Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Benjamin Bryant W8389

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 March 2012.

State of Kentucky }

Warren County } Sct.

On this 23^d day of July A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Warren County now sitting Benjamin Bryant a resident of the County of Warren and State of Kentucky aged eighty two years & nine months 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. 1st That he was drafted into the service under the command of Capt. Iseriah Martin [sic: Azariah Martin] the lieutenant in whose company was named [William] Holt in the regiment of Col George Lucus [sic: James Lucas] & the 4th Regiment of — (he does not know whether State or Continental troops) under Gen. Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens of the Virginia Militia]. He entered the service in June 1780 in and from the state of Virginia, marched into the State of North Carolina and rendezvoused at Hillsborough. — after the forces had collected marched under the General command of Stephens to Rugeleys Mill [about 12 mi N of Camden SC] where he joined the regulars under the general command of [Gen. Horatio] Gates. He did not continue at Rugeleys mill & in company with the regular army more than 4 or 5 hours before he was attached out into the light Infantry & marched on toward the British lines near Camden He was in the battle at Camden [16 Aug 1780] under the command of Col. [Charles] Porterfield who was shot in the knee on the first fire of the British and who died the next day [sic: 10 Jan 1781] of the wound. This first was a three months tour for which he joined & served in the army of the Revolution.

2^{dly} He was again drafted on a another three months tour beginning sometime in the month of October & the same year (1780) under the command of Capt. John Graves of Major Morris – of Col. Lucus of Gen. Stephens – and Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] commander in Chief. He again rendezvoused at Hillsboro and marched thence to Salisbury and thence to Cheraw South Carolina where we took up winter quarters. the enemy being on the opposite side of Pedee [sic: Pee Dee; Jan 1781] River on which Cheraw is situated. After breaking up winter quarters we marched to the "Island ford" on the Yadkin where Gen Stephens took into his possession about 300 tories – that were retained & guarded them in order to be taken by him.

Here there was a skirmish between our forces & the enemy, who attacked the rear of our army whilst crossing the river The attack was made in the night by Tarlton [Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton] and defended on our side by Col. Morgan [sic: Gen. Daniel Morgan]. This he thinks was in February [4th] 1781. Our army continued its retreat pursued by the enemy until they reached Dan River, the enemy hanging on our rear. We then marched on to Pyttsylvania [sic: Pittsylvania] Court House Va where we were discharged in the month of Febuary. He was drafted on both campaigns from the County of Amherst Va. In the second tour there were but few if any of the regulars in company. He believes there were none.

He has no documentary evidence of his services. He has lost or distroyed his discharges, believing they would never be of service to him. He has seen his name of the rolls returned to the proper office (he knows not which) in Richmond Va Gideon Martin [pension application S31232], whose certificate is herewith forwarded served with him on his first tour and saw him set out on his second. He was acquainted slightly with one Col. [Ralph] Faulkner on his first tour and a Brigade Maj. Williams on his second. His first discharge was signed by Capt. Martin. My second by Capt. Graves and also at my particular request by Col. Lewis. He has no memorandum of his age – states it from memory. From

Amherst Va. he moved to Greenbriar [sic: Greenbrier, now in West Virginia] & then to Warren (Ky) where he lives.

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. There is no clergyman in his neighbourhood whose certificate he can procure. The certificates of two of his neighbours is annexed.

Benjamin hisBmark Martin [sic]

State of Kentucky Warren County SS

On this twenty fourth day of December 1838 personally appeared before the County Court of the County & State aforsaid Nancy Bryant a resident of sd County & State aged eighty three years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4 1836 — That she is the widow of Benjamin Bryant th who was a private in the Army of the Revolution. That the said Benjamen belonged to a Company commanded by a Capt. Martin. She does not remember the names of his other officers. That he was out on two tours of duty. That to the best of her recollection, he left home on the first tour in the month of June – but she can not fix with certainty on the year – This tour lasted three months – During it, her husband participated in an engagement with the enemy at or near the Pedee river. Our forces were driven to the river crossed it & there made stand on the East bank – the firing continuing for some time a cross it. They then fell back to Hillsboro, NC. as she believes, in disorder and her husbands term of service having expired, he returned home

He did not remain long before he was again called into the service. He rendesvouzed at Hillsboro and entered on his second tour a private under the command of the same Capt who commanded during the first. To the best of her memory it was in September of the same year within which his first service was performed, that his second was commenced. He was marched into the Carolinas – and there remained during its continuance. She [one or two illegible words] recollection of any battle or particular service in which he was engaged during this tour [two or three illegible words] until the winter when he returned home having then gone from there to six months – she can not now state positively except that it was not less than three months but thinks it was more –

Her husband resident in Amherst County, Virginia when he entered the service She thinks her husband was drafted on his first tour But can not speak positively. She was extremly ill at the time he left home – & for some time before. Her recollection is (so far as she has any on the subject) that he volunteered on the second. He was not a substitute. She has no documentary evidence of her husbands services. The begs leave to refer to his Declaration in order to obtain a pension under the Act of June 7th 1832, for a more full, and as she supposes, more accurate statement of his services. Her husband was a pensioner under s'd act.

She further declares that she was married to the s'd Benjamin Bryant in the fall of the year 1771. That her maiden name was Nancy Gragg. That the marriage took place in Augusta County Va. That she has applied to the Clerk of the Court of that County, for the record in [illegible word] of the marriage, in compliance with the requirements of the War Office – but from the letter of the Clerk to her agent, Willard [last name illegible] it will appear no record of marriage of that date is found in his office – & that a record of [illegible word] was probably not required to be made by the (then) Laws – S'd [four illegible words] established. She further declares that her husband, the afors'd Benjamin Bryant died on the sixth of March 1835 – and that she has remained a widow ever since as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

NOTE: Benjamin Bryan is missing from the payroll of Capt. Azariah Martin http://revwarapps.org/b3.pdf.