

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Abney W1202 Judith Abney VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 11 June 2014.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,
Montgomery County, Sct.

On this 7th day of September 1818, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the circuit court, in and for the state aforesaid, personally appeared William Abney aged sixty one years; who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following statement and declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late law of Congress entitled, "an act to provide for certain personas engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War;" that he is a citizen of the state of Kentucky, and resident in the county of Roccastle [sic: Rockcastle]; and that he was enlisted for three years in Elbermarle [sic: Albemarle] County in the state of Virginia on or about the [blank] day of he thinks in the year 1776 or 1777 [see endnote] by one Capt John Roberts and served in the company commanded by captain John Roberts and James Pervis [sic: James Purvis] of the Regiment commanded by Colo Francis Taylor of the Virginia line on continental Establishment that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States, in the continental army, against the common enemy, until about the [blank] day of he thinks in the year 1780 or 1781 when he was honorably discharged from service at ShepherdsTown in the state of Virginia. That five days after he was thus discharged he again enlisted in a Corps of horse first commanded by Genl. [Alexander] Spotswood and afterwards put in a Corps of horse commanded by Colo. [Charles] Armand that his enlistment was for three years and took place at the old barracks in Elbemarle county and that he Served to the end of the war and was discharged at York in Pennsylvania; that he was in service about five years and was in no battle of any consequence except at the taking of Cornwallis at York [Yorktown VA, 19 Oct 1781] and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has lost his discharge, and has no evidence in his power, of his services and discharge, other than that which is here transmitted.

James Chasteen [pension application W2917] aged about 57 years being first sworn states that was four years and six months a soldier in the war of the revolution that he belonged to the Reg't of the Virginia line commanded by Colo Frances Taylor and was the same Regement in which the within named Abney served That the said Abney enlisted a short time before this deponant and he knows of his his own knowledge that the said Abney served for about three years ans was regularly discharged as he has stated in his within declaration that he served in the same Reg't with him nearly the whole three years and was during that time well acquainted with him James hisXmark Chasteen

State of Kentucky 12th Judicial district and Circuit Court for Rockcastle County Sct.

On this 26th day of September A.D. 1820 Personally appeared in open Court before the Court above mentioned it being a Court of Record by act of assembly and proceeding according to the course of the common Law, William Abney aged about sixty four years resident of Rockcastle County in the district aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath declare that he enlisted in the regular servis of the United States for the Term of three years in the Company of Captain John Roberts about six or seven days days after his enlistment Captain John Roberts was promoted to major [5 Mar 1779] and James Pervis was promoted to Captain of the same Company in the Regiment Commanded by Colonel Francis Taylor, that his Regiment belonged to the Virginia line upon Continental establishment, which term the said William Abney sayeth on his oath that he served the term of his enlistment and obtained a legal discharge. He states further on his oath that after he obtained his discharge, that he enlisted a second time in the United States Servis for the time of three years in the Horse Company commanded by captain Lee Brown [sic: Jérôme le Brun de Bellecour], In the Regiment

Commanded by Colo. Armong. During the time of his enlistment he was at the battle of the Siege of York the time the Americans Captured Cornwallace He states he only served two year an two months before he obtained his discharge the second time That the matters aforesaid are more explicitly stated in his original decleration made on the [blank] day of [blank] upon which he has rec'd. a certificate for a pension dated the 25th day of October 1819 which is not numbered on its face but which has on its back the figures 15.390 And at the same time upon his oath aforesaid the said William Abney states that he was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not nor has any person in trust for him any property or securities contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed (viz) One horse worth twenty five Dollars and no more, Six head of Cattle worth thirty Dollars and no more, three sows and piggs worth fifteen Dollars and no more, household furniture worth twenty Dollars, farming twat [tools?] five Dollars fowles worth fifty cents

