

SERVICE

NUMBER

N.H.

or Berry Benjamin

V. 23570

Berry

B. b. wt 2437-100

Sobriety

CONTENTS

Ruled area with horizontal lines for text entry.

I Abigail Watson of Durham in the County of Stafford and State of New Hampshire on oath depose and say that I am ninety years of age and upwards. I was born in Durham aforesaid, and have always lived in this Town from my birth. I was well acquainted with Sobriety Duda in my younger days, who was about my age. I lived in the same neighborhood with her until she was married. She was the daughter of Benmore Duda, and recollect two brothers of hers named Lemuel and Iss, there was another brother by the name of Obadiah and I think he was the oldest, there was a brother called Joseph who died when he was young, the daughters were Sob, as she was called, Shebe and Patience. Shebe and Patience married men by the name of Durgin, they have been dead many years. Sob married a man who was a Soldier in the war of the Revolution, by the name of Benjamin Berry, whom I used to see at Benmore Duda's about the time she was married. He was dropped as a Soldier and was said to have been a Soldier by the People of the neighborhood. Sob Berry was a Widow about sixty years ago and lived at one time in a little House in the road in the neighborhood where she was born and had one or two children. Benjamin Berry was not a native of Durham and I never was acquainted with him till about the time he was married. He had been in the place a short time before they were married, it was said that he was a deserter, and that he was taken up and carried back into the Army. Benjamin Berry died about the time of the close of the Revolutionary War and I should judge they had been married four or five years before his death, perhaps more.

There never was any question that Tobe Luda was lawfully married to Benjamin Berry, and I never heard the fact disputed or questioned and it was always said they were married by Parson Adams. I never heard of or saw any other man by the name of Benjamin Berry.

Abigail ^{the} Watson
mark

State of New Hampshire

Strafford Co. August 13th 1847 - Then personally appeared the above named Abigail Watson, whom I believe to be a person of truth and veracity and a credible witness, and made oath to the truth of the above affidavit by her signed -

Before me

Wm S Walker Justice of the Peace

Portland, Maine

21. May 1849

Sir

I have received with your letter of May 17 1849 Military
Land Warrant N^o 2437 issued to Gally Howell the son
heretofore of Benjamin Berry dec'd, who was a private
in Regiment of the New Hampshire Line, commanded by
Col Reed, in the Revolutionary War, for one hundred
acres of land, and given at the Dept. of the Int. on
the 16th May 1849.

I am very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servant:

J Bradford

J. L. Edwards, Esq
Comdr. of Pensions
Washington
D.C.

4522
Mearns

Reported

Widow of Benjamin Mearns
N. Hampshire
who died the 21st of Feb^r 1782
of his estate in the State of Maine
who was a Private in the Army commanded
by Captain — — of the Army commanded
by Col. S. S. Jones in the Revolution
from 2^d of May

Inscribed on the Roll of Pallance
at the rate of 80 Dollars — Cents
per annum, to commence on the 1st day of
March, 1831.

Certificate of Pension issued the 1st day of May
1848, and sent to Mearns
Beverly Mass.

Amounts to the 1st day of Pallance
Semi-annual allowance ending 1st day
Nov. 1831

Revolutionary Claim,
Act July 4, 1830,
Section the

Recorded by W. H. Clapham Clerk
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State of Maine

County of Piscataquis Co. On this eighth day of June in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty seven personally appeared before me the subscriber Judge of Probate in and for the County aforesaid Guberness Berry a resident of Wellington in said County aged ninety one years who being duly sworn according to law cloth upon her oath make the following declaration in order to receive the benefit of the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836

And this declarant states that her husband Benjamin Berry was a resident of Essex State of New Hampshire in the time of the Revolutionary war, and was a soldier in the Continental Army and served as she believes nearly the whole of the war. Her husband enlisted for clearing the war, and she believes was in the Regiment to which Major or Col Weiborn Adams belonged for she has heard her husband speak of that officer and say that he was killed in battle. This declarant states that when her husband had been in the service two or three years he had a furlough to go home and overstayed his furlough and was returned a deserter. He was taken up after he had remained at home some time and again entered the service and remained in the service to the end of the war and had an honourable discharge. This declarant states that her husband was taken up by her brother General

Duda whom she believes was an Ensign in the Continental Army and went back into the service with her. She was married once had one child before her husband came out of the Army. This declarant is unable to state the names of the officers under which her husband served but she has heard him name many officers of the Army but has forgotten their names. After the close of the war he went to sea and died in South Carolina of the yellow fever soon after the close of the war of the Revolution. She sailed from Portsmouth she believes with Capt Clepman Her oldest child is now living and is about seventy years of age.

