

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

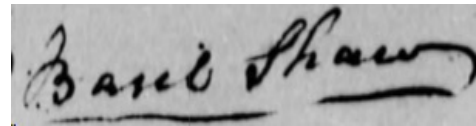
Pension Application of Basil Shaw S16526

MD

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

In August 1776 I enlisted in the American army under Captain Adamson Tannehill [BLWt2209-300] of Col Rawlings [Moses Rawlings VAS683] Rifle Regiment Maryland Troops served three years and was honourably discharged as a Serjeant at Pittsburgh in Augt 1779 by said Capt Tannehill as will appear by the accompanying letter from him while a member of Congress in 1813 addressed to my son. I afterwards enlisted again in what was intended to be the 4th Maryland Regt revived but as only a Battallion was raised it was called the Maryland Corps commanded by Maj'r Thomas Lansdale [pension application W13604] I served to the end of the war received the bounty of Eighty dollars and was honourably discharged as a Serjeant Major I think on the 10th day of November 1783 a Frederick town Maryland by Capt Dyers [probably Walter Dyer] being in needy circumstances I sold my claims on the government for a trifle and gave up my discharge to the purchaser – therefore have no proof of my services except my own oath and the enclosed papers

State of Tennessee } This day Basil Shaw of the city of Nashville personally appeared before me
Davidson County } Wilkins Tannehill an acting justice of the peace for said county and made oath that the above written statement of fact & circumstances are true & correct to the best of his recollection and beleaf Sworn to & subscribed this 15th of December 1828



[Certified by Jo. Shaw, age 41.]

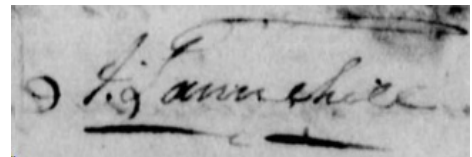
Washington City 26th July 1813.

Sir. I received your letter of enquiry for a Mr. Basil Shaw of the 14th Inst. yesterday. The person to whom you allude was an intimate acquaintance & a near kinsman of mine. I have neither heard from or seen him for about thirty years. I know not whether he may be yet living – I can give you every information respecting his patriotic career in the American Revolution. He enlisted under me, in perhaps the month of August 1776 for three years. I discharged him as a Serjeant at Pittsburg in Aug't. 1779 with a character worthy of a good, or faithful friend to his Country – after his discharge he returned to his mothers family in Maryland. I am not certain; but to the best of my recollection I saw him afterwards in Fred'k. Town & I think he was married – among many enquiries after him at different times I understood he had become religious & became a Methodist preacher & removed to some of the Southern states since which I have had no record of him. From your name Sir, the presumption with me is, that you are a relative of his, if you are, & can give me a detailed account of him – where he resides – his situation in life &c I shall be much obliged. Or if he be alive, & you have any connection with him, would be most gratified if he would write me himself; to address his letter to me at Grovehill near Pittsburg.

I am/ Sir/ Yours respectfully

A. Tannehill

[Signature certified by Wilkins Tannehill of Nashville TN
on 6 Dec 1828.]



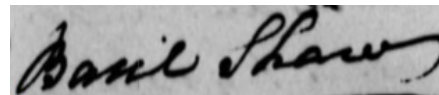
Nashville May 14th 1829

The Honb'l. S. D. Ingham [Samuel D. Ingham, Secretary of the Treasury]

In Beleiveing myself entitled to the benefit of the act of Congress of May 15th 1828 for the releif of certain officers and soldiers of the army of the revolution I take the liberty of asking your attention to certain papers on the subject filed in the Treasury department (or pension office) with Mr. Asbury dureing the last session of Congress by the Honb'l. John Bell of Tennessee – those papers are the only proofs I can

command at this time which I hope are satisfactory – as you are well aware Sir that at this day it is difficult to make proof of what was in days past matter of notoriety – nearly six years services in the war of the revolution & loss of patrimony being disinherited by my father for enlisting & three campaigns in various active and important offices in the last war under that great & good man Gen'l. A. Jackson (to whom I beg to refer you) constitute my claims upon the liberality of the government haveing never before asked for a pension & being now old & needy I hope sir you will feel disposed to grant me the releif authorised by law. The enclosed papers will show that in a country where I have resided upwards of thirty years I have always been known and recognised as a soldier of the revolution his Excellency the President [Jackson] is acquainted with the hand writen and standing of the signers of each of them & the circumstances under which they were received I have had many other such but they are now misslaid not expecting to want them – Adamson Tannehill whose letter indentifies three years service was a Capt in the revolution – afterwards a Gen'l. in the Pennsylvania Militia & a representative in congress when the letter was written – will you be so good sir as to inform me at an early day of the fate of this application for if I do receive any thing from the generosity of a country I have served long & faithfully it is now that I want it nor can I want it long. I hope sir you will excuse the lenght of this epistle when you reflect it is a matter of much importance to me at least

I am sir verry sincerely &
Respectfully your
Obt. Serv't.

