Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Oldham W8492 Annis Oldham NC Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 15 Dec 2014.

State of Kentucky County of Madison Sct. [12 June 1852]

Hezekiah Oldham of the said County being duly sworn does on his oath make this following declaration. That he is one of the heirs of John Oldham and his wife Anniss Oldham both of whom are now dead Viz The said John died in Estill County Kentucky on the 17th day of November AD one thousand eight hundred and thirty one (1831). the said Anniss died in the same county on the 14th day of March AD One thousand eight hundred and forty (1840). the said John Oldham in his lifetime was a soldier of the War of the Revolution (Viz) At the battle near Camden or Gates defeat [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] he was an ensign in the North Carolina Line [sic: Caswell County Militia]. For his success in carrying an express therefrom he was promoted to a Captaincy in the said North Carolina Line and in that capacity was in the command of a Company at the battle of Guilford Court House [15 Mar 1781] as I have always heard him say and I have always believed him. After the war he removed to South Carolina, and lived there til about the year AD One thousand seven hundred and ninety six when he removed to Kentucky near where he died and continued to reside in the vicinity until he died as above stated aged about Seventy four (74) years

My Father and Mother were married on the 24th day of February AD One thousand seven hundred and Eighty three (1783) in Caswell County North Carolina but by whom I do not know My mothers maiden name was Anniss Rice See Family record My mother survived my father as above stated. She never married but remained his widow. When she died she left the following named surviving and only surviving children (Viz) Abner Oldham, born December 2nd AD one thousand seven hundred and Eighty three (1783) Hezekiah Oldham born April 10th One thousand seven hundred and Eighty seven (1787) Caleb Oldham born June 1st one thousand Seven hundred and Eighty nine (1789) Sarah intermarried with Thomas J Moberly, born May 14th Seventeen hundred and ninety three (1793) Elizabeth intermarried with William Fisher born June 15th Seventeen hundred and ninety five (1795) Nancy intermarried with Jesse Grubbs born December 19th Seventeen hundred and ninety seven (1797) John Rice Oldham born July 14th one thousand Eight hundred and one (1801) Absalom Oldham born May 28th Seventeen hundred and Eighty five (1785) and Mary, born May 22nd Seventeen hundred and ninety one (1791) intermarried with James Grubbs: had both died before my mother. Neither my father or mother ever drew any pension: nor ever made any application; My mother had made a move towards it a short time before she died. Since then we have let the matter rest because we did not understand fully how to proceed. The rest of the children, I am satisfied have all been equally as ignorant of the course to pursue as myself. I do not know of any person living by whom I can prove the services of my father. I know of no witness living by whom I can prove the marriage of my father and mother. I have their Bible containing the family record from which I obtain the facts set forth above in relation thereto and the birth of their children I neglected to mention above that my father was, a portion of the time under Colonel [William] Moore the family Bible alluded to above has been in possession of the family for more than forty years. I do not know the handwriting in which the entries are made. I bought it at the sales of my mothers estate. I am the acting administrator in connection with my brother Abner Oldham. I make this declaration in behalf of myself and the above enumerated heirs for the purpose of receiving the pension to which we are entitled, the record of John M Oldham's age birth was that of Caleb Oldhams son put there in my father's lifetime while the Bible was in his possession. My father was born November 10th 1757 My Mother was born March 4th 1759 [signed] H Olham

State of Kentucky }
County of Madison } SS [26 June 1852]

Hezekiah Oldham of the said county aged 65 years being sworn does on his oath make this

following amendment to his declaration made before James Richardson Esq of said County on 12th June instant, (Viz) My Father John Oldham told me in his lifetime that he was a Captain in command of a company at the Battle of the Cowpens. My father took a drove of hogs to South Carolina the fall after I was sixteen years old. I went with him, and as we went along we passed over the Battle Ground and he pointed out to me, the position his company occupied during the battle; My Brother Abner Oldham has died in this county since I made my former declaration; My Sister Sarah who married Thomas J Moberly is a widow; the said Moberly has been dead several years. She lives in Montgomery County Kentucky as do also my Sister Nancy Grubbs and her husband Jesse Grubbs My Sister Elizabeth who married William Fisher is a widow; the said Fisher has been dead for many years. She lives in Bourbon County Kentucky. John Rice Oldham my brother lives in Jackson County Missouri; Hezekiah this declarant and Caleb both reside in this county of Madison. Witness my and in Madison County Kentucky this 26th day of June AD 1852

[signed] H Oldhan

South Carolina Anderson Dist

Personally Came Charles Bennett [pension application S21641] before me and made Oath in due form of law & saith that he was well acquainted in the Revolutionary war with Capt John Oldham late of Kentucky & that he was in the service of the united states with him at the battle of Gilford and that the s'd. oldham was a Captain in Col. mores regiment & that he was a Soldier under him & that he has Just Cause to believe that he was much in the service of the united States and more particular in the battle of Gates Defeat being his near Neighbour at the time & through the whole war but cannot recollect precisely the length of time that Capt Oldham was in the service but thinks it was more than three months Sworn to and Subscribed the 13th of January 1840

NOTE: On 22 June 1852 Othniel R. Oldham, 35, certified that the family record, transcribed below, was that of his grandfather, John Oldham. On 5 July 1852 David D. Oldham of Madison County stated that he was a son of "Abner Oldham who died in this county on the 15th June Ultimo in the 69th year of his age leaving Hannah Oldham his widow and the following named surviving and only surviving children (Viz) David D Oldham, Narcissus intermarried with Josiah P Chenault, Sophia intermarried with Temple Bergin, Thompson B. Oldham, Helen M. Oldham, Miranda Oldham, and Louisa intermarried with Jonathan Estill, all of whom reside in this county of Madison. The said Abner Oldham was the oldest child of John Oldham who died in Estill County Kentucky on the 17th November AD 1831 a reputed Captain of the North Carolina Line in the War of the Revolution; and Anniss his wife who died in same county on the 14th day of March 1840."

John Oldham and Anniss Rice his wife was married on the 24th day of February in the year of our Lord 1783

John Oldham was born November the 10th 1757

Anniss Rice was born March the 4th 1759

Abner Oldham was born December the 2nd 1783

Absalom Oldham was born May the 28th 1785

Hezekiah Oldham was born April 10th 1787

Caleb Oldham was born June the 1st 1789

Mary Oldham was born May the 22nd 1791

Sarah Oldham was born May the 14th 1793

Elizabeth Oldham was born June the 15th 1795

Nancy Oldham was born December the 10th 1797

John Rice Oldham was born July the 14th 1801

John M Oldham was born November the 16th 1815