Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Henry Williams W3638 Esther (Easter) Williams MD Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 June 2015.

On this 28th day of April in the year of Our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and Fifty seven personally appeared before me the Judge of the Superior Court of Baltimore City Easter Williams aged about ninety years a resident of Baltimore City Md who First being duly sworn according to Law on her oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benifit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 that she is the widow of Henry Williams deceased (colored) who was A Soldier in the Maryland line in the revolutionary War and that he also drove the waggons and made himself Generally useful have often heard him related the horros of war and how he has waded in Blood and walked over dead Bodies after battle in said war to the best of her Knowledge & Belief from what she has heard her aforesaid husband speak of his services that he served during said war under the Following Officers. John Kilty, Beal Smith, Norwood Ford and John Wayman or Wyming that he served in all about six years always heard him say that he entered the service at Anne Arundle [sic: Anne Arundel] County and that her husband the aforesaid Henry Williams was born in Anne Arundle County and that she was not married prior to to the Termination of her said husband services but prior to 1794 that she has no record proof of her aforesaid husbands services but heard him relate many Incidents & exposures that he encountered during his services in said war she further declares that she was married to the said Henry Williams in Anne Arundle County Md on the Fourteenth day of August 1785 by the Rev Charles Dorsey a Methodist Minister that her name before said marriage was Easter Giles that her husband the aforesaid Henry Williams died at Baltimore City Md on the 5th day of January 1850 and was at the Time of his death about one hundred years of age she further states that she dose not know that her said husband did ever apply for a Pension have often heard him say that he was Entitled to one she further says that she has had several children by her said husband who are now all dead the last one died in Eighteen hundred and Fifty four her only dependence She is now in Necessitious circumstances and applies for relief for the serviceses of her deceased husband Henry Williams and that she has no family records she being married in the country three miles from a place called poplar Spring. Anne Arundle County Md. where it appears there was no record kept at that date it is Impossible to get a certificate from records and that she has remained his widow ever since as will more Fully appear by reference to proof hereunto annexed Easter herXmark Williams

NOTES:

On 8 April 1857 Dr. Nathan R. Smith stated that "Old Harry was blind when I first knew him & I restored his sight by an operation. He was an honest and industrious old man and I had a great affection for him."

On 20 June 1857 Easter Williams applied for bounty land. In the file is a slip of paper saying "hannah Williams was born on the 22 day of October 1790," and a record of names and dates of birth entitled "The Ages of William a Hannahs Children" and transcribed as follows:

Harry was born August 11th 1811
Sary was born July 31st 1812
John was born October 17 1814
Warner was born Nov'm 21 1816
Cidney was born October 24th 1818
Joshua was born December 16th 1820
Emely was born November 23th 1822
Perry was born December 5th 1824
Hanson was born Nov'r 25 1827
Basel was born freb 20 1831