William Abney

That the said William Abney says that he has been married twice and that he had by his first wife fifteen children of which eleven is alive at this time, Dicy, Betsey, Charles, William, Jain, Polly, David, Milly, Sally, Elisha, and Joshua, By the second wife he had five children of which four is living towit Amanda, America, Andrew Jackson, and Elijah. Dicy about 31 years old marryed and living apart from her farther, Betsey about 29 years old marryed and living apart from her farther, Charles about 26 years old marryed and able to mentain himself and living apart from his farther, William about 24 years old marryed and living apart from his farther and able to mentain himself, Jain about 22 years old marryed and living apart from her farther, Polly about 20 years old not marryed but living apart from her farther and able to mentain herself, David about 17 years old single and living apart from his farther and able to mentain himself, Milly about 15 years old living apart from her farther and able to mentain herself, Sally about 13 years old living with her farther and able to mentain herself – Elisha about 11 years old living with his farther but not able to mentain himself owing to having the smallpox from which he has never recovered, Joshua about 9 years old living with his farther not able to mentain himself Amanda about 8 years old living with her farther but not able to mentain herself, America about 6 years old living with her farther but able to mentain herself, Andrew Jackson about four years old living with his farther not able to mentain himself, Elija about two years old living with his father not able to mentain himself His wife Judah about 47 years old able to mentain herself —

State of Kentucky	}	Be it known that on this 21 st day of November 1834 personally appeared
Bourbon County Sct	}	before me Robert Scrogin one of the Commonwealth Justices of the
		peace for said county James Busby [pension application W2995] aged
		eighty years on the 2 nd day of May next, who being duly sworn according to law did on his oath make the
		following decleration (to wit) That William Abney now present before him entered the Legion of horse
		as a private Soldier commanded by Col. Armand in the Revolutionary army in the month of January 1782
		and that the said William Abney served in the said corps of horse with this affiant under Captain Lebur
		(a Frenchman) until the 28 th day of November 1783 and was discharged at the conclusion of the war at
		Little York in the state of Pennsylvania. that said affiant was a private Soldier under Captain Lebrown in
		the same Legion
		James hisXmark Busby

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). Some online images are illegible.]

State of Kentucky
Rockcastle County Sct

This day [30 Jul 1821] personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for s'd County William Abney who made oath that he served in the Revolutionary war on Continental Establishment as follows. That he Enlisted in Albemarle County Virginia about the month of June 1778 under Capt John Roberts of the — Virginia Reg't. on Continental establishment then Commanded by Col Francis Taylor for three years and served his time out and was discharged in the year 1781 in the state of Maryland by Col Francis Taylor and that after his discharge he came home immediately to Albemarle County Virg and remained there five days, and then Enlisted under Capt Lee Brown of the Light Horse Commanded by Col Armong a french commander for Three years, and that after his second enlistment he was appointed a Sergent in Capt. Browns Company, and continued to act and serve as a Sergeant until after the Close of the war when he was again Honourably discharged – that he was at the Siege of York when Cornwallis was taken, and that it was about a year afterwards when he was discharged in York Town Pensylvania, that he he has never rec'd his Land Warrant for his s'd Services, or authorised any one to receive it for him, and he prays the Governor & Council of Virginia to grant it to him, and that he now receives a pension from Gov't. for his said services. William his mark Abney

Clark County Sct

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the County afors'd John Watts [VAS1231] who made oath that he served as private soldier in the Revolutionary War with the above named William Abney in the Light Horse and that he [several illegible words] in Capt Browns Company and that he served in s'd Company until the end of the War when he was Honourably Discharged as Said Abney has just stated in his declaration; that he the s'd Watts belonged to the same Company

Sworn to before me this 8th day of August 1821

[James Chestine, as the name was spelled, also made a supporting statement.]

NOTES:

The Convention Army Guard Regiment commanded by Col. Francis Taylor was organized early in 1779 to guard the British and Hessian soldiers who were surrendered by Burgoyne at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and housed at the barracks constructed for them in Albemarle County. John Roberts was captain from 11 Jan 1779 until 5 March of that year, the interval when Abney may actually have enlisted.

On 10 Feb 1853 Judith Abney, 79, applied for a pension stating that as Judith Clark she married William Abney in Aug 1811, and he died 31 Jan 1845. In the file is a copy of the marriage bond signed in Estill County KY on 29 July 1811 by William Abney and Zachariah King.