

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of William Bacchus (Baccus) W67

Celia

fn42NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 8/16/10

[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.]

State of Tennessee, Wilson County

On this 26th day of September 1832, personally appeared in open court before the justices of the Court of pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County of Wilson now sitting William Bacchus a resident of the County of Wilson & State of Tennessee, aged about 76 years, 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, and served as herein stated.

In the month of May, date not recollected, in the year 1781, he turned out as a volunteer in the service of the United States or if he is mistaken in the year, he well recollects that he volunteered his services the same year that the battle of Eutaw [sic, Eutaw Springs] & Cowpens were fought, he belonged to the company commanded by Captain Clem Hall & Lieutenant Nathaniel Williams – at the time he turned out Volunteer he was a Citizen of Chowan County & State of North Carolina. The troops were stationed at Edington [sic, Edenton] for about three months to defend the place against an expected attack of the British; But the enemy drew off without an attempt to take the place. From thence we marched to Winton; thence to Halifax; from thence to Hillsboro, from thence to Guilford; from thence to Saulsborough [sic, Salisbury] where we received a parcel of Tories to guard; From thence we marched to Charlotte from thence to the Catawba River; from thence we marched to Stono and Ashley rivers at or near their Junction and there we joined the Main Army commanded by General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], being attached to the first Regiment of North Carolina State troops commanded by Colonel A. Murphy [sic, Archibald Murphey]; in the summer of the same year perhaps about the first of June, we went, or a party of us, to storm the British Fort at St. James Island – But the British had evacuated their Fort and marched off to Charlestown [sic, Charleston]-- we were we returned to the Army again, and was then attached to the forces under the command of Major Hamilton; we attack a British Royally or Privateer which was passing on to Charleston with clothing for the British Army, he fired about 13 rounds at them. We again joined the Main Army at the cross roads on Ponds Ponds [sic, Pons Pons River, now called the South Edisto River], where he saw three men hung for mutiny & one black man for stealing & one man drummed out of Camps – he continued in the United states service until August 1782 making in all a term of service of near Eighteen months – but was not in any battle except the attack we made upon the British Privateer.

At the end of his service he was honorably discharged, does not recollect by whom it was signed – he placed his discharge in the hands of Lieutenant Williams to draw his pay, but Williams was drowned shortly afterwards and supposes he had his discharge with him when the fatal accident happened – this applicant has not walked now for about 30 years, owing to afflictions which no doubt

came upon him in consequence of his great exposure whilst in the Army – And he has never received one cent for his services – he has no documentary evidence whatever to sustain his application – Captain Clem Hall for many years resided in Davidson County, but he has been dead several years & none of his fellow soldiers are now living within his reach by whom he can prove his services in the Revolutionary War. He is well acquainted with Thos. Connyers, Matthias Houk, Charles Cummings & Edward Jacobs & Levi Holloway Esq. the last of whom he believes saw him when in service under the Command of Captain Hall. He is also well acquainted with the Reverend John Jones & Reverend Mr. Willis & Revd. Wm White & those first named he expects he can give satisfactory evidence as to character & credibility – He removed from North Carolina to Wilson County where he has resided for about 34 years past.

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 whom Baccus [sic], X his mark

[standard certification of reputation for veracity, age and belief in his neighborhood of his revolutionary war services given by William H. White, a clergyman, and Edward Jacobs and Levi Holloway.]

[fn p. 11: On July 5th 1847, Celey [her name is also spelled “Sealey”] Bacchus, aged 78, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 Act. She filed in Wilson Co., TN., she says her husband died on June 22, 1846 in Wilson Co., TN, she says “That her husband William Bacchus was a pensioner, that he had been lame and decrepit for firty [sic] years, previous to his death. That [he] was alast [sic, at least] six feet in height and a man of ordinary size and weight,....” She says she married William in July 1787; married by Jacob Jordan]. A witness, J. L. Edwards, says William and Celey were married in NC, but there is no record of their marriage because no such records were then kept in NC.]

[fn p. 19: copy of the marriage license issued in Chowan Co., NC, dated July 28th 1787 appears in the file. In it the bride is listed as “Celia Minchew]

State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid do certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war that William Bachus [sic] a private in Captain Hall's Company of the 10th Regiment enlisted in 1781 for 12 months, and left the service on the 1st of August 1782.

Given under my hand this 30 April 1833.

S/ W. Hill

[At the end of the file there is a second petition filed by 'Sealey Bacchus' substantially restating her prior application.]

[fn p. 17: family record

“Minchey Backus was born November the 17 Day 1787

Deborah Buckus daughter of Willi... Backus was borin March the 28 Day 1791

Cida [could be Lida] Backus 1793/1794 [indecipherable markings]

[Was pensioned at the rate of \$46.66 per annum commencing March fourth, 1831, for 14 months service as a private in the North Carolina line.]