Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Caleb Holbrook R5116 Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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' 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.]

Georgia, Gwinnett County

Personally came before me Jesse R. Hunnicutt a Justice of the Peace in & for said County Elias Baker¹ who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he was well acquainted with Caleb Holbrook during the Revolutionary war particularly in the years 1774, 1775, 1776, 1777 and until his death which occurred about twenty seven ago. That the said Caleb Holbrook served a tour of duty in person against the Cherokee Indians for the term of three Months. Said tour was performed sometime in the Fall of 1774 or 1775 in the militia under the following named officers Capt. John Fifer [sic, John Phifer] and General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. Said Holbrook lived at that time in Mecklenburgh [sic, Mecklenburg] County N. C. Deponent further swears that some time in the Spring of 1779 said Caleb Holbrook enlisted in the regular services of the United under Major Nelson [John Nelson] in Mecklenburg County N. C. and that he hired his brother Vachel Holbrook to perform nine months tour that Major Nelson marched said Vachel & others to the main Army under General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]. Deponent as a militia man under Capt. Joseph White & Benjamin Knox, 1st Lieut, and Benjamin Baker 2nd Lieut, joined the main Army above Augusta where he saw said Vachel Holbrook in the service and frequently saw said Vachel in the Army while marching down the Savannah River and at the battle of Stono [June 20, 1779] and deponent knows that said Vachel Holbrook served out his nine months tour and was regularly discharged. Deponent further says that said Vachel Holbrook was a private in said Army. And Deponent further swears that he was well acquainted with Caleb Holbrook and Drusilla Baker before they were married & that Drusilla Holbrook the present applicant for a pension is the widow of the said Caleb Holbrook. And that she was never married since the death of the said Caleb. Deponent saith that he did not see said Caleb & Drusilla married but that he lived within one mile of said parties when they were married which was in April 1779 and that as they said & deponent verify believes were married by Martin Fifer [probably, Martin Phifer] a Justice of the Peace in Mecklenburg County N. C.

S/ Elias Baker, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14th day of August 1841 S/ Jesse R. Hunnicutt, J. P.

Georgia, Gwinnett County

Personally came before Jesse R. Hunnicutt a Justice of the Peace in & of said County Sarah Baker who being duly sworn saith that Caleb Holbrook & Drusilla Baker were married in about 1779 by Martin Fifer a Justice of the Peace in Mecklenburg County N. C. That Caleb Holbrook was her brother and that she lived within about one mile of the above named parties

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when they were married. And that they lived together as man & wife until said Caleb Holbrook died which was about twenty seven years since. And that said Drusilla has never since married.

S/ Sarah Baker, X her mark

Sworn to & Subscribed before me this 14th day of August 1841 S/ Jesse R. Hunnicutt J. P.

I Jesse R. Hunnicutt do hereby certify that Elias Baker and Sarah Baker are persons of respectability and undoubted truth & vivacity and entitled to full credit in all of these statements. Given under by hand & seal this 14th day of August 1841.

S/ Jesse R. Hunnicutt J. P.

State of Georgia, Gwinnett County

On this 6th day of September Eighteen hundred and forty one personally before us Justices of the Inferior Court for said County and State Drusilla Holbrook a resident of said County aged Seventy eight 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 7th 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pension to certain widows" That she is the widow of Caleb Holbrook who was a private in the war of the revolution and performed these services hereinafter specified viz: That in the fall of the year 1774 or 1775 the said Caleb Holbrook served a tour of three months duty as a private in the militia against the Cherokee Indians under the following named officers Capt. John Phifer and General Rutherford that she then lived in Mecklenburg County N. C. That sometime in the Spring of 1779 said Caleb enlisted as a private in Mecklenburg County N. C. under Major Nelson in the regular service of the United States to perform nine months duty. That he hired his brother Vachel Holbrook to perform said nine months tour - that Major Nelson marched the said Vachel and others to the main Army above Augusta Ga. that said Army marched down the Savannah River and through a part of the State of South Carolina. And that said Vachel Holbrook was engaged in the battle of Stono Ferry: And deponent further states that he served nine months in the United States Army and that he was regularly discharged. She further declares that she was married to the said Caleb Holbrook in April 1779: that the marriage took place in Mecklenburg County N. C. and was consummated by Martin Fifer Esquire a Justice of the Peace for said county: that her husband the aforesaid Caleb Holbrook died about twenty seven years since; that she was married to him as above stated and that the marriage took place previous to the first day of January Seventeen hundred and ninety four. Sworn and subscribed in the day and year above written in open court before us.

S/ Drusilla Holbrook, X her mark

S/ John C. Whitworth J.I.C. S/ Saml. C. Dunlap J.I.C. S/ R. D. Wisser J. I. C. S/ Saml. F. Alexander J. I.C.

Georgia, Gwinnett County

I Riley S. Baker Clerk of the Inferior Court for said county do hereby certify that forgoing declaration was sworn to and subscribed in open Court by Drusilla Holbrook. And that Jesse R. Hunnicutt whose signature (as a subscribing witness) apt was in the foregoing affidavit of Elias Baker and Sarah Baker is and was at the time of subscribing the same as acting Justice of the Peace in & for said County and that full faith & credit ought to be had and given to his attention as such. Given under my hand & Seal of office this 6th day of September 1841.

S/Riley S. Baker C.I.C.