## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Humphrey Beckett W9726 Mary Beckett MD Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 30 June 2014.

Personally came before me one of the associate judges of the Court of Common pleas in and for Pickaway County and State of Ohio Humphrey Beckett an invalid pensioner of the revolutionary war and made the following statement on Oath. That he enlisted on the twentyfourth day of May in the year of one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight and that he did serve faithfully to the end of the war and that he first enlisted in Captain John C. Joneses [John Courts Jones's, pension application W25166] Company in the seventh Maryland regiment & that he was in the battle of Gateses defeat near Cambdon in south Carrolinia [Battle of Camden where Gen. Horatio Gates was defeated] fought on the 16th August 1780 and in the battle of Tarltons [sic: Banastre Tarleton's] defeat at the Cowpens in S. C. fought on the 7<sup>th</sup> January 1781 and was also in the Battle of Camden in S C [Battle of Hobkirk Hill] fought the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1781 and at the Siege of 96 May and June 1781 [Ninety Six SC, 28 May - 19 Jun 1781] and in the battle at the eutaw spring S.C [Eutaw Springs] fought on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 1781 and that he was promoted on the 21st of december 1780 to a Coperel and that he was promoted on the 8th of September to a Sergeant in the year of 1781 and that he was promoted at different times to Sergeant Major Surgeons mate and Quarter Master Sergeant in which last appointment he was at the end of the war and that he has always resided in the united states and now resided in the above County and state and that by reason of his reduced Circumstances he stands in need of assistance from his Country and that he relinquishes his right title interest and claim to his present pension of five dollars pr month so as to entitle him to the benefit of the late act of Congress passed the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818 intitled an act for the relief of the surviving officers and soldier of the revolutionary war – as Witness My hand this 5 day of June 1818

Humphry Beckett

State of Ohio Pickaway County SS [9 June 1819]

Humphrey Beckett being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he was placed on the pension roll about eleven years since by act of congress of the united states the exact date he does not recolect. That he never did receive a certificate from the Secretary of war of having been so placed upon the roll though he has regularly received his said pension up to the fourth day of March last past, he cannot therefore return a certificate that he never had in his possession. That he has therefore in his declaration relinquished and he now relinquishes hereby his said pension to the United States whenever a pension is granted him under the law of the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818. The doubts entertained respecting his having been Surgeons mate as stated in his declaration he again solemnly declares under oath that he was appointed to that place he thinks in September 1782 at Ashley hills on Ashley river South Carrolina and imediately took charge of the regimental hospital and that he did no other duty in the army as long as they stayed in that state which he says was some time in the next spring or summer, it is out of his power to obtain testimony to substantiate it.

[signed] Humphrey Beckett

State of Ohio } Pickaway County } SS.

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year of our Lord 1820, Humphrey Becket personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record for the said County of Pickaway who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows – Towit I the said Humphrey Becket enlisted on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of May AD 1778 to the best of my recollection, into Captain John Coats Jones' company belonging to the seventh Maryland regiment of troops on Continental establishment commanded by Col. John Gunby in which Revolutionary War I served until

the end thereof. I was discharged at the City of Annapolis in the summer of 1782 and the whole were discharged by a General Order, I think, on the third day of September, in the same year. I made a declaration and relinquished my former pension so as to be entitled to the benefit of the law of 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818, on the fifth day of June 1818. The number of my certificate of pension is 12.170. – I am by ocupation a farmer but am able to do but little labour and that of the lightest kind. I do further solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818. and that I have not since that time, by gift, sale, or any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, passed the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities, contracts, or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than that is contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed and by me subscribed.

I am in the sixtieth year of my age and very feeble from the infirmities of age as well from the wounds I received in the service of that Country which now compels me to come into open Court and declare myself a pauper My ability to pursue my occupation of a farmer is trifling. I have ten children and a wife who is old and feeble like myself, she being fifty four years of age. Names of my children with their ages towit Elizabeth aged 33 years Benjamin aged 27 years, Anna aged 23 years, William aged 21 years, Carle aged 19 years, Eliza aged 16 years, Maria aged 13 years, Egbert aged 11 years, Alfred aged 9 years, and Polly aged 7 years. My two oldest sons are laboring under a pulmonary complaint and of course render little assistance in the way of getting a living and my two youngest sons are too young and feeble to assist any – My daughter Elizabeth is a widow without property and three children to support, which are small and live with us and my children have no property worth naming except Benjamin who has a horse and a few Cattle. I am in debt to my son Benjamin in more than One hundred and fifty dollars. I owe Joshua Chenowith in Dark [sic: Darke] County Ohio, Eighty dollars for a horse which I sold on a credit and have not received my pay and I consider the debt in a bad way to be collected, as the man has thrown the case into a suit in Chancery in Madison Common Pleas –

I have the following property to wit, a mare and Colt the mare 13 years old, worth at least twenty dollars – two three year old heifers and a two year old heifer and a calf, worth in all twenty dollars – eighteen sheep including seven lambs worth possibly in trade eighteen dollars – all my old house hold furniture may possibly be worth fifteen dollars; consisting of an old bureau, nine chairs and stools an old common Table very shackling, though we eat on it, seven old broken plates, and three old trenchers, nine knives and forks, and sticks – I have several hogs or rather sows, that went off into the woods last spring, and they may be found again and if so, they might be worth fifteen dollars, though I know not whether they are alive as I have not seen or heard of them for months past. I have an old set of waggon wheels which were in their day worth twenty dollars. I owe Sixty dollars to different persons according to my account of them besides what is already mentioned.

## Recapitulation

Mare and Colt..... \$20.00
Heifers and Calf.... 20.00
Sheep and Lambs.... 18.00
Household furniture. 15.00
Waggon wheels.... 20.00
\$93.00

My debts Sixty dollars-

which leaves me worth thirty three dollars and which has been drawn principally from the pension money which I have regularly received half yearly at Chillicothe from my old friend Col. Creighton, President of the United States Branch Bank –

This declaration is made in order to obtain the provision of an act of Congress passed the first day of May 1820:

Humphrey Becket

NOTE: On 14 Sep 1838 in Warren County IN Polly Beckett, 70, applied for a pension stating that she married Humphrey Beckett on 22 Feb 1786, and he died 2 Apr 1830. With her declaration was a family record certified by Egbert Beckett and Benjamin Beckett as being in the handwriting of their father, Humphrey Beckett, and transcribed below. The register also lists the dates of birth of their children and the marriages of two daughters. On 6 Oct 1852 in Iroquois County IL Benjamin H. Beckett, Elizabeth Beckett, Alfred Beckett, and Mariah Raney (formerly Beckett), the only living heirs of Humphrey and Polly Beckett, applied for the amount of pension owed to their mother, who died 25 Dec 1839.

Humphrey Beckett was born on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June 176[?]

Polley wife of Humphrey Beckett was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year of our Lord 1768 Humphrey Beckett and Polly his wife was joined in holy wedlock on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of Feb'y. 178[?] E[the rest missing]

Ann the 4<sup>th</sup> was born on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 1796

William F Beckett the 5<sup>th</sup> was born November the 23<sup>rd</sup> 1798

Carlo the 6<sup>th</sup> was born April the 24<sup>th</sup> 1801

Eliza the 7<sup>th</sup> was born October the 11<sup>th</sup> 1803

Elizabeth the Daughter of H. and P. Beckett was joined in holy wedlosck to James Beckett on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June[?] 1812

Lucy daughter of the above was joined in Holy wedlock to Sylvester Stone on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 1817

Ann Beckett was [the rest missing]