

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of George Bickle (Bickel) R821

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }

Lewis County } SS On this 30th day of october 1833 personally appeared before me John S Camden Justice of the peace in and for the said County of Lewis and State of Virginia George Bickle a resident of the said County of Lewis and state of Virginia aged 69 years who being first duly sworn accordin to Law doth on his oath make the following decleration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 that he entered the service of the united states under the following named Officers and served as herein stated that in the year 1780 in the County of Monongalia state of Virginia on the 3 day of March declarant volunteered as an indian spy as a private soldier and was placed under the Command of Capt Cornelius Bogard [Cornelius Bogart] Lieutenant White Ensigns name not recollected affiant was then marched to Woreck Station on the Tygarts Vally River [sic: Warwick's Station on Tygart Valley River in present Randolph County WV] and engaged in spying the Country from said station towards the ohio River and the waters of Middle fork of Cheet River [Middle Fork of Cheat River; probably Middle Fork River] Buckhannon River Hackers Creek Lost Creek Rabun Creek thence to Waricks station at Tygarts Vally River affiant Continued in the abov e named service unittl sometime in the month of december of the year last aforesaid at which time he was discharged by his said Capt Cornelius Bogard having served nine months as an indian spy as a private soldier during the Winter of 1780 declarant remained at his residence on the Tygarts Vally River in the County of Monongalia state of Virginia The coldness of the winter of 1780 had lulled the inhabitants into a state of security and it was believe that the indians would not make there appearance as early as usual but on the return of the spring of the the indians made there appearance some time in the month of march and killed a woman by the name of Coon on the Tygarts Vally River intelligence was then receed that active preparations ware making by the indians to penetrate north westeran Virginia Capt Bogart was vary active in stimulating the hardy youn men of the Country to Volenteer there servises in defence of the settlements which ware then forming on Tygarts Vally River West fork river Hackers creek and Rooting Creek and on the twentyeth day of March 1781 declarant volunteerd his servises in defence of the settlements as an indian spy – and was placed under the Command of Capt Cornelius who command a Company of indian William White was a Lieutenant under Capt Bogard the Ensigns name declarant does not recollect declarant was then stationed at Capt George Crismans as a place of rendesvous and engaged in spying the country as mentioned in his first tower to on the waters of West fort River Hackers Creek Rooting Creek affiant continued in spying the Country and watching and examining for there trail[?] for the security of the settlements as aforesaid untill sometime in the month of november 1781 at which time he was discharged by his said Capt Cornelius Bogard having serve faithfully as an indian spy for eight months This tower as a private soldier declarant cannot under take to annumerate all the occurances which took place during his towers of service having bin greatly afflicted with Boddily pain for the last ten years his memory is vary much impaired having lost an Eye by a Catarck and having had his foot eat of up to his instep with a canser and then to prolong life had his leg amputated he is now poor and frail declarant has no documentary evidence of his servises neither does he know of any person by whome he can prove his servises by – he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pention or annuit except the present and declares that his name is not on the pention rool of the agency of any stat

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid George hisXmark Bickle

to the several interogatories prescribed by the war department affiant answers as follows

1 I was Borned in County of Berkly [sic: Berkeley] – state of Virginia in the year 1764

2 when called in to the service I was living in the County of Monongalia on the Tygarts Vally River State

of Virginia Since the Revolutionary War I have lived in the County of Randolph Nicholas and I now live in the County of Lewis State of Virginia

3 I have no record of my age I have the recollection of my parents who told me the year I was Born in

4 all my towers of service ware those of a Volunteer

5 in consequence of the Circumscribed range of my service I saw and become acquainted with but vary few officers and redgments but I saw and become acquain[ted] with Col Benjamin Wilson Major William Lowther Capt George Jackson Capt George Crismon and Capt Stuart

6 I was regularly discharged by the officers under whom I served to wit Capt Bogard but all my discharges are all lost or mislaid

7 I am known to Jacob Calzadd a Clergiman who resides in the neighbourhood with me and Samuel Stalnaker [pension application S9487] who can testify to my Character and my age and there belief of my having bin a soldier of the Revolution

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year afors'd George hisXmark Bickle

[John S. Camden certified that Bickle lived 12 miles from the courthouse and was unable to travel there.

John Talbott, Clerk of Lewis County Court, certified "that David W. Sleeth is a Magistrate as above, and that the foregoing signature purporting to be his is genuine." Sleeth's signature could not be found.]

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pension applicants from Lewis and other counties of present West Virginia. For details see my appendix in the pension application of David W. Sleeth (S6111). Singleton wrote "not entitled" on the report.]

Lewis county

George Bickle aged 69. Served one year & nine months.

Henry Flesher of Harrison County aged 58 yrs. has known Bickle from a boy. he is younger than himself (Flesher) Bickels Father moved to this country (Har Cty) long after the close of the Revolutionary War. George was then a boy 15 or 16 yrs. old.

Jacob J Jackson has known Bickle for many years – thinks that he cant be sixty years old.

William Clark [pension application W6683] has known Bickle for a long time – thinks him between fifty & sixty years of age.

Barbara Clark wife of William Clark went to School with Bickle. thinks him two years older than her self. She is in her 53rd yr.

Respectfully Reported.

W. G. Singleton/ Special Agent

July 1832

State of Virginia, Braxton County, SS:

Be it known, That on this 15 day of December, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, personally appeared before me, Thomas Sallisbury [Saulsbury], a Justice of the Peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, Mary Bickel aged about 70 years, a resident of the County of Braxton, who being duly sworn according to law, declared that she is the Widow of George Bickel deceased who was a private in the Company commanded by Captain Cornelius Bogard of the Virginia Rangers in the County of Randolph in the State of Virginia, on or about the Spring of, the year of 1793 or 94, for the term of six months, first and continued in actual service of the United States for the term of Twelve months, and acted in said Company as an Indian Spy or Ranger, in six months in Tygarts Vally & six months at the mouth of Hokins on ohio River, and that he was Honorably Discharged, in the county of Randolph, she cannot state at what time, for which services she received a Land Warrant of one hundred and sixty acres, which will more fully appear by reference to the records of the Pension Office.

Your petitioner is advanced in years, and does not expect to live but a short time, and is poor and needs assistance, and prays Congress to grant her a pension for said services, from the 3d day of February, 1853, to assist her in her declining years. Mary herXmark Bickel