

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant of James Bowser BLWt2001-100 VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 July 2014.

State of Virginia            }  
County of Nansemond      }

I, Thomas Bowser, heir at law of James Bowser, do, upon my oath, declare & testify, that, to the best of my knowledge & belief, the said James Bowser did enlist in 1782 [sic] for the term of During the War, and served in the regiment No. One, under the Command of Colonel [William] Davies of the Continental line, and that he continued in the service until the War ended. I further declare that I have never received a warrant for the bounty land promised the said James Bowser on the part of the United States, nor do I believe that he ever received it, or transfered his claim to it in any manner whatsoever: Therefore, Know all men by these presents; That I Thomas Bowser aforesaid do hereby constitute and appoint Vespasian Ellis of Accomack, Virginia, to be my true and lawful Attorney... [power of attorney follows]. Witness my hand and seal this 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 1833

Thomas hisXmark Bowser

I certify, that I was well acquainted with James Bowser of this County and that he was, (always said to be,) a soldier in the revolutionary war, and that he served until the war ended – and that he was the same James Bowser of whom Nathaniel Bowser, Thomas Bowser, Betsey Bowser, Moses Ash, Caroline Ash, Lydia Ash, Thomas Ash and Curtis Ash are heirs at law. Nath'l. hisXmark Bowser Sr.  
[Nansemond County VA, October 17, 1833]

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Richmond May 28<sup>th</sup> 1783

I do hereby Certify that James Bowser a Continental Soldier for the War has servd four years successively & is now in Service  
[Peter Muhlenberg Brigadier General]



Affidavit of Thomas Bowser Sr of Nansemond, Virginia.

The affiant being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that he was well acquainted with James Bowser of the aforesaid county & state, who was a soldier in the revolutionary war – that the said James Bowser enlisted in the Virginia Continental Army for the term of during the war, the affiant thinks, about the begining of the year 1782, and served to the end of the war. The affiant further saith that the said James Bowser returned to this County after the War was over and has frequently heard hi say, that he had served to the end of the war and had been honorably discharged.

Thomas hisXmark Bowser Sr.

Nansemond County, Virginia/ October 17<sup>th</sup> 1833.

The heirs of James Bowser pray an allowance of Bounty land for his services as a private in the Va Continental line for the “term of the War”. They refer to the list printed by order of the Senate Jany 1828 where his name appears.  
To the Executive of Virginia

Respectfully submitted  
The Heirs

NOTES:

Two James Bowers of Nansemond County are listed in size rolls:

A size roll compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse after 1 Sep 1780 [<http://revwarapps.org/b69.pdf>] lists James Bowser/ age 50/ height 5 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>/ farmer/ born and residing in Nansemond County/ black hair/ black eyes/ yellow complexion/ enlisted 28 Sep 1780 for 18 months.

A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates taken at Albemarle Old Courthouse [<http://revwarapps.org/b81.pdf>] lists James Bowser/ age 19/ height 5' 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"/ black hair/ black eyes/ yellow complexion/ scarred by small pox/ born and residing in Nansemond County/ enlisted in Shenandoah County on 1 Jan 1782 for the duration of the war. Sized in June 1782.

In the 1820 federal census of Nansemond County Thomas Bowser and Natt Bowser are heads of households of "free colored persons."