

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

Pension Application of William Bleakley R937

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } S.S.

Bedford County }

On this 18th day of April 1843, personally appeared in open court, before Samuel Anderson, Judge of the Circuit Court now sitting in and for Bedford County Tennessee, William Bleakley, a resident of said Bedford County and State of Tennessee, aged eighty years the 6th day of August next, 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 7th of June 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 drafted militia man, and private, in the year 1782 or 1783 [sic] as well as he can remember, but cannot be accurate as to the year; nor does he remember the month & day with accuracy; but knows it was early in the spring of the year. He served in Capt'n. Jones' Company (the baptismal name of his Captain, he cannot be certain about; but thinks it was either John or George, and is most inclined to think it was the former) in the Virginia troops. He lived in Bedford County Virginia at the time he was drafted. He does not remember the names of any of his other Company officers; nor does he remember the names of his field officers. He was at the Siege of Little York [Yorktown, 28 Sep – 19 Oct 1781], and was there when Cornwallis surrendered. He marched from Bedford, through Charlotte, Amelia, Dinwiddie and thence through Charles City Counties. He remembers a capt'n. Fuqua in the regular army with which he served. He remembers a field officer at little York named [Gen. Robert] Lawson. He also well remembers General Washington at little York. He also remembers Captain Thomas Bedford, who commanded a company from Charlotte County. Declarant states he was born in Chesterfield County Virginia in the year 1763; that he had a record of his age in his family bible, which was taken from the record kept by his Father. As above stated, he lived in Bedford County Virginia when called into service; and served a tour of six months. Since the war he has lived in Bedford County Va., whither he returned after he left the service, and continued to reside there for ten years or upwards. From thence he removed to Petersburg Va., where he resided about eight. From thence he removed to Amelia, where he resided about twelve years. From thence he removed to Madison County Kentucky where he resided about ten years; from thence he removed to Davidson County Tennessee, and resided there several years, when he removed to Bedford County Tennessee, where he has ever since resided. Declarant states he received a discharge from Capt'n. Jones, and when he returned home, deposited it with his Father's papers, and it has since been lost; having left the country where his Father lived, he has no knowledge what has become of his papers. Declarant is known to William Murphree & Robert Clinkingbeard – residing in his present neighbourhood, who he believes will testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. Declarant has no documentary evidence of his services and he knows of no person whose testimony can be procured, who can testify as to his service, except Caroline Matilda Lane of Rutherford County Tennessee, widow of Drury Lane [pension application W8015].

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 or Territory

William hisXmark Bleakley

NOTE: On 9 Aug 1843 Caroline Matilda Lane, about 87, stated that she had been a neighbor of Bleakley in Bedford County VA during the Revolutionary War.