

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Seth Butts R1564

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Alabama }

Autauga County }

On this the tenth day of October 1843 personally appeared in Open Court, before the Circuit Court of said State sitting for the said County of Autauga Seth Butts a resident of said County of Autauga in said State of Alabama aged ninety seven years, 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 passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated

That he entered the service as a volunteer. That he was a Sergeant in the company commanded by Captain William Wilson, and the Regiment was commanded by Colonel John Wilson, and afterwards as a Sergeant in the Company Commanded by Captain Josiah Butts as herein after stated, and that he has forgotten the names of all the other Officers under whom he served, but recollects Major John Armstrong and Captain Javan Miller of the regular service, in service at that time; that he does not remember the year he entered the service. That he was engaged in the battle of the Great Bridge about twelve miles from Norfolk [9 Dec 1775], and also in several skirmishes which he is unable from loss of recollection particularly to describe. That he resided in the Town of Norfolk in the State of Virginia when he entered the service. The Regiment in which he served was to the best of his recollection the fourth. The Country through which he marched was from Norfolk to the Great Bridge, and from the Great Bridge to the North West River, a river running by a place called Pascatank [sic: Pasquotank in NC]. That his father Josiah Butts (not the Captain Josiah Butts under whom he served) was in the service a portion of the same time. That he served to the best of his recollection about two years under Captain Wilson as a Sergeant and afterwards as a Sergeant for some length of time from Eighteen months to two years in the Company commanded by Captain Josiah Butts, and that he is unable to state from want of recollection with any degree of accuracy the length of time he served under Captain Butts. That he has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension [roll] of the Agency of any State

Seth hisXmark Butts

Interrogatory first

Where and in what year were you born

Answer That he was born in Norfolk County in the State of Virginia, that he cannot state positively in what year he was born, but believes he is ninety seven years old

Interrogatory Second

Have you any record of your age and if so where is it

He answers that he has no record of his age

Interrogatory third

Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war, and where do you now live

He answers

That at the time he volunteered he was living in Norfolk in the State of Virginia, that since the close of the Revolutionary war, he has resided in Norfolk Counties State of Virginia about

twenty years after the close of said war, then in the State of North Carolina, then he moved into Autauga County Alabama where he is now living

Interrogatory fourth

How were you called into service were you draughted did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom

He answers that he volunteered his services

Interrogatory fifth

State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service

He answers that the only regular officers that he now remembers are Major John Armstrong and captain Javan Miller. The Regiment in which he served was to the best of his recollection the fourth, but this he is not certain of, it might have been the third or the fifth, he was in the battle at the Great Bridge, about twelve miles from Norfolk, and was stationed and marched about the Country from Norfolk to the North West River, running by Pascatanck. He was also in several skirmishes but is unable to describe them. He entered the service as a volunteer, and was a sergeant in the company of which William Wilson was the Captain and John Wilson was the Colonel of the Regiment. That he cannot say how long he served under Captain Wilson, but thinks it was about two years, he also served to the best of his remembrance about eighteen months or two years in the Company commanded by Josiah Butts in the fifth or sixth Regiment, in the last Company he served as a sergeant

Interrogatory Sixth

Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

He answers that he has no recollection of ever receiving any discharge from the service

Interrogatory Seventh

State the names of the persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

He answers that Governor Benjamin Fitzpatrick and William Morgan as well as many others in his neighbourhood have known him for the last ten or twelve years as also [blank space] and he believes they would all testify as to his good character for sincerity

Sworn to and subscribed

Seth hisXmark Butts

NOTE: On 7 June 1852 Mary Ann Butts applied for the pension she thought due to her husband, Seth Butts. She stated that Seth Butts died on 7 Oct 1846 leaving the following living children born to herself: Josiah Butts about 44; Sarah Butts 38; Nancy Ann Butts; Parthenia Butts; and Joana Blackwell, who had since died. In addition, Seth Butts was survived by the following two sons by a previous marriage: James Butts and Wilson Butts, both of whom lived near Nashville TN.