

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Bailey R377

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 26 Dec 2011.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,

Bath County, Sct.

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 1819 before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Circuit Court, in and for the state aforesaid, personally appeared John Bailey aged Sixty two or three years; — who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following statement and declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late law of Congress entitled, “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war;” that he is a citizen of the state of Kentucky, and resident in the county of Bath; and that he was enlisted for three years at Brunswick County in the state of virginia on or about the [blank] day of August or Sept 1776 by one Leiut Thomas Threadgold [sic: Thomas Threadgill] and served in the company commanded by captain Isaac Hicks of the Regt. of Virginia Line. That he served as a first Sargeant & was Commissioned an Ensign by John Hancock Before which Enlistment to wit – on the [blank] day of August 1775 he was enlisted for one year at the same County, by Capt. Augustin Willis [Augustine Willis], & served in Capt Masons [James Mason’s] & Capt Pellams [sic: Peter Pelham’s] Company of the [blank] Regiment [Southampton District Battalion] Commanded by Col John Ruffin; that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States, in the continental army, against the common enemy, until about the 9th day of August 1776 when he was honorably discharged from service at York town in the state of Virginia; that he was in service one year & upwards and was in the battle or rather Cannonading of Norfolk [1 Jan 1776], & some skirmishes during that winter, & year — and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has lost his discharge, and has no evidence in his power, of his services and discharge, other than that which is here transmitted.

Robert Bailey & Clark Love states that John Bailey before named is in indigent & reduced circumstances, Has five[?] fall[?] small Children by a deceased wife – with no Land & only two Horses & a small quantity of Stock of little value. that in fact he is in Low circumstances.

I, Eli Shortridge Judge, &c. as aforesaid, do certify, that it appears to my satisfaction, that the said John Bailey did serve in the revolutionary war, as stated in the preceding declaration, against the common enemy, for the term of nine months and upwards, on the continental establishment; and I now transmit the proceedings and testimony taken and had before me, to the Secretary for the Department of War, pursuant to the directions of the aforementioned act of Congress; and it further appears to my satisfaction, that said applicant is in such indigent and reduced circumstances, as to require the aid of his country, pursuant to the above recited act. E Shortridge

Kentucky } Sct

Bath Circuit } I Thomas Triplett clerk of the circuit court aforesaid do certify that the foregoing attestation of the honourable Eli Shortridge Esquire circuit Judge of the Elevent Judicial district (who was duly commissioned and sworn) in in due form of law and due faith and credit is and aught to be given to all attestations by him as such —

In Testamony whereof I hereto set my hand and annexed my seal of office this 22<sup>th</sup> day of June  
1819 Thomas Triplett Clk

Original Claim of John Bailey – On the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 1824 personally appeared in open Court in the County of Bath (It being a Court of Record made so by the Constitution and the acts of the generally assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky having power to fine and imprison) John Bailey aged about 68 years and resident of the aforesaid County of Bath who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress the 8<sup>th</sup> [sic] of March 1818 and the first of May 1820. that he the said John Bailey enlisted for the term of one year in August 1775 in the State of Virginia That he was enlisted by Captain Augustin Willis and was attached to Captain Mason’s Company a part of the time and the remainder of his time he was attached to Captain Pelham’s Company of the (first or second) Virginia Regiment on the Virginia Continental Establishment Commanded by Colo. John Ruffin – that he continued to serve in said Corps in actual service on the Virginia Continental establishment until August 1776 when he was discharged from said service in Yorktown Virginia. And that he enlisted a second time September 1776 in Brunswick County Virginia with lieutenant Thomas Threadgill for three years and served in the Company Commanded by Captain Isaac Hicks attached to the Regiment Commanded by Colo Glasscock (number of Regiment not recollected) Virginia Line and Virginia Continental establishment and that he served as first Sergeant in said Company until he was Commissioned as Ensign in said Company his Commission was signed by John Hancock and that he Continued to serve and was in actual Service in said Corps until 1777 when he gave up his Commission and quit the service. That he was in several scrapes with the common enemy along the Coasts of Virginia and was at the Seege and burning of Norfolk by the enemy – and this applicant respectfully states that in forepart of the Summer 1775 he performed a Volunteer tour under Captain Benjamin Hicks against Lord Dunmore and was discharged in Williamsburg Virginia. Also afterwards in the fall of 1777 after he resignation in the Regular Service. That he performed a second Volunteer tour under Captain Henry Tazwell [sic: Henry Tazewell] – at the same time furnishing his own horse and all other necessary equipment and was discharged a second time at Williamsburg Virginia And also in the year 1781 he performed an other tour under Captain Lawrence House at which time he was appointed adjutant of Colo. John Holcolm’s [sic: John Holcombe’s] Regiment of infantry and was discharged at Bottoms Bridges Virginia all of which is respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War. And that he is in indigent circumstances. And is by occupation a Hatter, but owing to the Sciatic and Rheumatic pains which has afflicted him Severely for 8 years he is unable to do any kind of work. And that he has a wife whose name is Jane and two small boys living with him all of which is unable to contribute any thing to his support. And that he is unable to support himself without depending upon public or private charity for support. And in pursuance of this act of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

