


William Wilbanks, [also Woolbanks] Widow Abarilla, S.C. W 11508.

State of South Carolina, Pickens District. On 7 January 1845, Abarilla ( her mark) Wilbanks, aged about 98, stated that she is the widow of William Wilbanks who was a private in the Revolutionary War, and that he enlisted in the service under Captain Moses White in 1778 or 1779, in October or November as it was cool weather and not long before the crops were ripe. He also served under Captain William Young in Colonel Brandon's Regiment; that they then lived in Union District., S.C., and he marched through North and South Carolina, was in skirmish at Musgrove's Ford on Enoree River and Blackstock's Ford on Tygar River, marched to the 10 mile house near Charleston; that he was absent in all she thinks 5 years, but certainly not less than 4 off and on as she made three crops without him, herself and little boy and had much trouble with the Tories during the absence of her husband, and labored hard to make a support. The Tories threw down her fences and she had to put them up herself with her little boys who were very young and small to do such labor; they also killed her hogs and cattle and destroyed everything about the place, very often passing and committing all kinds of depredations all of which she had to suffer with her little children unprotected.

At one time during the war herself and her mother in law went to where the Army was encamped (she thinks at Culversons) and begged to let her husband come home to save his small grain which was granted by the officer who seemed to have command but she cannot recollect his name. However, he treated her very well and granted her request, was called to his dinner, but would not go until he had waited on her, seeing she appeared to be in distress. Her husband went home and attended to his harvest and then very soon returned to the service. He served in the war with his brother, Gillam Wilbanks, Isaac Barnet, Jacob Barnet, James Putnam, John Sparks, and Charles White, all of whom are now dead. Jacob Barnet was killed in the battle at Kings Mountain.

She lived with her father in Bute County, N.C. and bans were published in Church to marry William Wilbanks and was married as she thinks before the year 1774 but cannot recollect positively what date, but she is positively certain it was before the war commenced in that part of the country. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Union District, S.C. where her husband entered the service. She had three children at the time of his entering, viz: Marshall, Hosea and Joseph, the eldest of which is now dead. Her husband was taken sick at McCord's Ferry during the War and returned home until he recovered and then returned into the service. Afterwards when he left the service he had a cough supposed to have been caused by exposure in the service which never left him during his life, and which she supposes to have shortened his life. Her maiden name was Abarilla Gossett and she was married on 27 August but cannot recollect the year. Her husband died on 22 December 1796 in Union District, S.C., she moved from Union District 26 or 27 years ago and has lived in the district ever since.

On January 1846, Miles M. Norton in a letter to Commissioner of Pensions, stated that Mrs. A. Wilbanks (or Woolbanks as they are always called) claim is a just one.

13 January 1845, Cherokee County, Ga. Hosea Wilbanks, age 70, son of William and Abarilla Wilbanks, formerly of Union Dist., S.C., stated that his father died on 22 December 1797, that he was a small boy during the Revolution, probably 10 or 12 years of age, that he very well recollects many scenes which took place during the said war, and that his father, William Wilbanks, served in the Revolution, that of course he did not see him in the service as he was very small for his age and too young, to be in it himself but he saw him start for himself and knows that he was absent several years and set off to be in the War. During his father's absence his brother, Marshall (who was older than himself) and his mother worked hard in the farm to make a support, his mother ploughing and his brother and himself hoeing.. That his father served under Captain Moses White, Captain William Young, Captain Fair or Farr, Lieutenant James Addington, and thinks he was most of the time in the regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Brandon. Captain Farr or Fair was afterwards Colonel. He recollects their having much trouble with the Tories. Had to keep their corn hid out in small quantities in different places to prevent it from being taken. Once he himself was slapped pretty severely with a sword by a Tory who ordered his mother to bring water for him and ordered is mother to bake him and his company some bread.

His father had a very large likely black horse and two mares with yearling colts, all of which were pressed into the service, the colts were their only dependence for making their crops, going to mill, etc. The horse and one of the mares he never got again, the other mare he got again in a year or two, but recollects she had a cut on her neck, supposed to have been made with a sword for some time was a running sore. His father never got anything for the horse and mare which he lost. His father was in a skirmish at Blackstocks Ford, at the Siege of Ninety-Six and assisted in ditching and building the blockhouse at that place; thinks he was in the battle of Eutaw Springs and Kings Mountain.

