Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of S6549 Burrell Barns (Burwell Barnes)
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.]

State of North Carolina, Randolph County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions November Term A.D. 1832

On this 5th day of November A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, now sitting, Burrell Barns [Burwell Barnes], a resident of the County of Randolph & State of North Carolina, aged Seventy-five 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, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, & Served as herein stated – viz.

He declares that he was born in Edgecombe County N. C. on or about the 24th of October 1757 - That he was residing in Wake County & was drafted at Wake Court House (now the City of Raleigh) in the summer of 1780 as he thinks, & about six weeks before Gates' defeat at Camden [Battle of Camden or Gates Defeat, August 15-16, 1780]; he does not recollect the name of his Captain; rendezvoused at Hillsboro & placed under the command of Colonel Collier [John Collier] & General Butler [John Butler], & was marched to Camden a few days before the battle; that he was engaged in said battle which took place he thinks about the first of August 1780, but was not wounded. He states that the firing commenced by the British about midnight, & that the general engagement took place next morning in which the American Army was defeated, & he with other dispersed troops fled to Salisbury, where he remained until he was discharged November 27, 1780. He states further that he was, a short time after his discharge at Salisbury, again drafted for three months in Wake County, & Served under Captain Bledsoe [Lewis Bledsoe] who was authorized by General Butler to raise a company of men to guard his family & property – to operate against the Tories; to disperse & quiet them; & that his company were entirely employed against the Tories in the Counties of Wake, Chatham and Randolph, until the expiration of his term of three months, when he was discharged at Wake Court House, he thinks in the early part of the summer 1781. He received no written discharge.

He further states that he was immediately thereafter drafted a third time, & served under a Captain whose name he does not recollect who lived in Wake County & was employed in guarding the General Assembly of the State, then sitting at Wake Court House, & also in guarding a number of beeves for the use of the Soldiery – that having served three months, he was discharged at Wake Court House, but received no written discharge. He knows of no person by whom he can prove [his] service & has no documentary evidence of it, except his first discharge. He states, he removed into this County, about forty years ago, & now resides in it. He does not recollect any officers of the regular Army, & did not serve with any regular troops except at Gates' defeat, & then for so short a time & under such circumstances of alarm & danger that he does not recollect them. He is well known to Leonard Dorsett & John Henley by whom he expects to prove his reputation for veracity & revolutionary 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.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Burrell Barns, X his mark

[Leonard Dorsett and John Henley give standard certificate of reputation for veracity, age and service.]

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Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & for the County of Randolph, State of North Carolina, Burrell Barns, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that he served as stated in the preceding declaration, not less than the period mentioned below, & in the following grade:

For nine months, I served as a private, & for such service I claim a pension. Sworn to & subscribed before me at Asheboro February 23rd A.D. 1833

S/ B Elliott, JP

S/ Burwell Barns, X his mark

State of North Carolina, County of Macon

On the 8th day of December A. D. 1855, personally appeared Thomas Barnes and Aggy Barnes, children and heirs at law of Burwell Barnes, before me Joab L Moore, an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County & State aforesaid, and made oath that Burwell Barnes drew a pension of the United States, for nine months service as a soldier, under a certificate granted June 6th, 1833, which pension was suspended, because six months of the service alleged was employed in guarding private property and the General Assembly of North Carolina, on the 4th April 1835. That Burwell Barnes died 1st June 1838 [last digit could be "5" or "3" or "6"] ¹ and never drew a pension for the three months service, to which he was legally entitled. That affiants believe it never was drawn by any one and as his legal representatives, they ask for what money would have been due him, had he drawn under a proper declaration.

S/ Thomas Barnes, X his mark S/ Aggy Barnes, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina militia.]

