

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Beekman W24644

Sarah

fn157NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/23/10

[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.]

[fn p. 11]

State of Ohio Pike County

On this 28th day of March in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared before me Benjamin Daniels one of the associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Pike County in the State of Ohio, which being a Court of Record William Beekman a resident of Mifflin Township Pike County aforesaid aged seventy-seven years and seven months who being first duly sworn by me 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 and served as herein stated he states that he volunteered into the militia of the State of North Carolina about the middle of March 1775 to fight the common enemy immediately after he volunteered he was elected a Captain of militia company which he raised in North Carolina and was commissioned by Colonel Christopher Beekman who commanded the Regiment, the name of the second Colonel was Charles McDole [sic, Charles McDowell?] the names of the Majors were Davison [sic, Davidson?] & Prevard [sic, Brevard?] the name of the Adjutant was George Willfong the name of my Lieutenant was Bolser Sigman and the Ensign was Dennis Graves the company consisted of about sixty privates the company was were raised in Burke County State of North Carolina, he states he was constantly in service from the time he volunteered until he was discharged which was three years and three months. During the time of his service he was on the frontiers of North Carolina defending the inhabitants against the depredations of the Indians which were constantly annoying the frontier inhabitants he served out his time and was honorably discharged by Colonel Beekman which discharge is lost by time and accident and he further states that General Rutherford commanded the Brigade during the time of his service he states that he was never in any engagement with the enemy himself but a part of his company were attacked by a body of Indians but the Indians retreated before any force could be brought against them two of his men were killed and three Indians were killed – sometime in the month of June of 1778 he left the State of North Carolina and moved to the State of New Jersey to Princeton Summerset [sic, Somerset sic¹] County shortly after he went into New Jersey in about 1 or 2 months he was called out in a militia company commanded by Captain James Moore the Ensign whose name

¹ Princeton is in Mercer County, NJ, which is adjacent to Somerset County.

was William Mountier and the Lieutenant's name was James Hamilton the company was marched to New York New Jersey and placed under the command of General De Lafayette and was constantly kept enrolled and the greater part of the time in service until the spring of 1781 about four months before the surrender of General Cornwallis and he was then sent home with his company by the General to be in readiness at a minutes warning but was never called out anymore he frequently saw General De Lafayette and General Washington was often at the place where he was stationed he never had any discharge from service while out as a private as the militia of were never called out after they were sent home, he was never in any Battle was in the service of the United States as a Captain 3 years and 3 months was in the service as a private in the militia company from the very early part of the fall of 1778 to the spring of 1781 being at home but a short intervals to assist in planting and harvesting the crops liable to be called out every day constantly in perfect readiness when he should be called – His commission as Captain has long since been lost and he has no other documentary or written evidence of his service than what is here with enclosed marked A & B. He knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He was born in the State of New Jersey at a place within about 2 miles of Germantown on the 27th day of August 1755 and his age is recorded in his father's Bible which he has often seen and is yet in his brother's possession – after the conclusion of the war in the year 1784 about the 10th of May he moved from Princeton New Jersey to London [sic, Loudoun] County Virginia lived there 3 years then moved into Hampshire County Virginia [now West Virginia] where he lived 15 years sometime in 1797 he moved to the Mason County Kentucky, he resided there about 4 years when he moved to Ross County now Pike County State of Ohio where he has ever since resided and still resides – he states that he is known to William Pillers and Reuben Bristol who reside in his neighborhood who he thinks can testify to his character and veracity – 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 and subscribed the day
& year aforesaid

S/ William Beekman

S/ Benjamin Daniels

[William Pilles and Reuben Bristol gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 21]

Marked B

"Wm Beekman you are Desired to attend Musters

as follows

Capt. Carsons on Mondy Nov 18th

Capt. Littens 19

Capt. McCorkels 20

Capt. Conrad 21

Capt Mulls 22

Cappt Orrs 23

Capt Hardins 25

Capt Moores 26

Capt. Davisons 27

Capt. Penlands 28

Capt Taylor 29

Capt. Whitsons	30
Capt. Conleys Decr	2d
Capt. Morrisons	3 rd

Wm Beekman you are to order the Captains to Call their Companies to Muster again as follows

Capt. Cowen on Satterday Decr.	14 th
Capt. Litten Monday	16
Capt. McCorkle	17
Capt. Conrad	18
Capt. Mull	19
Capt. Orr	20
Capt. Hardin	21
Capt. Moore Monday	23
Capt. Davison	24
Capt. Penland	26
Capt. Taylor	27
Capt. Whitson	28
Capt. Conley	30
Capt. Morrison	31

day of Decr. 1776

[fn p. 37]

