

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of James Barber S16042

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

The State of Ohio }

Medina County SS }

On this third day of March 1840 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting, James Barber, a resident of Bath in the County of Medina & State of Ohio, aged seventy eight years, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. I was born in Winchester, Frederick County Virginia, on the 16th day of October 1761. I was draughted into the Militia in the summer of 1779, but I cannot now recollect the exact time, but should think it was in July to guard deserters from the army, but mostly from the militia I was residing about 6 miles North of Romney in the County of Hampshire & State of Virginia. Capt. John Prentie or Prenty was the Captain of the Company. I should think there was about 40 men in the Company. the deserters were in prison at Winchester, Frederick Co. Virginia. the service was done at Winchester as guards of the deserters, there was only one Company in the service at the time; a few days before the three months for which the company was drafted had expired, we were discharged by the Captain and allowed for three months service. cannot now recollect whether any written discharge was given at the time or not.

In the months of June 1781 I was again draughted to serve three months in the militia, was still residing 6 miles North of Romney, served under Col Devoll, Major Higgins, & Captain [John] Anderson, all of the Militia, cannot now recollect their Christian names. the Company rendezvoused at Romney & marched from there to Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg]. from there to Richmond, at Richmond we were attached to Col. Devolls Regiment, the troops at Richmond were mostly Militia. I have no personal acquaintance with the officers of the Continental army. I was only a private soldier. After joining Col. Devolls Regiment, we marched towards Yorktown, while on the way from Richmond to Yorktown my term of service expired. A light infantry company was formed at Richmond as scouts to precede the army some six or seven men were taken from Captain Andersons Company, the rest of the men were taken from other companies. this Company I think was formed entirely of men from Col. Devolls Regiment. I cannot Recollect the name of the Captain of said light Company. the name of the men taken from Captain Andersons Company were Abraham Cuffy, Thomas Cottrell [Thomas Cottrill], John Cottrell [John Cottrill, pension application S39597], Daniel Chapman, James Barber, this deponent, Anderson Corbin [W6739], & Sergeant Hoskins. there may have been two or three more whose names I cannot now recollect. while on the march Captain Andersons Company were discharged, their time having expired & were relieved by Captain Stumps Company. I think I was in advance of the Regiment with the light Company and so soon as we understood that Captain Andersons Company was discharged, we represented to Col [John] Green who was also serving at that time in the army, that Captain Andersons Company had been discharged, their time having expired, & that our time had also expired & we wanted to go home, & Col. Green gave us a discharge. we had then served a week or more after the expiration of our time. We got our discharge about three weeks before Cornwallis was taken at Yorktown [19 Oct 1781]. we were paid off in Continental money. I went back to my place of Residence near Romney where I lived some 4 or five years. I married Mary Rowland & moved to the now State of Ohio & settled about two miles below the present town of Steubenville on the Ohio side. when I went there there was no inhabitants at Steubenville, none that I know of on the Ohio side of the River. I served in a Company of Rangers in Capt McMahans Co. the same year that Genl [Arthur] St Clair was defeated [4 Nov 1791]. our head quarters were at the Mingo bottoms. the next year I served in Capt William Wells Co of Rangers

[end of page; one or more words may be missing] head quarters at Mingo bottoms. soon after that moved about 4 miles to Cross Creek, where I lived about three years. I then moved to what is now Lawrence Township Stark Co. O. I continued to live in Lawrence Township Stark Co. till the Spring of 1834, when I moved to the Township of Bath, Medina Co. O.

I got a written discharge from Col. Green but it has been lost a great number of years. I was never in any battle I do not know that there was any Continental Regiment or company with us during my time of service, and I have no documentary evidence of my service whatever nor do I know that there is any person living by whom I can prove my service. I cannot recollect any thing more that may be of use during my time of service in the army.

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

Jas hisXmark Barber

The State of Ohio }  
Summit County SS }

I James Barber under oath make the following statement in addition to one that I have already made & sent to the Pension office at Washington.

Some time about twelve years ago while I was living in Lawrence Township, Stark Co. Ohio, one Benjamin Miller [pension application R7178] of Wayne County sent his son to me, to go to his house and make oath to the said Miller's service in Captain Anderson's Company of Virginia Militia in the War of the Revolution during a part of the year 1781. I went to said Millers house and made the necessary affidavit to three months service of said Miller as above stated. Miller was then old & infirm, he served in Capt. Andersons Company. I do not know whether he ever obtained a pension, no do I know whether he is still living. On my return home I applied to John Harris Esq. an Attorney at Law to assist me in obtaining a pension. Mr Harris advised me, that under the law then in force I could not get a pension unless I could prove six months service by some living witness – this I could not prove. Benjamin Miller did not serve with me during the time I served at Winchester.

Some time in the Summer of 1839 I was informed that the Pension laws had been altered & that under the provisions of the law then in force I might obtain a pension. I then applied to Messrs Hand & Carthy Attys at Law at Akron, Ohio & they advised me to make application. I was ignorant of any law that would enable me to obtain a pension till the Summer of 1839.

James hisXmark Barber

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 26th day of May 1840