

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

Pension Application of Richard Bacon S16625

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Alabama } SS.

Madison County } On this 29th day of October 1832 personally in open court, before William J Adair Judge of the circuit court, of the county and state aforesaid now sitting, Richard Bacon a resident of said County & State, of Seventy one years of age, 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, pass June the seventh 1832. That he entered the service of the Untied States under the following named, and served as herein stated. – that either in the month of February or March of the year 1779, he was draughted in, & entered a company of Militia Commanded by Capt. Joseph Winn. – He states that he joined the company in the county of Lunenburg in the state of Virginia where he then resided & where he was born & raised. He states that the Company to which he was attached & the several companies from the counties Lunenburg, Brunswick, north Hampton [sic: Northampton], South Hampton [sic: Southampton], & the Isle Wight [sic: Isle of Wight] all rendezvoused at the Town of Halifax in the State of North Carolina. He states that Capt Winns company to which he belonged was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel David Mason & was called Masons Regiment of Virginia Militia. They then marched from Halifax to the town of Oxford in the county of Granville North Carolina – that there they joined the balance of the army that had rendezvoused at Oxford under the command of Col. Lewis Burwell, from the Counties of Amelia, Mecklenburg, Charlotte, Halifax & Pittsylvania. He states that from lapse of time he is unable to state the names of any of his company officers, except that of Capt. Winn as before named. He states he recollects many of the company officers from the different counties. That he recollects Capt. William Fitzgerald from Amelia, Capt. Reuben Vaughan from Mecklenburg, Capt Richard Brent from Charlotte, Capt. Peter Rogers from Halifax, Lieut. Peter Barksdale [Peter Barksdale] from same county, Lieut. Charles Lucas from Brunswick, Lieut. Anthony Irby from Pittsylvania. The applicant states that he has no remembrances of any of his field officers except Col. David Mason & Col. Lewis Burwell – that Col. Burwell returned home from Oxford & that Col. Mason took command of the troops. The applicant states that they marched from Oxford to Hillsborough in North Carolina, from thence to Salisbury – from thence to Charlotte town – from thence to Camden in South Carolina – from thence to Col. Thompson’s [sic: Belleville, home of William “Danger” Thomson] on the south side of Congaree river – from thence to Dorchester within about fifteen or twenty miles from Charleston, from thence to general [Benjamin] Lincoln’s head quarters in about ten miles of Stono ferry, where they joined Gen’l. Lincoln’s army & where Colonel [William] Henderson who commanded a broken regiment of [South Carolina] Regulars beat up for volunteers, in the Virginia line of Militia to complete his regiment, & where he joined Hendersons regiment in a company commanded by Capt. Isaac Hicks to the best of his recollection a regular officer. He states that Gen’l. Lincoln together with the main body of the army retired back about three miles from the lake of water leaving Col. Henderson’s regiment about that distance in front & between the main army & the British who were then fortified in [in three redoubts] at Stono ferry about eight miles of where they remained until the 20th of June of 1779, when the whole army marched down and attacked the British in the fort. Col. Henderson’s regiment brought on the action. They marched towards the fort in front – the British [71st Highlanders] sallied out & met them & pretty severe engagement ensued – the regiment after firing many rounds were ordered to charge, they done so – the British retreated to the fort & the left wing of the regiment were in the act of scaling the walls, when the British obtain a reinforcement from St. Johns Isleand [sic: Johns Island], & the regiment were compelled & ordered to retreat. this engagement he states was on Sunday morning the 20th June 1779 – that on the Tuesday following they ascertained that the British had abandoned the fort leaving their dead unburied &

a good deal of plunder in the fort, – that on Wednesday they proceeded to bury the dead both British & Americans. The next that they heard of the British they were at Beaufort Isle and the applicant states that he was in this engagement in Capt. Hick's company & in Col. Hendersons regiment as before stated. That after they had buried the dead & after the British had abandoned the fort, he was trasfered to his original militia Company under Capt. Winn & in Col. Masons troop. That they then marched to Camden where those who chose were discharged there, & those who chose remained with the wagons & were marched home. He states that he remained with the wagons & was marched home & discharged in the county of Lunenburg in the month of September 1779 – making a tour of about seven months. He states he received a written discharge from his captain, but that it has been lost or destroyed & that he has no documentary evidence of this service. He states however that he expects to prove the same by the testimony of Edward Beville [sic: Edward Bevill, pension application S16638] & Galanus Winn [S14849]