In 1818 I had 2 head of Horses	\$40.00
3 or 4 head of Cattle small & great	20.00
7 or 8 do do Sheep	6.00
a Small Stock of Hogs	<u>12.00</u>
	78.00

Jno Bailey

And no more which owing to my inability to labour since 1818 has decreased. that he neither had land or negroes in 1818. Nor has he any yet and that he sold one of the horse beasts in 1820 for fifteen dollars which money he intended to buy salt & meat with but has not received the money yet and now expects he never will and the other is not worth more than \$20 at this time

Bath County State of Kentucky June 20<sup>th</sup> 1825

The deposition of Mary Yarbrough aged 67 years who being first duly sworn deposeth and sayeth that in the Year 1775 or thereabouts That her Brother John Bayley came home with a soldiers uniform on and a Cockaid in his hat and said to all the family that he was Enlisted in the Regular service & that he started to the army the next day or so afterwards and that her mother was much Grieved – and that her Brother John Bayley frequently wrote Letters home from Norfolk while it was beseiged by the common Enemy informing his fathers family of what was passing. One Letter stated that a soldiers head was shot off close to him and that the soldiers Brains flew over him where he stood. And another letter stated that he was allmost naked and that her father (William Bayley) went down to Norfolk with Cloths to him. and another Letter stated that a Cannon Ball shot by the Enemy carried away a part of a porch and that the splinters flew in his face. and that afterwards time not Exactly recollected Thomas Threadgill A Young man that lived in the neighbourhood & whom she was well acquainted with he having frequently visited her fathers house and that he was Lieutenant in the Regular Army. and that he went with her Brother John Bayley the second time to the army and that Thomas Threadgill frequently wore his uniform at her fathers house and that apart of the army – the company that Lt Threadgill and John Bayley belonged to especially – was stationed one winter at Mr Penningston who lived a small distance from her fathers house.

And that when her Brother John Bayley quit the service he came home with his uniform on. And that she bought his Aupelett [sic: epaulet] afterwards for Ten Dollars.

And that she had to plow for her father while her Brother was in the army.

And further this deponent sayeth not.

Bath County State of Kentucky June 20<sup>th</sup> 1825

The deposition of Lucy Boyd aged 59 years who being first duly sworn deposeth and sayeth. That she recollects in the time of the Revolutionary War of her brother John Bayley being in the service & of his writing home for Cloths and that her father carried cloths to him while he was at Norfolk And that she recollects of his writing home to her father frequently from the army and recollects some of the particulars related by Mary Yarbrough. And recollects the uniform Hunting Shirt worn by her Brother John Bayley. And recollects his Aupelett very well and recollects of her sister Mary Yarbrough buying it of her Brother And further this deponent sayeth not

Owingsville Kentucky June 24<sup>th</sup> 1825

Sir} Enclosed I forward you all the evidence that can be procured at this time in favour of Ensign John Bayley. His inabilities to travel coupled with his poverty prevents him from traveling to Virginia in quest of his Officers or some of his men, in order to prove his Enlistment.

The returns I received from the War department in the case of John Smothers Jacob Johnston Charles Rudder [R9064] and Ambrose Jones I have handed to them Informing them their case was a hopeless one (except) Jacob Johnstons whom I have examined – he is extremely illiterate not knowing a Letter in the Book. He states he was Enlisted in the parish of St. John about 35 miles From Charleston South Carolina and that the Fort where the Battle was fought in June 1775 or 6 [Fort Sullivan, now Fort Moultrie, 28 Jun 1776] is 7 miles East of Charleston on the left handside of the channel as you go out to Sea – all of which are facts of my Own knowledge\* – he is poor and ignorant & his wife Ensane more than half the time – But still states he served one year in Capt Horrys [Peter Horry's] Company commanded by Col Moultry [sic: William Moultrie]

The Court is decidedly of Opinion that he is Entitled to draw

I hope that Mr Bayley will be placed on the pention list agreeably to the Act of Congress passed 1818. And Johnston Also Respectfully John Bedell

\*as to the localities of the parish of St John and Sullivans Island

Sir}

I have enclosed the Original application of mr John Bayley in order shew the department that he applyd in time.

his first application was made out by the Honorable David Trimble – which was done in a public house on a public day which has caused the mistatements and oversight J. B.

NOTE: In the file of Thomas Triplett S46571 is a report on an investigation of an allegedly fraudulent claim by heirs of John Bailey of Bath County KY who claimed a pension for Bailey's services as a Captain in the Regiment of George Rogers Clark. That John Bailey is not the same as person whose applications are transcribed above.