

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Bennet (Bennett) W9350

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Ohio Warren County Ss

On the 10th day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty six, personally appeared in open court being a Court of Record for the said County of Warren included in the 7th Judicial circuit of the Court of Common pleas in the State of Ohio Richard Bennet a resident in said County aged Sixty three years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the provision of the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 18th [sic: 1st] May 1820 (to wit) that he the said Richard Bennet enlisted for the term of during the War some time in the Spring of the year 1781 in Richmond in the State of Virginia in the Company commanded by Captain Slaughter (he thinks John Slaughter) in the regiment commanded by Col. Hamilton in the line of the State of Virginia on continental establishment [see endnote], that he continued to serve in the said Corps until the close of the War when he was honorably discharged from the Service in the State of Virginia that his discharge was signed by Gen'l. Morphitt [sic: Col. George Moffett of the Augusta County Militia] which he received some time after his term of Service had expired having in the meantime been engaged in a tour with the Virginia Militia against the Indians, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present & that his name is not on any roll of any State except Virginia, and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension viz. having heard of the passage of the law granting pension to indigent revolutionary soldiers he made enquiry of those he supposed knew how application should be made to obtain the benefit &c who gave him for information that it was necessary to prove by some officer that he had served &c which he ascertained was utterly impossible, hence he conceived it was unnecessary to make the attempt, he is now advised that if his name should be found on the rolls of the revolutionary army will be sufficient to identify his Service and that he has also recently heard of a man by whom he thinks he can identify his Service by testimony.

And in pursuance of the Act of the 1st of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in 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 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 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 whatever nor no property of any kind except my clothing. My Wife died in 1813 since which time I have been living with my children alternately & some times with other people for whom I labored which at times I was able to do. My children (seven in number) are all of age and all have families but two One Son & One Daughter signed Richard hisXmark Bennet

The State of Ohio Warren County Ss [30 March 1826]

Personally appeared before me the undersigned president of the Corporation of the Town of Lebanon in the county of Warren aforesaid Abraham Bennett who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is about fifty eight years of age and is brother to Richard Bennett who is about to apply for a pension. That he perfectly recollects that some time before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis the said Richard entered the service of the United States. He does not know to what Regiment he belonged or who were his officers as he (deponent) was young and had no knowledge of that or any other Regiment or corps Some time after the surrender of the British army at Little York the said Richard (and an older Brother of theirs by the name of William who died about ten or twelve years ago returned home and were

very soon thereafter sent out against the Indians. That at that time the said Richard lived on what is called the North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac This Deponent was acquainted with a number of persons who were in service at the same time and who he has frequently heard talk about the service and discharge of the said Richard. The greater part of whom have departed this life as he believes. This deponent does not know that he ever saw the discharge of his Brother and further saith not.

[signed] Abraham Bennet

State of Indiana } Sct

Dearborn County }

Before me Daniel Hagerman a Justice of the peace in and for said County personally came James Lambert [pension application R6099] and on his oath states that Richard Bennett and this deponent enlisted at the same time: at Richmond in the State of Virginia during the War, under Captain John Slaughter, that they were afterwards attached to the Second Regiment of united states infantry under the Command of Col. Guy Hamilton & Brigade of Genl. Rufus Putnam [of the Massachusetts Continental army] – that the Enlisted in the year of 1781 during the war – that they served together in the same mess, until the close of the war, and at that time they were discharged, that afterwards they served a Tour of duty as Militia men, and were also discharged from that service – and further states that he is perfectly acquainted with the services of Richard Bennett and that he was Honorably discharged & further saith not –

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 3^d day of April 1826 James hisXmark Lambert

