

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Samuel Butcher R1540

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Capitalization partly corrected.]

State of Virginia } SS

Wood County }

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 1833 personally appeared before me Jephtha Kincheloe a Justice of the peace in & for Wood County & State of Virginia Samuel Butcher a resident Citizen of Wood County & State of Virginia Aged 77 years 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 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 act of Congress of 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832

That he Entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated That in the year 1778 he was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Virginia Millitia by the then Govenour of Virginia whose name he has forgotten [Patrick Henry] He then in the year 1780 he thinks about 1<sup>st</sup> day of October he volunteered to serve a tour of three months under Capt John Davis Major) Jacob Reed (Col) John Alexander. They rendevoued at the house of Joseph Lacy in Loudon [sic: Loudoun] County Virginia Affiant then marched to Fredricksburg [sic: Fredericksburg] Va. & stationed there & and marched to different places till his term of three months for which he had volunteered had expired & the millitia obtained leave from General Weeden [sic: George Weedon] to return home Affiant returned home & was discharged by Capt. John Davis after having served three months as a Lieutenant in the Virginia millitia From Loudon County he then in the year 1781 he thinks about April it was ascertained that Lord Cornwallis was coming from the South towards Richmond in Virginia Declarant again volunteered his services as a Lieutenent We again met at Joseph Lacys & Thomas Shores was affiants Captain This 2<sup>nd</sup> tour of three months & marched again to Fredricksburg Our regiment was commanded by Major Reed & Col Alexander again We were ordered to join the Marquis de lafayette [sic: Marquis de Lafayette] We marched to the Bowling Green & from thence to Hollidays tavern We missed the Marquis De lafayette after a whole migts [night's?] march as he was retreating before Lord Cornwallis Wee then returned to Fredricksburg At this place Captain Noland took the command of the company in which declarant acted as a Lieutenant & which company was formerly commanded by Capt Thomas Shores In this neighborhood declarant remained untill his term of three months expired & he again forthwith volunteered as a Leutenent aforesaid for a further term of three months the company was now transfered to Col Charles Dabneys command As well as affiant recollects the Major was James Quarles Wee marched from Fredricksburg to the Raccoon ford on the Rapid ann [sic: Rapidan] River Here wee joined the Marquis delafayett Here wee lay a short time and was reenforced by Genl Wayne [Anthony Wayne, 8 Jun 1781] with the Penslyvania troops Wee then cut a road [Marquis Road] to intersect the Richmond & Staunton Road Wee headed Cornwallis and he retreated Wee pursued him to Bottoms Bridge on Chickahominy River thence by New Kent Court house thence again to Chickahominy River at a place where there was a mill dam Here Gen Wayne give his Lordship battle but had to retreat [see endnote] the object of the attack was not realized Cornwallis kept down the Chickahominy River crossed below Williamsburg & into York Affiants term of service having expired he did not follow to the Siege of Yorktown [28 Sep - 19 Oct] Affiant returned home to Loudon County & was discharged by Capt. Samuel Noland After having served three months this terminated declarants service having served in all about nine months in the war of the Revolution

Declarant knows of no person now living by whom to prove all services but believes there is a woman named Susanah Leonard in Wood County who knew him in time of the Revolution & knows him now & he may possibly prove his services by her but is not certain Affiant has no documentary evidence of his

services His commission & discharges he has lost or mislaid as useless papers He can refer to James W Cooper and Turner Boulware two of his neighbors to certify to his character & their belief & that of the neighborhood of his having been an officer of the Revolution He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or territory

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid [signed] Samuel Butcher

The following are declarants answers to the several interrogatories prescribed by the War department

- 1 I was born in Loudon County, Va. in the year 1756 March 28<sup>th</sup>) 2<sup>d</sup> I have a register of my age taken from my fathers Bible
- 3 I was living in Loudon County Va when I first went into the service & during the war Since I have lived in Fauquier Hardy & Randolph Counties & I now reside in Wood County) 4<sup>th</sup> I volunteered each time I entered the service) 5<sup>th</sup> I served with & knew Gen Washington [see endnote] Weedon & Wayne Col Alexander & Dabny Major Reed & Camel [sic: Campbell] I have forgotten the No of Reg'ts I served with Va militia & Pa troops as well as I now recollect
- 6 My commission was signed by the three[?] Governors of Virginia I cannot recollect his name My discharges by my Captains all of which papers is lost or mislaid
- 7 I am known to James W Cooper & Turner Bowlware two of my neighbors who can testify as to my character for veracity & their & the neighborhood beliefs of my having been an officer of the Revolution There is no clergyman residing near me I am old & infirm