And this declarant says that she was married to George Wm Berry in Durham New Hampshire by the Reverend Mr Adams more than seventy one year ago and at the time of her marriage was a resident of Durham and lived in that town while her husband was in the service and that her husband died soon after the close of the war as she has before stated and she has remained at a widow ever since. She therefore claims a pension by virtue of the act aforesaid and adduces the following testimony in support of her claim.

Witness J. W. Bushel
J. W. Bushel

Witness
J. W. Bushel
J. W. Bushel

On this day and year first above written personally appeared this above named Security Berry an aged woman to whom the foregoing explanation was read as the same is written & she understanding the same signed & made oath that the same is true & that she further certifies that by reason of bodily infirmities the said declarant is unable to attend court and

[Declaration for Bounty Land.]

STATE OF MAINE.

County of

SS.

I *Judith Morris* heir at law of *Benjamin Morris*
do upon oath testify and declare, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that *said Benjamin Morris*
did enter the service of the United States in *Sept. 1776* for the term of
During the War in 1777 and served as a *private Soldier*
in the Company of Captain *Reed* in the *1st Infantry* Regiment
of *Scotchmen* under the command of Colonel *Reed*
and that he continued in the service aforesaid until *the end of the war and was*
immunity discharge.

I further declare, that I have never received a warrant for the bounty land promised to the soldiers of
the Revolutionary on the part of United States, nor do I believe that the said
Benjamin Morris ever received the same in his life time, or transferred his claim to
it in any manner whatsoever: Therefore

Know all Men by these Presents, That I, *Judith Morris*
aforesaid, do hereby constitute and appoint *Benjamin Morris* *Attorney*
in the County of Cumberland and State of Maine
to be my true and lawful Attorney, for me and in my name, to demand and receive from the
Secretary of War of the United States, the bounty land, scrip, or a warrant, for the quantity of land
due to me as aforesaid, by virtue of the Acts of Congress, passed on and since the *16th Septem*
ber 1876

And my said Attorney is hereby fully authorized and empowered, for me, and in my name, to trans-
fer, assign and set over all my right, title and interest in said warrant or bounty land scrip: also,
for me and in my name, to sell, grant and convey to such person or persons, and for such sum or sums
of money as my said Attorney shall deem most for my advantage and profit—such land as may be grant-
ed to me under my application as aforesaid—and upon such sale or sales convenient and proper convey-
ances to make, seal, deliver and acknowledge; and for me to receive all and every sum of money or
other consideration, which shall be coming to me on account of said sale or sales; and generally giving
to my said Attorney or his substitutes, full power and authority, touching the premises, to do, execute.

...pforced, and finish all things, in as ample a manner as I might do if personally present. Hereby ratifying and confirming all lawful acts done by my said Attorney by virtue hereof.

In Testimony Whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal, this *12th* day of *June* A. D. 18*47*.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered
in Presence of

E. Richard

John Marshall

County of *Wiscasset* ss. *June 8, 1847*

Then personally appeared the abovenamed *John Marshall* subscriber to the foregoing declaration, and made oath to the same, and in my presence acknowledged the Power of Attorney thereto subjoined, to be his free act and deed for the purposes therein mentioned. *Before me,*

James H. [unclear] JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

Richardson L.
In TESTIMONY that the abovenamed *James Burrell* was a Magistrate duly qualified and authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgments of deeds and other instruments at the above date, and that the foregoing signature, purporting to be his, is genuine, I hereunto set my hand and affix my seal of office, this *12th* day of *July* A. D. 18*47*.
E. Richard Judge of Probate.

I Asa Smith of Wellington in the County of Piscataquis
and State of Maine now Commorant in Portland in the
County of Cumberland and State aforesaid on oath
depose testify and say that I was thirty nine years of age
on the seventh of April last: I was born in the town
of Union Lincoln County and resided there till I was
about fifteen years of age. Since that time about twenty
six years I have resided in Wellington. I am the son of
Jelly Monrell by his first husband Nicholas Smith
my father. Gibrity Berry is my Grandmother and
lived in the town of Union when I was a boy and
resided there with my father. Soon after my father &
his family moved to Wellington or Bridgetown as it
was then called my Grandmother remained there
also and has continued there to the present time. She
has lived in Solon a few years out of that time.
She now lives with me. I have often heard Gibrity
Berry my Grandmother speak of the Revolutionary
services of her dear husband Benjamin Berry and
also about his death. She has told me that her husband
served during the war and that at one time he over-
stayed his furlough and for fear of punishment ^{he} tried
to keep out of the way and secreted himself in a
house but was finally taken up by her brother Sam-
uel Duda and carried back into the Army. She
says that after the close of the war he went to South
Carolina and died there of the Yellow fever. My
Mother Jelly Monrell is the only child living of

of Benjamin Berry. She has always told me that she was born in Old Durham as she calls the name of the town, in N.H. She had one brother by the name of Joseph Berry who died before he was married and left no children. From the information that I have received from my mother and Grandmother I have no doubt but Benjamin Berry my Grandfather, served during the war of the Revolution and was entitled to Bounty Land as a Warr man and that he died soon after the war. My Grandmother has always told me that she was married before her husband left the service and even before he was taken up and carried back into the Army.

