Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Benjamin Bledsoe R938 Sarah fn57NC Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 9/15/10

[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, Campbell County

On this 6th October 1834 Personally appeared in open court before us Caleb Field, E. B. Thompson & D. D. Smith Judges of the Inferior court of Campbell County, now sitting, Benjamin Bledsoe a resident of Campbell County Georgia, aged Seventy One (71) Years, who being first duly Sworn according to Law, doth, on his oath, that the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein Stated, That he entered the Service the 15th of January 1781 for three months tour, as a volunteer; under the command of Captain Eaves, he does not recollect either the name of the Major or Colonel of his Regiment now, the Company rendezvoused at Franklin Courthouse North Carolina, the whole was under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene] – this deponent was at the battle of Guilford Courthouse on the 15th of March 1781 and after the battle, the Army was again organized at Hill's Iron works, and was ordered to pursue Corn Wallis [sic, Lord Cornwallis], and followed him as far as Ramsey's Mills on Deep River – where we remained some time to recruit, from thence we were ordered to march to Camden, where the Army was again engaged in a battle with Lord Roddeu [sic, Rawdon]-- after the battle we were rendezvoused at Roudgesley [sic, Rugeley's] Mills, from thence we were marched to Charlottesville [sic, Charlotte], from thence to Salisbury, where this deponent was taken sick and remained some time, and on account of his sickness was not discharged until the 13th May 1781, one month over the time for which I volunteered – This deponent again entered the Service on the 10th September 1781 – for three months, was drafted and placed in a horse Company under the command of Captain Tatum, we were under no officers of a higher grade, the company was rendezvoused at Goodwin's Cross Roads Franklin County N. C. from thence we were marched to Smithfield, from thence to Crossed Creek (now Fayetteville) from thence to near Wilmington N. C. -- where Lord Rawdon lay encamped – we remained there until Rawdon evacuated the place and marched off, when we were on the 10th December 1781 discharged. I have no

documentary evidence, and that I know of no person, whose testimony I can procure, who can testify to my Service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Benjamin Bledsoe

Sworn to, and Subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.

S/E. B. Thompson, JIC

S/ David D. Smith, JIC

S/ Caleb Field, JIC

Interrogatories from the War Department

To the 1st Interrogatory, he answers, that he was born in Bute [County] Originally now Franklin County, North Carolina on the 4th of July 1763

To the 2nd Int., He answers, that he has no record of his age, but what he made himself, from information received from his parents.

To the 3rd Int., he answers, that he was living in Franklin County North Carolina, has lived since in Columbia & Warren Counties Georgia and now living in Campbell County Georgia.

To the 4^{th} Int., He answers, that his first tour, he was a volunteer, the last was drafted.

To the 5th Int. – He answers that he served with General Greene, & Colonel Washington & Colonel Lee of the Horse, of the Continental Service, and served with several regiments in the Continental service but does not recollect their numbers, the General circumstances of his Service were such as have been already related in my declaration.

To the 6th Int., He answers that if he ever received a written discharge, he has lost or misplaced it, he has none now.

To the 7th Int.,

He refers to Mastin Rogers, a minister of the Gospel and Thomas B.

Watts.

S/ Benjamin Bledsoe

Sworn to, and Subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.

S/E. B. Thompson, JIC

S/ David D. Smith, JIC

S/ Caleb Field, JIC

[Martin Rogers, a clergyman, and Thomas B Watts gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 9: on June 13, 1851 in Chattooga County Georgia, Sarah Bledsoe filed an application stating that she is the widow of Benjamin Bledsoe, a pensioner of the United States; that she was married to him in the state of Georgia in the city of Augusta on the 27th of January 1791; that her husband died May 7th, 1845; that she remains his widow.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]