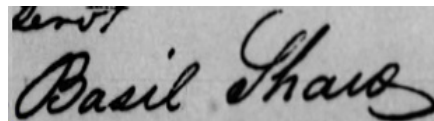


Nashville June 30th 1829

Honb'l. S. D. Ingham

Sir Your favour of the 16th ult. informs me that a descision of my claim upon the government was suspended for further evidence. I did believe that there were two persons yet liveing the one in Kentucky the other in alabama by whom I cant make the necessary proof but on application I find that one is dead the other has removed to some part of Missouri to me unknown I have therefore come to the conclusion to bring the matter to a close & trouble you no farther with it I beg leave to refer my case as it now stands to your descision haveing every confidence that you will do me all the justice the nature of the case will admit of – a favourable result would add greatly to the comfort of my declineing years if made now but a short time hence can be of but little consequence to me a few days must with me end this earthly career which I shall close with prayers for the permanancy of our present institution & the continuance of the present happy state of things & for the health & happiness of that great & good man [Andrew Jackson] who has been placed by the providence at the head of our happy country.

Respectfully your obt servt

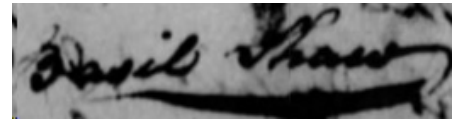


[The penmanship of the following document is very poor.]

State of Georgia Hall County

I Basil Shaw do heareby State & Declare that I am Seventy Two years of age and that I enlisted as a Soldier before I was 17 years old in the State of Maryland in Montgomery County where I was born & Rais'd, with one Captain Adamson Tannehill who was authoris'd to recruit Soldiers for the purpose of reinstating the Regiment of Riflemen Commanded by Col. Moses Rawlins that was Captured at Fort Washington in 1776 near New York [16 Nov 1776] and while prisoners, the Troops nearely all died; it was in 1778 that I Inlisted for the Term of Three years and the first service that I was Directed to attend to, was to Guard British prisoners at fort Cumberland in Maryland and after some [possibly "seven"] months it was ascertained that Col'n. Rawlins's Reg't Could not be reviv'd there being only Two Company's Enlisted one of them was Commanded by Captain Thos. Beale [sic: Thomas Beall] and the other by Capt'n. A. Tannehill, whome I enlisted with and we were ordered to go on to fort pitt & join the Western

army in the Indian War. The two Companies that I was attach'd to was called the Maryland Core, and there was no other Maryland Troops there The 8th Pennsylvania Reg't Commanded by Col'n. Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] and the 9th Virginia Reg't. Commanded by Col'n J. Gibson [John Gibson] and the Maryland Core were all the Troops Except the Malitia who was Engage in the Indian Warfare at fort pitt after 4 Months service I was appointed a Serjeant, and Continued in the Western at Different Stations untill my 3 years Expri'd & was Discharged by Capt. Tannehill as a Sergeant I then returnd to Maryland I went to Anapolis [sic: Annapolis] where they were recruiting a new 4th[?] Maryland Reg't. I Enlisted in it for 3 years and was appointed Sergeant Major We then went on went on as one Battalion Under the Command of Major Prince to the Siegue of Lord Cornwallis and after his Capture [19 Oct 1781] a Division of the army was order'd on to join Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] in South Carolina. We were Commanded by Gen'l. [Anthony] Wayne, and after being there a few months I obtained a furlough to return to Maryland with instructions to join the Recruiting party at anopolis and joind'd a Batalion Commanded by Major Thos. Lansdale and we were ordered on to the noth to Join Gen'l. Washington in the Latter End of the year 1782 and remain'd at his head quarters near the Hudson River at new Winsor, a place now Call'd Newburgh [sic: New Windsor, now Newburg NY] about 15 Miles above West point untill the first part of June 1783 when the revolutionary army was Disolvd and those whose Tours of Service had not Expired was retaind in Frederick Town Maryland untill the next November when they were orderd on to Fort Pitt, and as there was no place for me to do the Duty of Sergeant Major I was Discharged on the 10th Day of Nov'r 1783. My first Discharge I Lost & My Last Discharge I gave up to a gentleman that I sold my claim on the Government for my pay My last enlistment was given up to the Secretary of State, of Maryland at Anopolis who paid me my Bounty. I recev'd from the State 50 Acres of Land a Bounty that was allowed to the Troops of the State that serv'd to the end of the war. The above statement sworn and subscribed to September the 2nd 1833.



Land Office, Annapolis, Nov'r. 22nd 1833;

I hereby Certify, that it appears by the Muster Rolls remaining in this office, that Basil Shaw enlisted as a private in Rawlings Regiment, on the 5th day of April 1779, and on the 27th day of July 1779, was promoted to the rank of Sergeant;

George G. Brewer/ Reg'r L'd Off. W. S. Md.

NOTE: The file contains a letter dated 4 July 1828 inviting Major Basil Shaw, then in Carthage TN, to a celebration on that day. There is also a letter dated Hartsville, 5 July 1828, inviting "Maj'r Basil Shaw" as a soldier of the Revolution to the Jackson Dinner with other citizens of Sumner County. A similar letter invited Shaw to the Jackson Dinner at Lebanon on 2 July 1833 with citizens of Wilson County.