Asa Smith

State of N.H.

Cumberland Co. Portland July 10th 1847 Then appeared the above named Asa Smith a credible witness, who dictated subscribed and made oath to the foregoing affidavit and that the same is true so far as it relates to facts within his own knowledge and the residue he believes to be true according to his best knowledge information and belief.

Before me Freeman Bradford Justice of the Peace

I Eleazer Bennett of Durham in the County of Stafford and State of New Hampshire on oath depose and say that I am ninety seven years of age and upwards... I was born in Old-Durham New-Hampshire, so called, and have resided in the same Town the whole of my life excepting the time I was in the War of the Revolution, and some short periods, when I worked out in my younger days. I served under Capt. Winborn Adams and Capt. Ashaus Chesley in 1775 and 1776 at Cambridge having entered Capt. Winborn Adams' Company as a substitute for Trueworthy Durgin the first of September 1775 and remained in said company three months, After I had served three months under Capt. Adams I was discharged and came home, and immediately after enlisted under Capt. Chesley and served under him four months, being the term of two several enlistments, and was discharged a few days after the British Troops left Boston, which was on or about the 17th of March 1776. My next enlistment and service was under Capt. Smith Emerson in 1776, which service was performed in the State of New York, and was in the battle of Long Island at which time Gen. Sullivan was taken prisoner, this last service was three months.

I was well acquainted with Benmore Duda who was a near neighbor to me in the time of the revolutionary War and who lived a Tenant twenty two years under Col. Joseph Smith, During the whole of the twenty two years I was intimately acquainted with said Benmore Duda and his family, he had two wives while he lived here, the maiden name of the first was Goummet, and of the second

Bickford, the sons by the first wife were as follows, viz: Obadiah, Asa, Lemuel, and Joseph, who died young. He also had the following daughters by the first wife viz: Pheby who married David Durgin, and died soon after she was married, Patience, who married Joseph Durgin cousin to David Durgin, and Sobriety who married Benjamin Berry who was a soldier of the revolution at the time she was married to him. Benjamin Berry was not a native of Durham, but came to this Town a soldier on furlough, in the time of the war, and put up or stopped at Benmore Duda's - became acquainted with Sobriety, his daughter and was married to her a short time after he came to this Town. They went together to Parson Adams and were married at his house. I did not see them married, but recollect the circumstances well because the family of Benmore Duda were opposed to the match, and we used to laugh about it. They went to the Minister on foot, the distance of more than two miles to be married. While Benjamin Berry was in Durham at this time he was sick or pretended to be and overstaid his furlough and then tried to conceal himself, he was taken up however and carried back into the army - I think I saw him once afterwards and that was after the war - He died soon after the war and left Sobriety a widow who lived in Durham and vicinity a number of years, the oldest child of Sobriety Berry was named Sally who was born in Durham soon after her mother's marriage. - Sally Berry married a man by the name of Smith in London, she having gone to London a short time before her marriage to keep house for a brother in law of mine by the name of Ephraim Clough. - She also had a son by the name

of Joseph Berry who learned a shoe makers trade and died without children in some town in Massachusetts and left some property for his mother - Sobriety Berry and his daughter Sally (after the marriage of the latter) went into the State of Maine and I have not heard from her since until I was informed about her by Mr. Coe, Town Clerk of Durham two or three weeks ago. There never was any question but Sobriety Duda was lawfully married to Benjamin Berry in the time of the Revolutionary War, Benjamin Berry when in Durham at the time of his marriage, wore a soldiers dress and was reputed to have been a soldier on furlough of the Continental Army. I do not know of any of the family of Benmore Duda now living, some members of the family have changed their names from Duda to Durrell or Durrell, and some of the name of Durrell or Durrell are living in this vicinity but I believe they are descendants of Nicholas Duda, or then in Durrell who was a brother of Benmore. - Lemuel Duda the brother of Sobriety Berry was in the service as a Under-stand the whole of the revolutionary War

Witness, Seth D. Walker
State of New Hampshire

Eleanor

^{his} Bennett
mark

Strafford J. August 13th 1847. Then personally appeared the above named Eleanor Bennett known to me to be a person of truth and veracity and a credible witness and made oath to the truth of the above affidavit by him signed; I further certify that the said Bennett is in full possession of his intellectual faculties and exhibits no imbecility of mind, and that the above affidavit was dictated by him.

Seth D. Walker Justice of the Peace