

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

Pension Application of William Butler S16671

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Missouri } Ss

County of Lincoln }

On this fourth day of November AD 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court within and for the county and state aforesaid William Butler a resident of said county and state aged seventy one years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an 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 Colo. John Slaughter and Major Francis Covington were the Field officers. (Lieut Col. not recollected) and Captain Armstead White [Armistead White] and Lieutenant Crow were the Company officers (Lieut not recollected) I entered the service in January 1781 and left the service in April following I resided in the county of Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] and State of Virginia when I entered the service which was as a draft when called into service we understood it was for the purpose of joining [Gen. Daniel] Morgan's forces in the Carolinas We were marched to Dan River where we were engaged in guarding the several fords on said River and protecting stores for the army untill our time of service expired we were then marched to Walkers in Culpepper County where we was discharged. I served as a substitute in the place of Joseph Butler in Captain Joseph James Company. George Davis was Lieut and Smith Ensign Colo Blackwell had the command of the Regiment to which the company was attached. I entered as a substitute in the month of May 1781 was rendevoused in Fauquier County, Virginia to which county I had removed on my receiving my former discharge. Said Butler for whom I served as substitute was a resident of said county and state and a member of the aforesaid Company. We were marched from our place of rendevous to join Lawsons [Gen. Robert Lawson's] Brigade at Petersburg [sic: Petersburg] from thence we crossed James River and marched into Hanover County Va. wear we joined Gen's Wayne's army at Raccoon ford [Gen. Anthony Wayne at Raccoon Ford on Rapidan River, 10 Jun 1781] at which time the British forces said to be command by Cornwallis succeeded in getting between our army and its public stores which had been removed from Richmond to Albemarle old court house, by reason of which the army had to cut out an old disused road [still known as the Marquis Road, after Gen. Marquis de Lafayette] for the distance of twelve miles so as to enable us to intersect the road between the British and the public stores which we succeeded in doing two miles in advance of the Enemy who were under march for the stores We were immediately drawn up in order of Battle expecting the enemy every minute but they came not. nothing more occured during the tour of service which was lengthened out beyond the time for which we were called out by reason of not being relieved by other troops We were discharged at Fredericksburgh Spottsylvania County [Fredericksburg in Spottsylvania County] Va. in the month of July 1781.

I again entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated Colo. Shelton and Major Welsh was the Field and Captain Thomas Helm and Ensign Travis Crump were the Company officers under whom I served I entered the service in the month of August 1781 and was discharged in the latter part of October 1781. I resided in the county of Fauquier Va. I entered the service as a draft. We were marched to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] from Spottsylvania County where we rendevoused where we arrived three days before the main army [under Washington] marched down to the seige of Yorktown our forces there joined the main army and was marched down to the seige and was present at the time of the surrender [19 Oct] was in the habit of seeing all the officers who where on duty at the seige amongst the rest was Genls Washington Wayne [Benjamin] Lincoln & Lafayette but was not acquainted with any of them personally, being but a private We were marched up

to Winchester Barracks after the surrender with the prisoners of war where we received our discharge. I have no documentary evidence to establish my claim and do not know of any person within any reasonable distance (if any at all) who can testify to my services. I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll or agency of any state.

Ques. 1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in Fauquier County Virginia AD 1762

Ques. 2^d. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have none except one kept by myself in a Family Bible.

Ques. 3^d. Where were you living when you entered the service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War. and where do you now live?

Ans. My first tour of service was performed when I resided in Culpepper Co. Va after receiving my discharge I went into Fauquier Co. Va where I resided when I went into the service the two subsequent tours. I resided about three years in Virginia after the war. I then married and removed to Kentucky Bourbon County were I lived upwards of forty years. from thence I removed to the state of Missouri and county of Lincoln where I now reside.

Ques. 4th. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

Ans. I served as a draft two tours of two months each and one other tour of two months as the substitute of Joseph Butler.

Ques. 5th. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and Militia Regements as you can recollect and the general circumstances of the case?

Ans. There was two Colonels of the name of Matthews [Sampson Mathews and Thomas Mathews] in Lawson's Brigade. Genls Washington Lincoln Lafayette [illegible word] Lawson and many others I could mention but owing to the great lapse of time and simelarity of sound could not do so with any degree of certainty. Colo. [Ambrose] Barbour command a Regiment of Militia that I was in I think he took command of the Regement that Colo. Shelton had the command of when I entered the service. as to the general circumstances of the case they are as I have before stated and cannot as my memory is frail give a more detailed statement than I have already done.

Ques. 6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. I did. I received my first discharge was given me by Colo. Slaughter at Walker's Culpepper Co. Va. my second by Colo. Blackwell at Fredericksburgh Va and my third discharge by Captain Thomas Helm at Winchester barracks Va I cannot say what became of them probably worn out in my pocket, being a young man and no place to keep papers.

Ques. 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and good behaviour & your services as a soldier of the revolution

Ans. Colo. Henry Watts who is the sheriff of the County and commandant of the militia of the county. John S. Besser and George W. Zimmerman Justices of the county court – James Gibson, Captain John Galloway Brice W Hammock & Edward H. Powers Justices of the peace A. C Palmer, Allen Woolfolk, Benjamin Vance Samuel Cannon Thomas Buckannon and many others

[signed] Wm Butler