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid [signed] Samuel Butcher

Parkersburg 6<sup>th</sup> May 1834 Sir Enclosed is the Claim of Lieutenant Samuel Butcher also a Letter from Henry Dupree to Mr Edwards [James L. Edwards, Pension Commissioner] I hope you will pursue a straitforward course in relation to any Claim I may send you as I go for facts & facts alone in submitting my claims I have nothing to fear having Drafted all declaration in which I am concerned from the mouth of the applicants & in the Presence of the Magistrates or Courts of Justice Before whom I have done business I respectfully refer you to any Gentleman you may choose to write to in relation to my Conduct as agent for Pensioners Report to me at Solus[?] Wood Cty Va

yours in haste Wm L Mitchell

[The following report is by Washington G. Singleton, US District Attorney, who investigated numerous pension applicants in what is now West Virginia. For details see my appendix in the pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth. Singleton concluded that Butcher was not entitled to a pension because he did not serve at least six months as required under the 1832 act.]

Samuel Butcher Applicant.

I the undersigned Samuel Butcher give the following narrative of my age and Revolutionary Services to Wit. I was born in March 1756 & lived in Loudoun county during the war of the Revolution. In the fall of the year, preceeding the one in which Cornwallis was captured [19 Oct 1781], there was a requisition for Militia from the County of Loudoun. Capt Jno Davis was detailed to the command of a company in which I was first Lieut. (I volunteered) the company marched from Loudoun to Prince William where we were met by orders from Genl. Weeden, directing us to return home & held our selves in readiness to march at a moment warning. We returned to Loudoun County haveing been on our march going & returning some four or five days. In the next succeeding April, I volunteered under Capt. Thomas Shores & marched under him as first Lieut. from Loudoun Cty. to Fredricksburg where Capt. Shores resigned and Capt. Sameul Nolen succeeded him. We marched on to the Rapedan River at the Rackon Ford where we met Genl Lafayett retreating. Genl. Wayne reenforced him at that place. The american army turned upon the British army and pursued it to New Kent Court House, at which place I got a furlough &

returned home, it was on the 22<sup>d</sup>. day of July 1781 that got a furlough & went home, I was in actual service in this tour at least 3 mo. and thus ended by Revolutionary Services. Wm. L. Mitchel wrote my Declaration. I made the same statement to him in substance that I make. I agreed to give Mitchel one years pay. my Declaration was made before "Esquire" Kincheloe at a Mill two & a half miles from my house. I reside seven miles from the county seat of Wood and am in the habit of going there every week or two. – at the time of makeing my Declaration I enjoyed ordinary health and was perfectly able to go to the County Seat. In Witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name Dec'r. 23 1834  
Witness J M Steed. Samuel Butcher

NOTE:

The battle between Gen. Wayne and Gen. Cornwallis must have been the battle of Green Springs Plantation on 6 Jul 1781 near Jamestown, which is on James rather than Chickahominy River. Gen. Washington did not arrive in Virginia until the middle of September 1781, after Butcher's last tour ended.

The file contains a copy of the last will and testament of Samuel Butcher signed on 18 June 1844 and probated on 16 Aug 1847 with the following provisions:

To son Thomas Butcher 100 acres on Tygart Creek and adjoining 6 acres on which was situated the mansion house.

To daughter Susan Vaughan all personal property and the service of a female slave, Malvina, until age 25, after which she is to be freed unless she runs away, in which case she would be freed at age 30.

To Eli Butcher, John Butcher, Peyton Butcher, Ury Reeder, Tasy Hamer, Ann Vaughan, Deborah Pribble, and Hannah Kencheloe one dollar each.

Son-in-law Atwell Vaughan and J D Riley to be Executors.

On 4 March 1853 Thomas Butcher of Claysville in Wood County applied for any benefits available for the service of Samuel Butcher. On 11 Jan 1855 Susan Vaughan appointed Samuel Butcher as her attorney to obtain benefits for the service of her deceased father.