

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

Pension Application of Thomas Bell R726

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky }

Bullitt County } SS

On this 17th day of August 1835 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Bullitt County now sitting, Thomas Bell a resident of Nelson County State of Kentucky aged upwards of Eighty 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, 1832.

That he entered the Service of the united States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the month of June in the year 1777 in Frederick County State of Virginia he was drafted for a Tour of six months [see endnote] and placed in the Company Commanded by Captain Wilson, At the same time there were two other Companies ordered into Service one Commanded by Captain William Helm & the other by Captain Dobbins. Major White & Colo. Calamees [sic: Marquis Calmes] Commanded the three Companies. The said three Companies rendezvoused at Winchester, Virginia & were marched from there to Little York [York PA] & then to Reddowntown [probably Reading PA] & then to the American Army Commanded by Genl. Washington in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, the British being then in possession of that place [26 Sep 1777 - 18 Jun 1778]. This Declarant was in no battle whilst he remained with the Army but during the time he served the company to which he belonged with other militia Companies and Eight hundred Regulars were ordered against the Hessians who were encamped in a field on the Schuylkill near Philadelphia. On the approach of this Detachment the Hessians retired across the River leaving their tents & baggage and the Detachment returned to the Army. This declarant accompanied the Detachment the balance of his tour he performed Camp duty. About two or three days before the expiration of the six months several Companies of militia joined the Army and there not being a sufficiency of Arms for them, the three Companies aforesaid were ordered home and on their arrival at home were discharged by their officers but there were no written discharges given. This declarant states that he has no documentary evidence in his possession and he knows of no person now living who can testify to his service. There is no clergyman in his neighbourhood to testify as to his Character for veracity and the belief in the neighbourhood that he was a Revolutionary Soldier. He further states that the cause why he makes his Declaration in the Bullitt Court is that the County Seat of Bullitt is much nearer to him than the County Seat of Nelson County and the difficulty & expense of attending the Nelson Court with Witnesses to prove his character for veracity &c. and his age and consequent debility. He Hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension & annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state.

To the 1st. Interrogatory propounded by the Court he Answers that he was born in Frederick County State of Maryland but in what year he does not know. To the Second – He has no record of his age & only knows that he is upwards of Eighty years old from information.

To the 3^d. He was living in Frederick County State of Virginia when called into service – after his service of six months lived in said county of Frederick Virginia Eleven years. He then moved to the State of South Carolina & lived there ten years & then moved to Kentucky & settled in Nelson County where he has resided ever since.

to the 6th He says that he received no discharge in writing.

To the 4th He states he was drafted

To the 5th He does not recollect the names of any of the regular officers except Gen'l. Washington – neither does he now recollect who commanded the Continental & militia Regiments where he served – he only recollects Colo Calamees, Major White, Captains Wilson, Helms & Dobbins of the three Companies

before stated; the General Circumstances of his service he has already detailed in the body of this Declaration.

To the 7th. He states that he is known to General Henry Crest[?], Henry Ash, John Raymond & Joshua Shirley of his neighbourhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief as to his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid. Thos. hisXmark Bell

NOTE: By law, drafts of the Virginia Militia were limited to three months per tour.