Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Weatherford W1520

Nancy Weatherford

f34GA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

5/12/10 & rev'd 1/29/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 30]

Cumberland County

This day Jesse Parker¹ & [name obliterated] came before me a Justice for this County & made oath that Benjamin Weatherford Inlisted with Captain John Mosby for three years in the Georgia Service of the War of the revolution of the United States & that he served his time out & that this Certificate is now granted to the same Benjamin Weatherford aged about Sixty years.

Given under my hand this 23rd day of May 1820

S/ [undeciphered signature, partially compromised]

LOUGRA

Charlotte Sct.

This day Daniel Weatherford & Stephen Weatherford came before me William Deupree a Justice of the peace for said County and made oath that Benjamin Weatherford of Lunenburg County Inlisted under Capt. John Moseley [sic] of Cumberland County for the term of three years in 1776 or 1777 and did serve the said term faithfully in the regular service of the United States & we believe was regularly discharged aged about sixty years and that he is in low circumstances as to supporting his family.

Given under my hand this 5th day of August 1820

S/Wm Deupree JP

Am Deypree It

[p 4]

State of Virginia Charlotte County, to wit: Benjamin Weatherford this day personally appeared before me (a judge of the General Court of said State) and made oath, that in February 1776 or 1777 he enlisted as a private soldier in the war of the revolution that he enlisted with Captain John Mosby² for the term of three years and was marched to Georgia he served regularly for near two years until Savannah was taken by the enemy when he was made a prisoner, detained in prison ships about six months & on land about three months longer at the end of which time he

² John Mosby VAS362 and B181

¹ Jesse Parker S11217

made his escape and got home a month or two before his time expired, that he knew not where to apply for a regular discharge and he could not have joined the Army before his time expired the affiant also says that he is old and poor and needs assistance for his support.

I also certify that from the certificate of Littleberry Mosby³ I am satisfied that the affiant did serve as he states against the common enemy he appears to be old and is certainly poor his wife he states to be living and nearly as old as himself.

Given under my hand this 8th day of August 1825

S/ Thomas T. Bouldin

[p 6] State of Virginia Lunenburg County

On this 10th day of October 1825 personally appeared in Open Court, being a Court of Record for the said County, Benjamin Weatherford resident in said County aged Sixty seven years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the act of Congress of the 18th March 1818, and the 1st May 1820; That he the said Benjamin Weatherford enlisted for the Term of three years on the 2nd day of February 1776 or 1777 in the County of Cumberland in the State of Virginia in the Company commanded by Captain John Mosby and was marched to Georgia under the said Captain Mosby, that the said Company was not attached to any Regiment until it joined the Army at Savannah when it was attached to the 2nd Regiment commanded by Colonel Samuel Elbert, in the line of the State of Georgia in the Continental establishment; that although he served in [several words obscured by a fold in the paper] he was considered as belonging to the Virginia Continental line; That he continued to serve regularly in said Corps for nearly two years until Savannah was taken by the British Troops when he was taken prisoner by the enemy & was detained in prison Ships about six months & on land about three months longer at the end of which time he made his escape and got to his home in Virginia. That he knew not where to apply for a regular discharge & that he could not have joined the Army before his time would have expired; "That he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension whatever except the present; and that his name is not on the pension Roll of any State & that the following all the reasons for his not making earlier application for a pension (to wit)." He is an illiterate man & knew not how, nor in what manner nor where to make application, he had been informed Congress had made such provision & some of his friends advised him that the Governor of this state was the proper person to make application, & he did apply to him several years ago who informed him he had nothing to do with such matters & he has not been able till now to get any person to inform him in what manner to proceed –

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever 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 and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and 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 and by me subscribed To wit: two milk cows & calves, one yearling two sows, seven shoats & twelve sheep

S/ Benjamin Weatherford, X his mark

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³ Littleberry Mosby BLWt64-300

"The declarant says his wife is living & nearly as old as himself, her name is Nancy, two of his daughters are living with him to wit, Ritter Weatherford & Delilah Weatherford the first aged 32 years the other 24 years, that himself his wife & the two mentioned daughters are virtually living with his son John Weatherford & but for John Weatherford they would not even have a house to live in and indeed are principally supported by him & are dependent upon him, for a home that John is dependent & is obliged to rent land, that he is in such reduced circumstances as not to be able to rent land. That he is in such indigent circumstances as to require, assistance from his Country --

"Here followeth an account of property in possession of the applicant on the 18th of March 1818 (to wit): One horse, 6 head of cattle, 15 head of sheep & 10 head of hogs. They had been no change in his property since 18th March 1818, except the loss of his horse & some of his other stock his Occupation is farming & painting & that he is not sufficiently able to pursue it. Sworn to in open Court the day and year first above written.

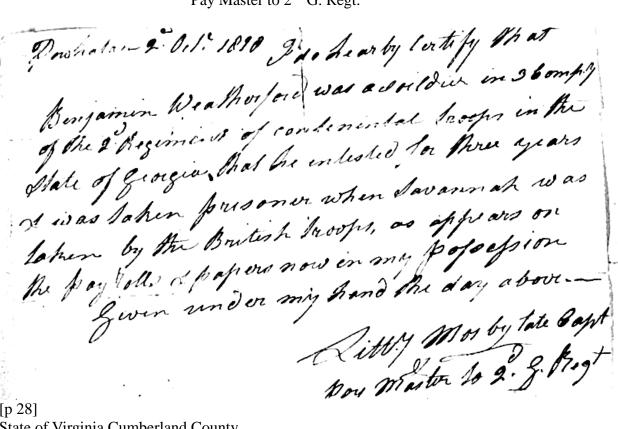
Test: S/Wm H. Taylor

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Powhatan 2nd Oct. 1818 I do hereby certify that Benjamin Weatherford was a soldier in a company of the 2nd Regiment of Continental troops in the State of Georgia, that he enlisted for three years & was taken prisoner when Savannah was taken by the British troops, as appears on the pay rolls and papers now in my possession.

