

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

Pension Application of Moses Botts S16329

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky }

Bath County } Sgt.

On this 12th day of November 1832, personally appeared in open court, before us, Thos. Deye Owings, Jacob Cassity and Wm. S. Lane, Justices of, and composing the County Court of Bath County in the state aforesaid, being a court of record, now sitting, Moses Botts, a resident of and in the county of Bath and state aforesaid, aged 82 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. That, he entered the service of the United States in Loudon [sic: Loudoun] County in the State of Virginia, as a volunteer, in the summer season, say July or August, in the year 1780, for a term of Three Months, under Capt. Daniel Fegains [sic: Daniel Feagan], commanded by Col. Francis Payton [sic: Francis Peyton], and forthwith marched to the lower part of Virginia, to Mackey's Mills, in about 16 miles of Nansemond river, was there under the command of Gen. ~~Gibson~~ Mulenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] – and placed under the command of Col. [Charles] Dabney – Col. Payton having returned home in consequence of the ill-health of some of his family – remained there about two months, and was then marched to Petersburg, Virginia, where we remained until the expiration of the said term of 3 months. I received a discharge given by ~~Col. Payton~~ Capt. Fegains, but which is now lost.

In the year 1781, about, he thinks, the first of April of that year, in the said County of Loudon and state of Virginia, he again entered the service of the U.S. for a term of Three Months, as a substitute for one Owen Thomas, under Capt. John Henry – and was marched on to James river below Richmond, commanded by Col. [John] Alexander, – was there placed under the command of Col. ~~Dabney~~ Mereweathers [probably thomas Meriwether] and Gen. Dark – Col. Alexander having returned home; and was marched from down the river to a place called the Mobbin Hills [sic: Malvern Hill, 15 mi SE of Richmond] – remained there some time, when we were forced, by the British, to retreat from that position, – we marched through the country to James-Town to prevent the British from landing at that point, where we had considerable fighting, and where this applicant was wounded on the head in the engagement: but owing to their superior force, the British effected a landing, and we compelled to retreat to Raccoon-ford on Rapid Ann river [sic: Raccoon Ford on Rapidan River] – there we were joined by Gen. Wayne [Anthony Wayne, 8 Jun 1781], who had come to our relief. – The British then, in turn, were forced to retreat, and we persued them to the neighbourhood of Williamsburg. Shortly thereafter, our time having expired, we were discharged somewhere between Williamsburg and Richmond. I received a discharge, given by Capt. Henry, which is lost.

Immediately after my return home from the last abovementioned tour, I was drafted into the service for a term of Three Months, about the middle of July 1781, in the said county of Loudon and state of Virginia, and entered the service under Capt Thomas Cannon, commanded by Col. Mereweathers, and Gen. Dark, a regular officer from Berkley [sic: Berkeley] County, Va. – marched to the lower part of the state; and from there to the neighbourhood of Williamsburgh, where we remained some time, perhaps a month or more, at the old magazine, – marched from there to about two miles below Williamsburgh, where we continued for a considerable time, – from there we were marched to little York, and arrived during the seige [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]; we were on the York side [of York River], – we were engaged in prosecuting the seige some time before the surrender – and where we continued until after the surrender of Cornwallis; recollects, at the seige of York, Gen. Washington, Gen. LaFayette, Gen. Mulenburg and Maj. [William] Boyce. This was above the middle of Oct. 1781 – immediately after which I

was discharged, at that place, and received a discharge, but do not recollect by whom given, and the discharge itself has been mislaid or lost.

Immediately after my receiving my discharge, after the surrender at York, I, without returning home, entered the service of the U.S. as a volunteer, under Capt. James Simeral [James Simerall of the Frederick County Militia], and was ordered to guard the prisoners. – We marched the prisoners to Winchester Barrack, in Frederick County, Va. and continued to remain there for the term of Three Months – and was there discharged, – received a discharge, given by Capt. Simeral, which has been destroyed.

I was born in Loudon County in the state of Virginia, on the 25th day of February 1750, as taken from the record in possession of my Father. – upwards of thirty years since I moved to Kentucky. – and I know of no witness living by whom to prove my services. – 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.

[signed] Moses Botts

The Court then propounded, to the applicant, the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, to which, severally, he answers as follows: –

1st. Born in the County of Loudon and State of Virginia, in the year 1750, on the 26th Feb'y. thereof.

2nd. I have no record of my age, further than to have learned it from the record in possession of my Father.

3rd. When called into service, I was living in Loudon County and state of Virginia – remained there since the revolution until something upwards of thirty years since, when I moved to the State of Kentucky, and at present live in Bath county in said last mentioned state.

4th. I was first called into service as a volunteer – then entered as a substitute for one Owen Thomas – was then drafted – and again entered as a volunteer.

5th. Col. Francis Payton and Gen. Gibson on the first tour. – Col. Alexander, Col. Dabney and Gen. Wayne on the second, – Col. Mereweathers, Gen. Dark, Gen. George Washington, Gen. La Fayette, Gen. Mulenburg and Maj. Boyse, on the third – and Capt. James Simeral on the third tour; but cannot say, positively, whether they were all regular officers, – I do not recollect the number of the regiments, and the general circumstances of my service the Court has heard read in my declaration.

6th. After the expiration of every term for which I entered, as stated in my declaration, I received a discharge from the service, – the first given by Col. Payton, – the second by Capt. Henry, – the third, recollect receiving a discharge, but forget by whom given, – and the fourth given by Capt. Simeral; but they are all either lost or destroyed.

7th. Maj. Samuel G. Herndon, Jno. Young, J. S. Magowen, Capt. George Coleman, H. Conner, Jas. Young, Maj. Thomas J. Young, and also my representative in Congress, the Hon. Henry Daniel, who can testify to my character for veracity &c. &c.