

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Armstrong R259

Nancy

fn47SC[sic, NC]

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/6/10

[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 errors to my attention.]

State of Illinois Menard County: On this 27th day of May 1846 before me Jacob Garber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Nancy Armstrong a resident of the County of Menard and State of Illinois aged seventy-seven years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1837 [sic] entitled an act granting half pay and Pensions to certain widows.

That she is the widow of Robert Armstrong Deceased who was a private in the Army of the revolution. That he served as a militia [man] in North Carolina under General Ashe [John Ashe] and Colonel Little [probably a reference to Colonel Archibald Lytle] he first went out in his Father's place (James Armstrong) he said he was between 19 & 20 years old when he first went out and was in the Battle at Briar Creek,¹ that he was out at other times and enlisted for ten months in the last year of the war & peace was declared & he did not serve out his time because of peace = That she does not remember any other of his officers names and these she only knows by his own and his neighbors often repeated assertions from that time* -- he further declares that she was married to the said Robert Armstrong on the 2nd June 1787. That her Husband the aforesaid Robert Armstrong died on the 9th day of September 1834. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 (viz.) at the time above stated --

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me --

S/ Jacob Garber, JP

S/ Nancy Armstrong, X her mark

Witness S/ Erasmus Wright

*[note written in the margin of the application]*That he was at Charleston & was with those that escaped by Coopers River [sic, Cooper River] before it was taken. That he was out in the service she believes between 3 and 4 years, once went to Charleston with the wagons for salt during the war. My husband lived on Crowder's Creek -- near Kings mountain (said he was raised on Crowder's Creek) North Carolina*

State of Illinois Menard County: I hereby affirm that my husband Robert Armstrong kept his family Record in a Bible and wrote the same himself giving his and my age our marriage and the

¹ March 3, 1779.

years of our children it was kept in our house and in our possession until May 1845 since which time it has been with my son in law Edward Potter the Record shows that Robert Armstrong was born 28 May 1760, Nancy Green (now Nancy Armstrong) February 4, 1768 = That they were married 22 June 1787 and also the ages of ten children James Armstrong, Jesse A, Robert, Rhoda, Royal, Hugh, John, Betsey, Nancy and Elizabeth Armstrong my youngest now 34 years old.

Sworn to and subscribed this 27 May 1846 before me

S/ Jacob Garber, JP

S/ Nancy Armstrong, X her mark

[fn p. 6: family record (4 pages)]

Robert Armstrong's Book Bought May the 8th [illegible] Price 7/6
Robert Armstrong was Born May the 28th 1760
Nancey Armstrong was Born February 6th 1763
Bowling Green was born January 25th 1786
James Armstrong was born [illegible] 1788 and deceased [illegible] 1789
Jesse Armstrong was Born December the 2nd 1789
Robert Armstrong Junior was Born March 9th 1792 and deceased September the 18th 1798
Rhoda Armstrong was born July the 15th 1794
Royal Armstrong was Born [illegible] the 11th 1797
Hugh Armstrong was Born August the 7th 1800
John Armstrong was Born January 13th 1803
Betsey Armstrong was born March 9th 1805
Nancey Armstrong Junior was Born April 6 1809
Robert Armstrong Senior and Nancy Greene was Married June the 22nd 1787
Eliza Armstrong was Born April 25th 1812
Nelson Burns was born November the 17 1795
Delilah Potter's 1st son Bowling born March the 28th 1824
Hannah Jones was Born the 2nd of August 1811
John Armstrong & Hannah Jones was married the 22nd of October 182 [last digit illegible]

State of Illinois Menard County

Be it known that on this 4th day of December 1846 Before me Samuel H. Treat Judge of the County Court [indecipherable word] sitting in and for said County duly authorized by the laws of this State to administer oaths Personally appeared Nancy Armstrong aged seventy-seven years next February and made oath in due form of law to the following statement and Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 (And also the Subsequent acts of 3 March 1843 and 17 June 1844) Entitled An Act granting half pay and Pensions to certain Widows. That she is the widow of Robert Armstrong Deceased, who was a Private in the Army of the Revolution. That her Husband Robert Armstrong was out in the war of the Revolution and served three or four years most of the time perhaps more. That he took his Father's place (whose name was James Armstrong) and went as a substitute. That he served in the militia North and South Carolina & Georgia.

That he lived in North Carolina when they were married that he came there from South Carolina or Georgia two or three years before. That she is unable to give his officers names General Ashe General Sumter and Colonel Little are to she believes he served under. That he was in the battle of Briar Creek and there he lost his horse saddle & bridle and greatcoat. That he was

in other engagements she fully believes. That he drove a team part of the time But was with the Horse company generally. That near the close of the war he enlisted for ten months but did not serve out all of the time out because Peace was made.

