

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Bounty Land Claim of Henry Baylis BLWt491-150

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 Feb 2017.

Know all men by these presents that I Henry Baylis of the County of frederick, within the Commonwealth of Virginia, have made ordained constituted and appointed and by these presents to make ordain constitute and appoint the Hon'l. Henry Crist a member of Congress from the state of Kentucky my true and Lawful Attorney, for me and in my name, to ask and receive of the Secretary at war or any other agent of the United States Legally authorised to grant the same a land warrant for the quantity of Land to which I may be entitled for my services as an ensign in the Sixth Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment in the revolutionary war – and on receiving such Land warrant the usual and proper request [illegible word] and discharges to give for me and in my name for the same, hereby ratifying and confirming whatever my said Attorney shall and may Lawfully do in the business as binding on myself and my heirs in witness whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal – the fifth day of June 1809

Henry Baylis (LS)

[The certification by James Singleton of Frederick County states that Baylis had been known to him for 25 years, “exercising the occupation of a farmer and for a good part of this time fill’d an office as Major in the Militia, he is a man of veracity no speculator but a little negligent....”]

Winchester March 19, 1835

To Honbl. Levi Woodbury./ Secretary of the Treasury

Sir: Henry Bayless of Frederick County Va. a worthy old Gentleman and one among the few surviving officers of the war of the Revolution called on me yesterday to make some inquiries touching a claim that now being prosecuted on his behalf by Messrs. Green &c. of Richmond Va. for commutation pay believing from Mr. Bayliss’ own statement that he has no claim upon the government and knowing that many frauds have been committed under colour of these Revolutionary claims, I feel it my duty to possess you of the facts communicated to me by Mr. Bayless. they are these – that in the year 1781 he was commissioned by Congress an Ensign in the 12th Continental Reg’t. and that in 1782 he was promoted to a Lieutenancy in the same Reg’t. and remained in service until the close of the war. that in the year 1784 he made a settlement with the proper officer and drew all the money and land to which he then considered himself entitled – that he never belonged to the Virginia State line & therefore has no just claim for commutation pay. Mr. B is an Honest & respectable man, and I have no doubt has been imposed upon by designing speculators.

I beg leave to suggest Sir, that this communication be filed in the proper office – it may prevent an imposition upon the Treasury. Very Respectfully/ your obt. Ser.

G. Singleton/ U.S. Atty. W[estern] D[istrict] Va.

Winchester Va

D. Sir: You will do me a favour by informing me whether there is any record in your office which shows that Ensign Henry Bayliss of the Va Line ever rec’d. a warrant for land for his services during the Revolutionary War. By a document down to Sept 1833 it does not appear he has received any land. His children says he never did. Also a Major Peter Helphinstine [Peter Helphinston (Helphinstine) VAS1480] in Mhulenburgs [sic: Peter Muhlenberg’s] Regiment. It appears that he rec’d 5333 $\frac{1}{3}$ acres by warrant obtained 29th March 1803. He served during the war and died of a disease contracted in the southern Country [illegible word] in the campaign.

If your duties will permit your [illegible word] to give me the desired information, I shall be thankful and also feel myself under obligation to you. I am respectfully Yours

October 11th 1845

Lewis Tilghman Moore/ Winchester Va

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

[I d]o hereby Certify that Lieutenant Henry Baylis entered the Service in the Spring of the year 1781 and Continued till the Discharge of the Army in Nov'r 1783.

Given under my hand this 12th June 1784.

James Wood Late B. G.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Wood". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.