & V. D. Coner now sitting John Bynum aged 75 a resident of said County, who being duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That in the County of Wilkes State of Georgia, and he thinks it was on the 2nd day of July 1777, he volunteered in the service of the United States under Captain Joseph Nail, and Lieutenant Henry Manaden [?], Colonel John Coleman and Major William Ballan [?] commanded the Regiment. The service was to protect the frontiers from the incursions of the Cherokee and other Indians. We marched to near the mouth of Coosa River in Georgia, near Petersburg, and there a Fort was erected called the Log Fort. There was a Fort opposite where Petersburg now stands called Fort James [?] built by the British before the War or the Americans while under the British Government. He was stationed at this place two months, until the whole command became sick, and were dispersed into other forts, in South Carolina, and Georgia, until health was restored, when the Colonel, collecting again the Troops, that were dispersed, and a company from the lower part of Wilkes County commanded by Captain Hovington, and we rendezvoused on Broad River 12 miles above Petersburg, and there erected a Fort. There was another Fort erected above, 14 miles, known by the name of Nail's Fort about the same time. He cannot recollect the precise time that he was in service this second Tour. In July 1779 in the County of Wilkes he again joined Captain Joseph Nail as a volunteer, and his Lieutenant Henry Manaden took command of a company. It was at this time the Indians committed some robbing and killed one John Barnett and others, and took a Mrs. Webb, and another woman and some children prisoners. This took place the last of June or about the 1st of July 1779. The company was on duty in pursuit of the Indians for two months under the command of Lieutenant Manaden when, Lewis Davis and Lieutenant Charles Davis, took the command of the company at Hovington's, afterwards called Stewart's Fort – and he continued in the service aforesaid until the 27th of March 1780 when he was discharged. Colonel John Coleman died before the expiration of his service and Colonel John Dooley took the command having under him Major Elijah Clark [sic, Elijah Clarke]. He recollects that while in service a Captain Stewart, belonging to the militia was on duty at the same time and place. He never was in any battle or skirmish, while in service, but he was in frequent pursuit of the Indians, and ~~Tories~~ in pursuit of the Tories. He knows that he was in service 11 or 12 months, but part of the time he cannot specify, which would make, he thinks the whole term 14 or 15 [months] – when Captain Davis took the command of the company, which he thinks was in September 1779, he was appointed an orderly Sergeant, and continued to act in that capacity about seven months, and until he was discharged. He received his discharge at Stewart's or Hovington's Fort on the 27th day of March 1780, for all the services he had performed, under Captain Nail in 1777, and under Lieutenant Manaden and Captain Davis in 1779, from Colonel Dooley and Captain Davis – and from this place in that same year he moved into North Carolina Chatham County. He has lost his discharge, and has no evidence ~~documentary~~ in his possession by which he can prove his aforesaid Services. And he knows of but one person, if he is now living by whom he can prove said service, and that person lives in the State of Alabama, and when he last heard from him he was alive – though is an old man, about age or older than himself.

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 the Agency of any State.

50 Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ J. R. Laughlin, Clk.

S/ John Bynum

[Calvin Carlie, a clergyman, and John Wright gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories

Question 1st: When and in what year were you born?

Answer – I was born in North Carolina, Chatham County – he does not know what year he was born, but his parents told him he was 19 years of age when Independence was declared.

Question 2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer – I have no record of my age

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer – In the State of Georgia Wilkes County – from Wilkes went into Chatham County, then into South Carolina and then to Tennessee

Question 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

Answer – He volunteered

Question 5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer – Colonel John Coleman, William Ballan [could be Pullan] Major, Captain Joseph Nail– Colonel John Dooley and Major Clarke – There was no other Troops than those named –The duty performed was to guard the frontier from the Indians – and he was marched to different points, and he aided in building a Fort on Broad River near the mouth – he was a volunteer and was under Captain Davis six months, and two months under Manaden at the same place – and at Hovington's or Stewart's Fort.

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

Answer – He received a discharge from Colonel Dooley and Captain Davis, which is lost

Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer – William Whitmore, Moses H. Greswick, Baxter B. Dickins, Fielding Holt, Hoytt Robeson, William Holt, David Palton, Young Whitfield, James Porter, John Wright, Jesse Gilley, Leland Storill and Barber L. McLenner.

State of Tennessee, Rutherford County: Circuit Court April Sessions 1833

Personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable James C. Mitchell Judge of said Court John Bynum who being duly sworn, Deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades – for two months as a private – For two months and 15 days in his second tour as a private. I served as a private eight months under Joseph Nail and Henry Maneden-- Affiant was for seven [?] months of the above period -- Orderly Sergeant, and was acting in that capacity or when he was discharged.

And for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed this 10th day of April 1833

S/ Wm Ledbetter, Clk

S/ John Bynum

[his widow referred to as Betty Sear Bynum]