This applicant states further, that shortly after Gen'l. Gates' defeat [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780], he joined a volenteer company of Light horse commaned by Capt. Obed Smith [Obediah Smith], – he states that the company was raised about Richmond & Petersburg for the purpose of suppressing the Tories, who were committing depredations on Haw & Deep rivers in North Carolina. He states that he joined the company in the county of Lunenburg in Virginia, in the month of September 1780 as the company were marching through that county on their way to North Carolina. He states that the company was raised under the agreement that they were to furnish their own horses, & that the government was to furnish arms & ammunition – that having arms of his own he used them without applying to government for any. He states they marched from Lunenburg to Hillsborough in North Carolina – from thence to Deep & Haw rivers in the tory settlements where they routed & dispersed many of the Tories – that at the plantation of one Graham they wounded four & took six tories prisoners, & carried them to the encampment of Gen'l. [John] Butler. That they remained there scouting about through the country after the tories, & under the directions of Gen'l. Butler & Major Oneal, until the month of December 1780 they marched to Taylors ferry on Roanoke river where the Captain dismissed the company to go to their respective homes, but to hold themselves in readiness to obey his orders, & as this company lived remote from each other, he would give notice of his orders in the papers printed at Richmond & Pittersburg [sic: Petersburg] & that according notice was given in those papers & the company met at Richmond in Virginia & were discharged in the month of January 1781 & the arms & ammunition of the government returned. He states the company volenteered for the term of three months – that he received a written discharge from his Captain, but that it has (as the other was) been lost or distroyed. That he has no recollection of any his officers of the Company except the captain above named & Lieutenant James Ruffin – that he knew & saw Gen'l. Butler & Maj'r. Oneal during this campaign. – that he has no documentary evidence of this term of service – That he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to this term of service. That Col. Patterson, who, the applicant undersood a year or two since resided in Tennessee near Pulaski was in the same company & campaign with him. that he addressed to Col. Patterson a letter on the subject of this application, about two months since requesting if possible his attendance at this court this day, but has received no answer – does not know whether Col. Patterson is now alive. This applicant further states that shortly after this tour he thinks in the month of February 1781 his brother-in-law, Robert Dixon, was draughted in a Militia Company commanded by Captain Francis Degraffenried – that his brother-in-law being a man of family & as the applicant was a single man, he without any remuneration or consideration took his brother-in-laws place & joined the company as a substitute in the county of Lunenburg in said state of Virginia – that the company rendezvoused at Lunenburg courthouse, and marched from there to Petersburg where they joined other troops – that a few days after the arrival of the company in Petersburg he states he received an order from Col. Edward Carrington to attend him at his quarters at Col. Banisters early next morning – that he done so – when Col. Carrington ordered him to take charge of all the wagons that could be spared in the Brigade & to proceed with them to Cabin Point [on James River in Surry County], where Gen'l. Mulenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] was encamped, & at

the same time gave him a letter to Major James Pennelton. That he collected about fifteen wagons & proceeded with them to Cabin Point, & delivered the letter to Majr. Pennelton [sic: James Pendleton] – who after reading the letter ordered the applicant to take charge of the magazine as Commissary of military stores – with directions to receive damaged [illegible word] give out other good ones in their stead – & other orders & instructions relative to his duty. – that he the applicant remained in the performance of his duties as Commissary for about two months – he was then ordered by Maj'r. James Pennelton to remove the magazine to Black-water bridge in the Isle of Wight county – where he remained in the performance of his duties until his term of service was expired – which was he thinks in the latter part of May 1781 – at which time the troops were discharged. But that he still continued to hold his appointment – he was however, by permission of Majr. Pennelton allowed to procure, at his own expense, a deputy, to attend to business, until he could go home – under an agreement however that he was to return as soon as possible & join the army – which he states he did in Richmond where he continued in the capacity of commissary for about two months, & was dismissed in the latter part of July 1781 to the best of his recollection. He states that he saw Gen'l. De LaFayette at Richmond, that whilst his army lay there Lord Corn Wallace's [sic: Cornwallis's] army was in a few miles of – that he was with Gen'l. LaFayette's army when Lord Wallace's army pursued him up James river – that on one occasion the British army got ahead of the american army between them & the stores at Albamare [sic: Albemarle] old Courthouse – that the American army stole a march, had an old road opened & again got ahead of the British line after night & next morning form in front of the British encampment – that the British troops then returned towards Richmond the american army with Gen'l. LaFayette in command following on. He states that during this term of service he knew Majr. Jas. Pennelton, Capt. Lewis Booker Lieut Richeson of the regular army & also Col. Edward Carrington & Col. Harry Morris [Henry Morris] of the regular army. He states he has no documentary of this term of service but expects to prove it by the testimony of Edward Beville, that he knows of no other person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to this term of service. Upon this statement of facts (which may however be imperfect as to dates) & other certificates following, he predicates his claim for a pension. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court [signed] Richard Bacon [Galanus Winn deposed that Bacon served with him in the company commanded by his brother, Capt. Joseph Winn. Edward Bevill also deposed that he had served with Bacon.]

NOTE: The file contains an inquiry from Washington Bacon of Rawlingsville in De Kalb County AL dated 23 Feb 1854 regarding a pension for his father's service.