

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Bentley R784

Ann

fn784NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/26/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Georgia Cobb County: On this the 14th day of November 1850 Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for said County John Bentley aged according to his account about ninety-one years of age, who being first 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 June the 7th 1832.

He states that he volunteered in Pitt County in North Carolina on or about the 16th day of March 1780 under Captain Samuel Dudley for the term of three months, (After the Company crossed the South Carolina line) After he joined Captain Samuel Dudley's company they then marched, under General William Caswell for the protection of the City of Charleston SC and whilst on their march to that point and before reaching there, they was informed of the Surrender of the City to the British forces. General Caswell on receiving this intelligence retreated back with his forces to Fayetteville NC. They there remained until the 1st day of July 1780 and was then paid for their services by General Richard Caswell and received written discharges, Deponent states that he then returned home in Pitt County NC and remained there a short time, and then went as a substitute in the place of Melas Broom of Dobbs County NC who had been drafted for a three months tower he then marched under Lieutenant Travis Thigpen and joined a reinforcement for General Gates Army, that the aforesaid reinforcement reached General Gates Army, news reached them of his defeat at Camden. They then retreated back to Hillsboro, thence to Bell's Mills, thence to the Virginia Troops commanded by Colonel Jarvis and Colonel Sewell, not very far from the Seven Island Ford on the Adkin River [sic, Yadkin River], he there remained until his three months Tower was out, and then received his written Discharge, Declarant, states that he again volunteered under Captain George Falkner and Colonel James Gouram [sic ?], Declarant does not recollect the time he volunteered to serve this time, but states he served one month to the best of his recollection, during which time he states he acted as Commissary, he states he did not receive any written discharge this time, but received pay for his services, which was sent to him after he a return home. This last named Company he states was raised for the purpose of guarding the inhabitants of Pitt County NC. Deponent states he knows of no one living by whom he can prove his services in the Revolutionary War – his Brother Thomas Bentley he states served with him during his first three months Tower under Captain Samuel Dudley and after this his Brother was drafted for twelve months and served out the full

time, and has been as he is informed receiving \$50 per annum as a pension. Deponent states that he sometimes sent his son Luke Bentley to write to his Brother Thomas Bentley in North Carolina to make proof of his services and that an answer was received that he had lost all his reason and recollection. Deponent states John Williams, George Oxley, Dickson Chamberland served with him as soldiers. Deponent states he some years since employed one Colonel Night of this County who made an effort to get his claim or to obtain a pension for his Revolutionary Services, but owing to his Brother Thomas Bentley losing his reason and not knowing anyone living who served with him he failed to obtain a pension for him, He therefore makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining a pension from the Government of the United States and he hereby appoints Thomas Lumpkin of Washington City his attorney to prosecute my said claim before the Department at Washington City – Sworn to and Subscribed before me the day and year above written.

Test

S/ William Woods

S/ John Bentley, X his mark

S/ H. T. Martin, JP

State of Georgia Cobb County: On this the 14th of November 1850 Before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for said County personally appeared Luke Bentley son of John Bentley who being duly sworn according to law states he is according to the statements of his parents 58 years old he states from his earliest recollection he has heard his Father John Bentley speak of serving 7 months in the Revolutionary War, in 3 engagements 3 months under Captain Samuel Dudley, 3 months as a substitute for Mealas Broom, placed under Lieutenant Thigpen, and one month as a guard to protect the Citizens of Pitt County NC and that he received 2 written discharges and has lost or mislaid them.

And I do further swear from the feebleness of my father John Bentley and his old age and delicate situation of his health it would endanger his life to be taken before the Court at Marianna.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written.

S/ HT Martin, JP

S/ Luke Bentley

[fn p. 6: on June 28, 1855 in Cobb County Georgia, Ann Bentley, aged 90, filed an application seeking a pension under the 1853 act stating she is the widow of John Bentley; she states that she married him in Pitt County North Carolina on the 23rd of February 1792; that they were married by one Mark Tyson a Baptist Minister; that her name prior to her marriage was Ann Johnson; that her husband died in Cobb County Georgia on October 20, 1851 and that she remains his widow.]

[fn pp. 16 and 17: this file erroneously contains the Bounty Land Warrant Record Cards of

1. John Bentley, private, Pennsylvania line, Warrant number 8951 for 100 acres issued March 10, 1790;

2. William Bentley, private, Connecticut line, Warrant number 5474 for 100 acres issued January 24, 1792 to Stephen Thorne]