The State of Ohio }

Warren County } Ss

On this 2nd day of October AD 1832 personally appeared before the Judges of the court of Common pleas, at Lebanon in the county of Warren & State of Ohio now sitting Richard Bennet a resident in the county of Warren & state aforesaid aged sixty nine 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832 That he enlisted in the army of the United States at the City of Richmond in Virginia some time in March 1781 in the company of Captain Hamilton, for and during the war as he then understood it, Slaughter was the Col. Remained at Richmond & neighborhood guarding public stores & otherwise – marched from thence towards little York, but were haulted to guard baggage waggons & other public stores – remained in that place until after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis – some time after said surrender, was recalled to Richmond again to guard public property, in particular a large number of Negroes, perhaps seventy, who had been recaptured from the British. In the Spring of 1782 an express arrived from the frontiers to the Governor who ordered this applicant & a dozen others of Capt. Hamilton's Company were sent to the Fort called Amacosh's [probably Arbogast's] a private garrison in Crabapple bottom where he was employed in ranging and spying from that to the north Fork near the head Green Briar [sic: Greenbrier River] under Capt. Peter Hull (or Hole) – towards fall was ordered over the (Alleghany) [Allegheny] Mountain to Tigart valley [sic: Tygart Valley] & scouted & spied in various directions until late in the fall, when it was thought that danger was over, & the Indians for the present gone from the country. Col. Benjamin Wilson, under whose direction he then was gave him a letter to Col. Moffett, near Staunton Va. who then gave him a written discharge, being in the service full eighteen months in the whole, but which said discharge has long since been lost. he once applied for a pension thro' Judge Geo. Kessling of Lebanon, Ohio, but did not succeed, he then proved his services by James Lambert & Abram Bennet whose depositions are, as he supposes, now in the war department.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state except as above stated.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Richard hisXmark Bennet

The State of Ohio } sct.
Warren County }

on this 16th day of September A.D. 1833 before the Court of Common pleas, for the county aforesaid now in session, appeared Richard Bennet, who doth on his oath make the following additional declaration, in order to obtain a pension under the act of congress passed June 7th 1832. That he was born in Augusta then, now Pendleton county Virginia, in the month of May the 12th or 13th in the year 1763, he has not however any record of his age, he lived at that place during the whole term of his service as set forth in his former declaration – he enlisted during the war. He recolects Capt. Hamilton who commanded his company – Genl. Putnam took command of us after we marched to Richmond. Col. Slaughter was the commandant of his regiment. He served until the end of the war, eighteen months, and received a written discharge but has lost it long since. He served upwards of six months, against the Indians, as stated in his former declaration. His memory is very slippery – hence he cannot recollect dates and circumstances accurately. He procured the affidavits of Abraham Bennet and James Lambert formerly to which he refers. He believes James Lambert is now dead, and the officer who took his affidavit now gone out of office.

Richard hisXmark Bennett

NOTES:

The Col. Hamilton referred to in Bennet's 1826 application appears to have been Gawen Hamilton originally of the militia of Augusta County and then of Rockingham after that county was formed from Augusta in 1778. In the 1832 application Hamilton is referred to as a captain. There was a Capt. John Hamilton of the Augusta County Militia who served at Tygart Valley. If Bennet's service was only in the militia he would not have been eligible for a pension under the acts of 1818 and 1820.

On 19 Sep 1857 Margaret Bennett, 70, of Upper Township in Lawrence County OH, applied for bounty land stating that as Margaret Turney she married Richard Bennett sometime after 1800, and he died in early 1835. She applied for a pension on 29 June 1855, but the years of marriage and her husband's death were illegible. On 29 June 1857 David Turney, 68, certified the marriage of Richard and Margaret Bennett and stated that they raised one son, Abram Bennett, about 30, who was well known to him. On the same date either Thomas Bennett, 39, or Daniel Terney stated that the marriage occurred about 1826, and that they had "but one child during said marriage being a son Abram with whom the said Margaret now resides." On 11 Sep 1857 William Bennett, 78, stated that Margaret Turney was the second wife of his uncle Richard Bennett, that Richard Bennett died in the early part of 1835, and that his widow moved soon afterward from Warren to Lawrence County, where her brother Daniel Turney lived.