William Grant of Pickens District, a Revolutionary Pensioner, on 31 December 1844, stated that he was acquainted with 2 men of the name of Wilbanks who lived in Union District during the Revolutionary War, he is under the impression that their names were William and

Gillam, and he believes that the said William alluded to is the husband of the widow Wilbanks of this district. He served in the war with the said William Wilbanks in the regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Brandon in Captain Young's company, Lt. James Adington; he was himself a Lieutenant in his father's (William Grant's) Company in the same Regiment and was frequently with the Wilbanks and knows well that they served as good Whigs and soldiers; that they both had families and they appeared to be older than himself. Believes that Wilbanks was in the service until the end of 1779 and that they were with him on the march to the 10 Mile House near Charleston, recollects of having heard a Lieutenant of the name of Nicholas Jasper, who professed to be a Universalist, arguing with these Wilbanks on scruples, they were Baptists and argued with him frequently. He recollects of having had charge of some soldiers at McCord's Ferry amongst whom was one of the Wilbanks who was taken sick and by this deponent discharged for that cause, and afterwards when he recovered very shortly joined them again, his reason for so doing was that there was no provision made for the sick.

A letter of 18 January 1845 from Miles M. Norton refers to Joseph and Nicholas Gossett as brothers of Mrs. Wilbanks.

Joseph Gossett of Union Dist., 18 December 1844, stated that when he was a boy of 10 or 12 years old, his father and mother lived in Bute County N.C., which is since divided to make Franklin and Warren counties; that his eldest sister, Abarilla, at about 18 or 20 years old, he thinks about 1774 or 1775, it was published in the church as was then the custom to be married to William Wilbanks, and on a certain morning shortly afterwards went off to the house of one Couple about 4 miles distant, who was a minister of the High Church, to be married to the said William Wilbanks, and they afterwards lived together as man and wife and had children. That the said William Wilbanks lived in that county until the next fall and then he and his wife moved to Union District, S.C. in the neighborhood where this deponent now lives, and he has heard from the oldest citizens of the county that William Wilbanks entered the service during the revolution and that his sister, Abarilla Gossett married William Wilbanks before the war commenced in that part of the country in which they resided.

Nicholas (X his mark) Gossett, an old and truthful citizen of Union District, on 18 December 1844 made the same statement as Joseph Gossett and stated that his sister was married to William Wilbanks by a Scotch Minister of the High Church of the name of Wm. Couple who lived about four miles from his father. That Abarilla Wilbanks was about 6 years older than this deponent and that he is nearly 90 years of age.

18 December 1844, Miriam Hill of Union Dist. Stated that she lived in this district during the Revolution and that her husband, Thomas Hill, who died about 17 years ago, served in it and she always understood that William Wilbanks served in the Revolution with her husband.

Sion Murphy of Union District, 18 December 1844, stated that he is himself 80 years old next January, and he knew William and Abarilla Wilbanks, and made much the same statements as

the others, supporting the Wilbanks claims.

Henry Howard of Pickens Dist., 19 January 1846, stated that he was born and raised in Union District, S.C. in the immediate neighborhood of William and Abarilla Wilbanks who were generally known by the name of Woolbanks and that he is about 60 years of age and recollects the said William and Abarilla Wilbanks lived together as man and wife and had several children, probably 5 or 6, does not recollect the exact number, but some of them were much older than himself and that Hosea and perhaps John were married men when he was a shirt-tailed boy. That the deponent is the son of James Howard who was a Revolutionary Pensioner in Union District.

Pickens Dist., 21 January 1845, Mrs. Sally (+ her mark) Hunnecutt, wife of Jesse and daughter of Mrs. Abarilla Wilbanks, stated that her mother has lived with her a number of years, that she cannot recollect the death of her father but he was buried 15 December 1797 and died 3 days previous.

4 Apr 1854. Jesse Hunnycut of Cherokee Co. Ga. who married one of the children of the said Wilbanks, who is now deceased, appoints J. T. Neely of Washington City, power of attorney to prosecute claim for pension.

Book X - 5204. Issued 5 July 1786 to Mr. Wm. Woolbanks, Sergeant, for £9.12.10 1/4 Sterling for militia duty in Brandon's Regiment.