That he never received any Pension or Bounty Land neither has she ever received any -- That she was married to the said Robert Armstrong on the 22nd day of June in the year 1787. That her Husband the said Robert Armstrong Died in the County of Sangamon (now Menard) in the State of Illinois on the 9th day of September 1834. That she was not married to him previous to his leaving the service but that the marriage took place previously to the first of January 1794 to wit at the time above stated. That her husband the said Robert Armstrong for 3 or 4 years before his death was afflicted with much headache and his mind became much shattered -- say about 1830 or 1831 -- That she and all the family have often heard him relate the particulars of losing his horse and all his clothing that he and several others swam the Savany [sic, Savannah] River and some drowned and those that got through were nearly naked and one man got an old Box and cut a hole for his head and put it known for a shirt. That there were two by the name of Nance and two by the name of Carlin (one Thomas ^{Tom} Carlin) (Jim & Bill Nance) who were his Associates and served some with him. That she was not acquainted with him during the war and as he often spoke of Camden she thinks he was from that section of the Country. That he and Carlin while hauling salt from Charleston ran [?] a narrow risk with the Enemy. That Robert Armstrong (her husband) Father's name was James Armstrong and Robert named his first son after him. That before she became acquainted with him they lived on Crowder's Creek so called near Kings Mountain -- That of the foregoing which came under her own knowledge she knows to be true and of that part which she has been told by her husband and others during the last 60 years and confirmed by those who were with him she fully believes to be true furthermore she saith not.

Subscribed and sworn to the 4th day of December 1846

S/ Nancy Armstrong, P her mark

Menard County December 5th 1846 Nancy Armstrong and he adds the additional statement in Presence of Abram Lincoln Member of Congress Elect from this Congressional district that her husband Robert Armstrong was 19 years old when he took his father James Armstrong's place. That he was one of the County Court in Tennessee State and was a Magistrate in this County a long time. That the old Bible containing near Family Record was exhibited to Mr. Lincoln that it was in the hand writing of her husband -- that she has no knowledge of any documentary evidence of this service of her husband in the Revolutionary war. That Mr. Lincoln knew her and her husband Robert -- that they lived together as man & wife in Menard County.

Done in Presence of me

S/ A. Lincoln

S/ Nancy Armstrong, X her mark

Menard County Dec. 5th 1846 Nancy Armstrong adds the additional statement in
Presence of Abram Lincoln Member of Congress Elect from this Congressional District
That her husband Robert Armstrong was nineteen years old when he took his father James Armstrong's
place. That he was one of the County Court in Tennessee and was a Magistrate in this County a
long time. That the old bible containing their family record was exhibited to Mr. Lincoln that it was in the
hand writing of her husband - that she has no knowledge of any documentary evidence of the service
of her husband in the Revolutionary war. That Mr. Lincoln knew her and her husband Robert that they lived
together as man & wife in Menard County.

Done in Presence of me
A. Lincoln

Nancy Armstrong
X her mark

[Abram Lincoln referred to above is none other than Abraham Lincoln, the future President of the United States]

State of Illinois Menard County: On this 15th day of October A.D. 1847 Before the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for said County duly authorized by law to administer oaths personally appeared Nancy Armstrong widow of Robert Armstrong deceased and made oath in due form of law That in addition to her Declaration of 4th of December 1836 to enable her to obtain the pension to which she is entitled under the Act of Congress of 7th of July 1838 and the following Acts predicated there on.

That it appears out of her power to prove a negative, that there was no other James Armstrong in the Revolutionary War = But that Robert Armstrong was the oldest son of his Father James Armstrong take he took his place as a Substitute and went into the service and was engaged in the service during most of the war. That she verily believes her husband was the same who was registered Senior and in confirmation of the fact (Armstrong Senior) her husband was with the South Carolina troops and was at the Battle of Briar Creek and there lost his horse saddle and bridle clothing & and had to swim the River (the Savannah she believes) and several were grounded that her husband had to go some 10 or 12 days nearly naked. That she is situated here in this remote region where but few are living who can give any testimony to facts and events that occurred about 70 years ago. But from the facts that the Records show his service and that he had credit for a horse lost at the battle of briar Creek appears to amount to almost positive proof.

That she knows of no person by whom she can now make additional proof.

In testimony whereof she has hereunto set her hand this day and date above written.

Sworn and subscribed before me this 15th day of October 1847

S/ Jacob Garber, JP

S/ Nancy Armstrong, X her mark

[fn pp. 22-23: Certificate dated November 2, 1846 issued by the South Carolina Comptroller General's office showing numerous payments made to "Mr James Armstrong, Senior and Junior" during the revolution including 42 days "at Briar Creek as horseman under General Williamson at 20 shillings per day = one horse lost at Briar Creek in 1779 amounting in all to £67:1:4 ¾ Sterling"]