

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Butler S16674

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Georgia } S.S.

Elbert County }

On this twenty first day of January in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty three, personally appeared in open Court, before Dilliard Herndon, James Oliver and William A. Beck Justices of the Inferior Court in and for Elbert County and State of Georgia, now sitting for said County, James Butler a resident of the County of Elbert and State of Georgia aged seventy four years, seven months and few days, who being 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<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated

That he was drafted into the service of the United States in the year Seventeen hundred and Seventy eight for two months under Captain James Anderson in the Regiment Commanded by Colonel John Burton, that at the time when he entered the service he resided in the County of Mecklenburg state of Virginia, that he joined his regiment at Portsmouth state of Virginia, where he remained stationed till discharged, after serving two months in the United States Service, in the revolutionary war, the exact date he does not recollect, and that he served with no regular officers and none but his own Regiment.

That he was also drafted into the United Service in the year seventeen hundred and eighty, the exact month or day he does not recollect, for Eighteen months under Captain Richard Swifton or Swepson [Richard Swepson] in the Regiment commanded by Colonel William Davis that he lived in the County of Meclenburg state of Virginia at the time when he was drafted into the service of the Untied States and joined the regiment at Chesterfield Court House state of Virginia, the Head quarters of the regiment, when he was arranged to Capt Scotts Company, marched from thence to a place called Woods Point on James River [sic: Hoods Point about 10 mi below present Hopewell, where he was in a Battle fought there against the British, commanded by General [Benedict] Arnold [Battle of Blandford Hill near Petersburg, 25 Apr 1781], from thence marched back to head quarters at Chesterfield Court House, where he remained stationed till the expiration of his service, and then was discharged after seving eighteen months in the United States Service the term for which he was drafted for, the exact date of his discharge he does not at this time recollect, that he received a written discharge given by Colonel Davis, and that he served with no regular officer, and with no other Regiment but the one to which he belonged.

That he was also drafted into the service of the United States in the year Seventeen hundred and eighty one, the day and month he does not recollect, for two months, under Capt whose name he cannot now recollect in the Regiment commanded by a Colonel whose name he has entirely lost, that he lived at the time when he entered the service of the United States in the County of Meclenburg State Virginia, that he joined his Regiment at Gloucester in the State of Virginia where he remained untill the British army under the command of Lord Cornwallis was surrendered to the American and French Army [19 Oct 1781], and after the expiration of two months was discharged from the service of the United States, the time for which he was drafted, the exact date of said discharge he does not now recollect, that he was acquainted with General [George] Weedon of the Regulars and served with the army stationed at that place, the particular Regiment or Companies he does not know by name, that the whole of his services in the United States during the Revolutionary War amounts to one year and ten months, and that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person, except William Ward [pension application S32048] whose affidavit is hereto annexed, whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services as a Soldier of the Revolution

He says that he was born in Hanover County in the Parish called Saint Pauls, State of Virginia on the fifth day of June in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty eight, that he has had a record of his age but it has either been lost or destroyed, he says that every time when called into service he was living in the County of Meclenburg State of Virginia and that he lived after the Revolutionary War about one year or perhaps a little longer in the State of Virginia, then removed to Wilkes County, now Elbert in the state of Georgia, where he has lived ever since, and now resides there, says that he was drafted into the service of the United States, says that he recollects but one regular officer which served with him, who was General Weedon, he mostly seved only with his own Regiment, except when at Gloucester in the state of Virginia, at which place he served with Army stationed there, the names of the particular regiments he does not recollect by name. He says that he did receive a discharge for his eighteen months service, given by Colonel Davis, which he left in Virginia at the time of his removal to the place of his present residence, and cannot tell what has become of the same, for his other services he received only verbal discharges, or disbandment.

That the names of the persons to whom he is known in his present neighbourhood, and who can testify to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the Revolution are, William Ward, Dyonisious Oliver, McCartie Oliver, Samuel Snelling, Arthur Jones and Samuel Jones

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] James Butler

State of Georgia } Personally appeared in open Court before their Honors Dilliard Herndon, James  
Elbert County } Oliver and William A Beck Justices of the Inferior Court now sitting for said  
County, William Ward who after being duly sworn, on oath says, that he was well acquainted with James  
Butler in the Revolutionary War and was with him at Chesterfield Court House in the war of the  
Revolution, and at that place he says he was his Orderly Sergeant  
Sworn to and subscribed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 1833 [signed] Wm Ward

NOTE:

A size roll taken at Chesterfield Courthouse after 1 Sep 1780 has the following entry: James Butler/ age 22/ height 5 ft 9½ in/Planter/ born in Hannover County/ residing in Mecklenburg County/ hair brown/ eyes blew/ complexion fair.

On 5 June 1837 Butler applied to have his pension transferred to Alabama, where he had moved for the following reason: "first because I have ten Children who reside in Shelby County Ala. and I am desirous to spend the short residue of my life with them this and this alone was the only cause which induced me to remove."