

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Bates Wrenn (Wren) R11875

f34VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/17/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. 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. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of South Carolina Edgefield District: On this eighteenth day of January in the year of our Lord 1842, personally appeared in Open Court before me John Belton O'Neal, one of the Judges of the said State, now sitting, in and for the Said District Bates Wrenn of the District and State aforesaid aged eighty-one years the 16 of September last, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832:

That in May 1780, the declarant entered the service as a private and as a substitute for his father James Wrenn, in the militia company of Captain Mabry, which company was attached to the Regiment commanded at that time by Colonel David Mayson and Major John Lucas; The Declarant was born in Greenville County State of Virginia on the 16th of September 1780, according to a family record which is in his possession; and was residing in said County when he entered the Army. He cannot pretend to unerring precision to the statement of events so long transpired, he therefore only states some of the most prominent facts and events: He marched first to Petersburg – thence to Hick's ford – from thence to Halifax, and from Halifax to Guilford, after having remained at Halifax for some time. He was engaged in the battle of Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781], and continued to do active duty until October 1781, He was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at York Town, immediately after which event, he was discharged, but cannot remember from whom he received his discharge or what has become of it. The Declarant continued to reside in Virginia about twelve years after his discharge, he then removed to North Carolina, Halifax County where he resided eight years – From thence he removed to the State of Georgia Columbia County where he resided eight years. Thence he removed to South Carolina Edgefield District, where he has continued to reside ever since.

Of the regular officers with whom the declarant remembers to have served, he particularly remembers General Green [Nathanael Greene] and Colonel Washington [William Washington] – he cannot recollect any Continental or other Regiment by name –

He refers to the following gentlemen who are acquainted with him to testify as to his veracity, and state their belief as to whether he served as a soldier of the Revolution viz. J P Carroll, Esquire, James Terry Esquire, Colonel John Hill and Colonel James Tompkins. In the absence of better proof he begs leave to submit the annexed certificate of Allen Melton who is the son of Elisha Melton deceased – the only man this declarant remembers to have seen in South Carolina who served with him.

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

S/ John Belton O'Neal

S/ Bates Wrenn

Bates Wrenn

South Carolina Edgefield District: I do hereby certify that I have frequently heard my father Isham Melton¹ during his lifetime say that he served in the Revolutionary war with Bates Wrenn the present applicant.

S/ Allen Melton

Allen Melton

[J. Terry and J. P. Carroll, gave the standard supporting affidavit reciting that there is no clergyman near this place.]

The Declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present; and declares that his name is not on the roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ Bates Wrenn

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The State of South Carolina Edgefield District: Amended declaration of Bates Wrenn, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of 7 June 1832.

The declarant states, that after having entered the service under Captain Mabry, as stated in his original application, to which the department is referenced, his first tour of service was for six months at the expiration of that time there was then a draft for the formulation of another Company under the same officers and he was drafted for six months and placed again under the command of said Captain Mabry. He served out the full time. He does not recollect whether, at either of the periods mentioned, he received a verbal or written discharge. The declarant states that after that to the best of his recollection he volunteered for six months, he is conscious that he remained in the service until after the siege of little York of October 19, 1781. That during his last six months he was still placed under the command of the said Captain Mabry, that during the siege he was engaged in the ditching and other services of the camp &, as well as under arms. That he was in line when the British troops were marched out and surrendered. That Isham Melton whose son's certificate is attached to his original declaration, went into the services at the same time he did, May 1780, and that they were both discharged at the same time, having been near neighbors, and returned home together. That he was detained in service for a few weeks after the Siege before he was discharged. He cannot say whether he then received a written discharge or not, if he did, he has no recollection of what ever became of it. The declarant further states most conscientiously that during the whole of the three tours which he served, that he will was never under an arrest or any complaints made against him for a neglect of duty. The declarant states that owing to old age and consequent loss of memory, That he cannot state any other material facts but respectfully refers the Department to the certificates in the original declaration to the correctness of his declaration.

The declarant further states in answer to the interrogatory for delaying his application until the present time that he did make application in the year 1833 or 4 to the Department, and

¹ [Isham Melton S38944](#)

his papers were returned that at that time he was able to support himself by his own labor, and concluded that he would not make any further effort, that he has since become so old & infirm that he is unable now to support himself without assistance – he now being 82 years of age. His services was confined to North Carolina & Virginia.

Sworn to and subscribed this 14 January 1843, before me

S/ Bartley Martin, Magistrate

S/ Bates Wrenn

[f p 11: Bates Wrenn, son of Bates Wrenn, executed a power of attorney dated January 27, 1853, in Edgefield district South Carolina in an effort to pursue the amounts due him as the heir of his father.]