State of Ohio Pike County

Personally appeared before me [indecipherable name] a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Pike aforesaid William Beekman the declarant named in the declaration hereto attached and being sworn according to law by me upon his oath saith that about the 15th of March 1775 that there was a call for volunteers in the State of North Carolina where this declarant then lived to serve against the Indians and the British who were then threatening the country with a war the declarant then volunteered for the service of the United States under the authority of the State of North Carolina at Rowan County now Burke County and that about the first of April following he was elected a Captain of a company which he had raise for volunteer service in said County and was commissioned by Colonel Beekman² about the first of April aforesaid and that his commission was signed by Colonel Beekman and then entered upon the service against the Indians and marched to the frontier of North Carolina on the Indian boundary in which service he continued until June the first 1778 under the command of the officers named in the aforesaid declaration and was discharged after having served as a Captain of said company three years and three months – Immediately after he was discharged he moved to New Jersey he thinks the latter part of June 1778 New Jersey being at that time in a manner the seat of war then about the first of September of 1778 he was called into service by a draft and served as a private in a company commanded by Captain James Moore from the time he was called out under Captain Moore to the time he was sent home he believes to be 2 years in the whole time he was in the service of the United States he believes to be 5 years months 3 years & 3 months as a Captain and 2 years as a private & that he never held at [several words written over and illegible] was in service any civil office.

Sworn to and subscribed

S/ William Beekman

² Christopher Beekman

before me this 20th day of
December 1833
[indecipherable signature]

[fn p. 44]

State of Ohio Pike County

Personally appeared before me the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for the County of Pike aforesaid William Beekman who being sworn according to law by me in the same William Beekman who made the declaration to obtain a pension to which this affidavit is annexed upon his oath saith that the several Captains named in the list marked B in his declaration commanded companies belonging to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Christopher Beekman together with the company commanded by this affiant. During the months of November and December of 1776 the several companies were permitted to return home and this affiant was taken from the line in order to perform the duty of adjutant during said 2 months and his own company was under his own command and towards the latter part of December the said Regiment was called into actual service in the adjutant of the Regiment after that performed his duty and these are the reasons why this affiant's name does not appear among the other captains. This affiant's commission has been lost as stated in his declaration and he knows of no person now living by whom he can prove his commission or the loss of it.

Sworn to and subscribed

S/ William Beekman

this 3rd day of October 1833

S/ Saml. Skouden?, JP

[fn p. 47:Christopher L. Beekman, 63, gave testimony in Pike County Ohio on July 27, 1843 that he was acquainted with William and Sarah Beekman from his earliest recollection; that they were living in his grandfather's house in Loudoun County Virginia when he 1st knew them; that they lived together as husband and wife; that William Beekman was his uncle; that William and Sarah moved to Kentucky and then in the year 1801 moved to the state of Ohio where they lived together as husband and wife until William died about 9 years ago; that he always understood William and Sarah were married in the state of New Jersey.]

[fn p. 58]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office 3rd of April 1833

Sir

I find in the Journals of the Provincial Congress held in April 1776, the following officers were appointed for the 2nd Regiment of Rowan County Militia, viz. Christopher Beekman Colonel, Charles McDowell Lieutenant Colonel, Hugh Brevard Major and George Wilfong 2nd Major – Rowan County then including what has since been called Burke County. It does not appear that any other officers were appointed by the Congress for said Regiment.

This seems to favor the application of William Beekman, and is all I can find that does.

I am respectfully your obedient servant

S/ Wm Hill

[facts in file: Veteran died June 13, 1834; he married July 1781 in NJ to Sarah Furman who was born July 10, 1761; she died June 24, 1847; the veteran and his wife had the following children: Gabriel born May 10, 1782

Christopher born September 6, 1784
William born January 1, 1788
Abraham born October 13, 1790
Aaron born March 31, 1793
Mary born November 26, 1795 and married Josiah Pillars
John S born May 22 1799 died July 1851
Elizabeth born December 12, 1802 married Thomas Johnson
[in addition the following family record is also contained in the file]
William Beekman born June 11, 1803
Mary Beekman born December 13, 1806
Furman Beekman born February 18, 1809
Delilah Beekman born November 2, 1810]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$296.66 $\frac{2}{3}$ per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 and ending June 13, 1834, the date on which he died. His pension reflects 13 months service as a Captain and 11 months service as a private in the New Jersey and North Carolina militia.]