Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Barron R5 VA Sea Service Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 5 May 2017.

[The file includes a long printed appeal dated Willard's Hotel, 2 Aug 1849, referring to the cases of Commodore James Barron (pension application W12264) and Captain Richard Barron. It states that Capt. Barron served to the end of the war, but contains no further details of his service.]

Pension Office January 8, 1850

Upon an appeal to the Secretary of the Interior, in the case of the administratrix of the late Captain Richard Barron, he has decided after taking the opinion of the Attorney General, that the said Administratrix is entitled under the Acts of July 5, 1832 and March 3, 1835, to commutation of five years full pay and interest up to the present time, on account of Barron's service in the Virginia State Navy. I therefore certify that under this decision Ann Hubbard formerly Ann Barron, the Administratrix is entitled to two thousand five hundred and nine dollars and thirty cents, being five years full pay and interest thereon, at six per centum per annum from the 22^d April 1783 to this date; the sum of \$1338 paid by the State of Virginia on the 2^d March 1833 to be deducted. Interest on interest not to be allowed. The amount is payable to Frederick Vincent Esquire of Philadelphia, Attorney of the Administratrix.

[The following are from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia. Some of the online documents are illegible.]

The Affidavit of William Jennings Senior [S5615] aged seventy seven and upwards taken before me Tazewell Taylor a notary publick in the Borough of Norfolk and being authorized to take depositions or affidavits which said affidavit is to be read as evidence in a suit depending on the Superior Court of Henrico wherein James B. Balfour and Ann J his wife, formerly Ann J Barron Administratrix of Richard Barron Senior as plaintiff and The Commonwealth of Virginia Defendant.

The Affiant, being first duly sworn on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God states that at the commencement of the Revolutionary War he volunteered his services under the command of Miles King of Hampton Virginia, and continued under his command for twelve months, at the expiration of which term he enlisted in the Virginia State Navy having shipped on board the Schooner Patriot under the command of Captain Richard Barron and continued in that vessel until the arrival of the French fleet under Count de Grasse in the waters of the Chesapeake [30 Aug 1781].

The Affiant was then transfered from the Patriot to one of the French line of Battle ships as Pilot; to the best of his recollection she was called the Northumberland, on board of which vessel this affiant was, at the time of the Capture and surrender of Lord Cornwallis' army to the American troops in the year 1781 [19 Oct 1781]. The Northumberland shortly after this event sailed for Martinique with this affiant on board, which port she reached in due time. After remaining about ten[?] months in Martinique this affiant took passage on board of the Schooner Sally bound to Virginia, which vessel whilst on the way fell in with and was captured by his Britannia Majesty's Frigate of 50 guns, the "Chatham" commanded by Camadore Douglass. This Affiant was a prisoner of war for three months or thereabouts; he was then exchanged and immediately thereafter returned to Hampton where he continued very ill for three or four months with the Jail fever, but as soon as he was able he resumed his active service and was again under the command of Captain Richard Barron who was then performing actual service and the affiant continued to perform actual service under the command of the said Richard Barron until the end of the war in the year seventeen hundred and Eighty Three.

It being suggested to this affiant that the affidavit previously given by him and to which he swore left it uncertain whether Captain Richard Barron was in actual service until the end of the war in the year

1783 when Peace was proclaimed this Affiant states explicitly that the said Richard Barron did perform actual service and very hard service until the end of the war, all the time the affiant was under his command, as well before the siege of York as afterwards until the end of the War in the year 1783. And the said Barron was justly esteemed one of the most gallant and meritorious officers in the Navy.

[18 Feb 1831]

[The following is almost illegible.]

The affidavit of Commodore James Barron [W12264] taken before me [illegible] a Justice of the Peace for the County of Norfolk, the said affidavit to be read as evidence in a suit depending in the Superior Court of Henrico, wherein James B. Balfour and Ann his Wife, formerly Ann Barron Adm'x of Richard Baron Sen. deceased, are plaintiffs and the Comm'th of virginia as defendants.

The affiant being duly sworn on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposeth and saith, that being requested to explain some matters in a former affidavit especially whether Captain Richard Barron formerly of the State Navy of Virginia performed actual service until the end of the War in seventeen hundred and eighty three. Affiant states [undeciphered word] that the said Richard Barron [two undeciphered words] as a Captain in the said Navy of Virginia until the end of the war in 1783 – and the circumstance of his being [undeciphered word] shortly before the promulgation of peace to go up James River and bring down the Captured Ship Comrant [Cormorant] to Norfolk, where she remained until sold after the peace, strengthens the affiant in the belief that the said Captain Richard Barron never was dismissed the service nor never did resign his Commission during the revolutionary war. And there is nothing which transpired in those days, that I now recollect better, than the service of my connections in the revolutionary War – for it was thought dishonorable in those who quit the service before the War was ended. And those who did so, had abundant cause to [one or two undeciphered words], as they were [several undeciphered words] of those who [undeciphered word] to their posts, to the end of the Contest, and amongst that number was my uncle Richard Barron. [21 Feb 1831] Samu Barron

Land Office Apl 21 1831

I certify a Military Land bounty warr't for 53331/3 acres issued to Captain Richard Barron for three years sevice in the State Navy, dated June 3rd 1783 Wm Selden R L Off Va Auditor's Office Aug 22 1831

I do hereby certify that by the Report of the Navy Board held in 1784, which is on file in this office, it appears that Captain Richard Barron was commissioned on the 6 January 1776 as a Captain in the State Navy.

Jas. E. Heth/ Aud'r of public accounts

NOTE: E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra's *A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution*, lists the following services by Richard Barron as Captain:

Boat *Patriot*, 1776 - 1781 Brig *Jefferson*, 1779 - 1780 Schooner *Harrison*, 1782 - 1783