

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Benjamin Bond R1000

MD

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization partly Corrected]

Report to the Honorable John H Allen Of

Wm L Mitchell & James M Camp Agents

Hon, J. J. Allen

State of Virginia } SS

Tyler County }

On this 9th day of January 1834 personally Appeared before me John W Allen a Justice of the peace in and for the said County of Tyler Benjamin Bond aged 78 years who being first duly Sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress of 7th June 1832 That he Entered the Service of the United States and served under the following named officers as herein Stated that in the year of Christ 1777 in September of that year at Baltimore County and State of Maryland he entered the service the service of the United States under Capt Stephen Gill first Leut Thomas Bond Second Lieutenant Acquilla Tipton Ensign Nicholas Gill as a minute man in Capt Gills Company of Maryland troops attached to a regiment or battalion commanded by Col Thomas Gess Major Gess [illegible word] of the Maryland troops the number of the regiment Declarant has forggotten Capt Gills Company of minute men rendesvoued at Ezekiel Towsons tavern [now Towson] within 7 miles of Baltimore declarant was marched from this place to Baltimore it was feared the Enemy would land at some available point near Baltimore Many of the enemies vessels were then in the waters of the Chesepeake [sic: Chesapeake Bay] declarant thinks Gen [William] Howe had landed a great army at the head of Elk river Maryland [now Elkton, late Aug 1777] A few weeks before he entered the service and he thinks the battle of Brandy Wine [Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777] took place about the time he entered or at most shortly thereafter affiant was engaged in guarding and defending Baltimore remained here a considerable length of time how long affiant has forgotten After the panic had ceared and the fear of the enemies attacking the city had subsided affiant returned home and remained ready to march at a moments warning and ever ready to obey the orders of his Capt Gill declarant states that when Capt Gills company of minute men first formed he was elected by said Capt Gills company of minute men orderly Serjeant of said company and by virtue of his warrant received of his said capt Stephen Gill he acted as orderly Serjeant of his said company of minute men in the service of the United States he performed every duty appertaing to said office of orderly Serjeant during the before maned tour of duty at Baltimore aforesaid and for ever acted in that capacity in the same compny of minute men for and during the remainder of the Revolutionary War from Sept 1777 till peace was made in 1783 declarant states he was a minute man and served as such throughout the war of the revolution from the time he first entered in Sept 1777 and that he held himself in readiness to march at moments warning and that he was frequently called out to defend the City of Baltimore and the adjacent county of the neighborhood of Baltimore He was also marched to Whetstone Point for the purpose of defending the fort built at that place [Fort Whetstone, site of later Fort McHenry] Remained some time he cannot reccollect how long being now very old and infirm he cannot remember transactions which happened fifty odd years ago with any degree of precision He is very frail both in body and mind so much so that he cannot remember many important events which he states occurred during his service He states that he entered the service about the time of the battle of Brandywine and that he remained in the service till peace was made in 1783 a period of upwards of five years that he served in the War of the Revolution all of which time he states that he acted as orderly Serjeant in Capt Stephen Gills Company of minute men from Baltimore County Maryland and he further states that he allways marched at a moments warning and was ever ready to defend his country whenever called uppon and further that he frequently marched to defend different points in the vicinity of Baltimore at different periods of the War of the Revolution He reccollects that the battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] was

fought and Philadelphia was taken [26 Sep 1777] a considerable time after he entered the service – how long he cannot state He remembers Arnolds treason [Benedict Arnold, discovered 25 Aug 1780] and descent upon Virginia [Jan 1781] and the battle between the British and French fleets off Cape Henry [First Battle of the Capes, 16 Mar 1781] – Battle of Guilford Courthouse [15 Mar 1781] and Surrender of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] all the above events he states took place during his service also states that he was engaged in the capture of thirteen Tories in the neighborhood of Baltimore which were conveyed to prison at Annapolis Maryland He further states that he stood a minute man from 1777 till 1783 allways ready and willing to obey the orders of his said officers night or day and that he was frequently called upon and marched to the assistance and defence of Baltimore when enemy fears were entertained of an attack from or an invasion of the enemy he served with Maryland troops He remembers of seeing a French army at Baltimore and hearing of the arrival of a French squadron he thinks in 79 or 1780 He also recollects of marching on sudden emergencies and when alarms and confusion prevailed which frequently happened during the War of the Revolution he was marched to a place called rivertown he now thinks March 1778 remained here till June of that year From here marched to little places called Liberty town remained here a long time Cannot say how long thence to Hooks town near Baltimore remained and guarded this place a long time He recollects of marching to Harvdegrac [sic: Havre de Grace] Harford CH Montgomery CH and a place called Choptank He also recollects of being marched to Fredricktown [sic: Frederick] Barracks He seen Hessian prisoners there The applicant is so infirm he cannot arrange his services often putting the events of 80 81 2 & 3 in the years 1777 8 & 9 but he appears retain his recollection very perfect as it regards his having served from about the time of the battle of Brandy Wine untill peace was made to wit from Sept 1777 till 1783 The before named services were all that declarant performed in the War of the Revolution his service was rendered in the State of Maryland Declarant was an orderly Serjeant in Capt Stephen Gills Company of minute men attached to the Maryland troops and was kept on constant duty for the defence of Baltimore and the adjacent country as far as the Eastern Shore of Maryland Declarant states he received his wages in Continental money which was of no value Declarant has not documentary evidence of his service neither does he know of any person living who can testify to his services He is so very infirm that he cannot travel to the Court house of the said County of Tyler from which he lives nine miles Declarant states he has lost or mislaid all his papers relating his service He further states that he was honourably discharged by his said Capt Stephen Gill he thinks in the month of October of the year 1783 He does distinctly recollect it was after the time of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis after having served as an orderly Serjeant in Capt Stephen Gills company of minute men from 1777 Sept of that year untill October of the year 1783 He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Benjamin Bond

to the several interrogatories prescribed by the War Department and propounded to the applicant he answereth as follows

- 1– I was born in the year 1756 on 6th day January in Baltimore County and State Maryland
- 2^d I have a copy of my age taken from my fathers Bible
- 3^d I was living when I entered the service in Baltimore County and State of Maryland I have lived since the war in Maryland and Virginia where I now resided in the County of Tyler and state of Virginia
- 4th I was a minute man in Capt Stephen Gills company an orderly Serjeant in said company and wore a halbert [sic: carried a halberd] by virtue of said office and I served as such
- 5 I knew in the service Col John Howard [John Eager Howard] Lieutenant Stephen Shannadine I seen many French officers review French troops at Baltimore I have forgotten many officers names I knew and was well acquainted with General Andrew Buckhannon [sic: Andrew Buchanan] I do not know that he was a regular officer I have detailed all the circumstances of my service in my declaration that I can recollect
- 6 I have lost my discharge & warrant long ago
- 7th I am known to John Ripley clergyman Bowen Furbee and John Owens who can testify as to my

character for veracity and their belief of my having been an Orderly Serjeant and a minute man in the War of the Revolution

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Benjamin Bond

NOTES:

The reason given for rejection of the application was that no evidence of service was furnished.

Nathan Goff, who assisted US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton in investigating pension applications from present West Virginia, wrote in a letter to Singleton on 24 Feb 1835, "We shall want the Declarations of Leonard Kelch [pension application R5823] & Benj Bond of Tylor County." The most likely reason for their interest in Bond was that his agents, William L. Mitchell and James M. Camp, were suspected of submitting fraudulent applications for others. [For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. There is no indication in Bond's file that he was suspected of fraud.