Given under my hand the day above.

S/ Litty Mosby the late Capt Pay Master to 2nd G. Regt.



State of Virginia Cumberland County

I do hereby certify that Littleberry Mosby whose name is signed to his certificate granted to Benjamin Weatherford the 2nd day of October 1818 he is dead, that I firmly believe it to be his signature as I am well acquainted with his hand writing that I am Executor of the said Littleberry Mosby that he did act as Captain and pay master in the war of the Revolution in the Regiment as he has stated as it appears from the papers and pay rolls found among his papers after his deceased. I also Certify that the said Littleberry Mosby has acted as General of Brigade of the militia of this State. Given under my hand in the County aforesaid this 7th day of September 1825

S/ Mint. H. Booker

[p 10: On April 25, 1839 in Rutherford County Tennessee, Nancy Weatherford, aged about 77, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Benjamin Weatherford; that she married him in Charlotte County Virginia November 11, 1788; that he died in Mecklenburg County Virginia April 18, 1832 since which time she has remained his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing October 12, 1825 for three years service in the Georgia line during the revolution.]

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Addendum to Benjamin Weatherford W1520

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 28 January 2023.

[From rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.]

I certify that Benjamin Weatherford enlisted into the Virginia Continental service of the United States in the War of the Revolution for the term of three years & that he served his time out in the State of Georgia, "That Capt. Willis Wilson in writing my certificate Granted unto the said Benjamin Weatherford the 23^d day of May 1820 in stating therein that the said Benj'a Weatherford enlisted under Capt. John Mosby for three years in the Georgia service of the War of the Revolution & served his time out, he made a mistake & should have said he enlisted under Capt. John Mosby for three years into the Virginia Continental service of the United States and served his time out which is virtually & substantially true for I served in the same corpse with him in the state of Georgia untill Savannah was taken by the British Troops [29 Dec 1778] when the said Benj'a was taken prisoner. I expect and indeed have no doubt but the reason why Capt. Wilson who wrote & qualified me to the certificate of 23^d May 1820, stated that Weatherford enlisted into the Georgia service was because it was represented to him & made known that Mr. Weatherford served in the State of Georgia and I not paying much attention to it thought it was all right as he served in the State of Georgia in the Revolutionary War, which as before stated was the fact that he did, serve there, yet it is equally a fact that he was enlisted by Capt. Mosby under the Virginia Continental establishment. [see endnote] That I was sergeant in Capt. Mosby's Company of Virginia Continentals & I some months ago made application for [part missing at bottom of page] Stephen Weatherford [VAS4910] & Daniel Weatherford enlisted into the said Company for the same term & also served their time out to the South, that as we were Virg'a Continentals our service was not confined to any particular State or section of the Union, that we were very often in the service in South Carolina, that wherever the enemy was mostly embodied or our services mostly required there we were compell'd to go. that Littleberry Mosby was appointed a Capt. after the resignation of his brother John and was also appointed paymaster to the Regiment after our Company Joined the Southern Army at Savannah. That John Mosby & Littleberry Mosby was our Capt. & Lieutenant was born & raised in Powhattan near the line of this County that they enlisted us in this County, that they are both dead & I have been informed their heirs has obtained warrants for their Land. Jesse Parker [S11217] Jugue De [Certified in Cumberland County 7 Oct 1831]

Mill Grove [Mecklenburg County VA] Novem'r 26th 1831

Gent'n ["The Honb'l Executive & Council of Virginia]; I wrote you some time in the month of October last enclosing you the certificate of Mr Jesse Parker of Cumberland as additional evidence in the case of Benjamin Weatherfords claim [see endnote], which has been so long exhibitted before you & had hoped that I should have ere now received a Grant for his land & bounty in money promised him when he entered the service of his native State Virg'a on her Continental establishment. I do hope Gent'n that Mr Parker's certificate is sufficient to establish his right fully to your satisfaction & that you will no longer keep him & Fram [John Fram S41526] out of their just rights; y'r Clk Mr. Richardson stated they had no claim upon Virg'a that their service was alone for Georg'a. Both Weatherford & Fram state upon their oaths that they were enlisted for the Virg'a Continental Service & now Mr. Parker tells you the same & says that the magistrate Capt. W. Wilson made a mistake in saying that Weatherford enlisted with Capt. John Mosby for three years in the Georgia service, which might appear that he enlisted for the Georgia service only but Mr. Parker says he Parker & Rutherford were enlisted as Virg'a Continentals as such I trust you will now surely send their claims.

I am Gent'n./ yrs very respectfully/ Langston Bacon Jr

This man has been several times informed of the rejection of the claim & that the claimant belonged to the Georgia Line.

1831 Dec 23 claim Rejected

NOTES:

"Ben Wetherford," as well as Dan Wetherford and Stephen Wetherford, are on the payroll of the company commanded by Capt. John Mosby for 22 August 1776 to 1 April 1777 transcribed at http://revwarapps.org/b113.pdf.

According to E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra, *A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution*, "in October 1777, John Mosby, of Virginia, was promoted to a captaincy in the 2d Georgia Regiment, as was his brother, Littleberry Mosby. Many of the men in their companies served their enlistments under the impression that they were in the Virginia Continental Line but attached to the Georgia battalions."

Benjamin Weatherford's attorney wrote other letters that are not transcribed here.