

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

Pension Application of William Berry S17266

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Missouri } SS.

County of St. Louis }

On this twenty-first day of February in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and thirty-three, personally appeared in open court before the County Court, of the County of Saint Louis now sitting William Berry, a resident of the County of Saint Louis, and State of Missouri, aged seventy-seven years, on the tenth day of October, 1832 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated – in the year 1774 – that is to say he was drafted to serve a four with the malitia of Virginia, in the County of Augusta & state of Virginia, that he served under Captain Alexander Long, who belonged to the Virginia malitia, in which he served three months, in a tour to what was called Tigers Valley [sic: Tygart Valley]. That immediately after his return from Tiger’s valley, of the same year, he volunteered to serve a Campaign with the Virginia Malitia, under Captain Alexander McClanahan [Alexander McClenachan], and was attached to Col. Alxder Lewis’ [sic: Andrew Lewis’s] regiment; he started on this campaign from Augusta County, Virginia, and was absent about six months, and was at the battle of the Point so called [Battle of Point Pleasant, 10 Oct 1774], with the Indians, between the Ohio and Kenhawa [sic: Kanawha] rivers, after the battle at the Point with the Indians, he proceeded with his company to the old Chilacotha [sic: Chillicothe] Town north of the Ohio River, where a treaty of peace was concluded [Treaty of Camp Charlotte] between the whites and the Indians & this deponent returned home to Virginia.

That in August 1778 he was drafted to serve a tour with the Virginia Malitia, from the County of Augusta, Virginia, and that he served under Capt. William Henderson, in whose Company he was an acting sergeant, and was attached to Col. William Boyers [sic: William Bowyer’s] Regiment, of the Virginia Malitia. In this tour, his company proceeded westwards & crossed the Ohio River, twenty-five miles below fort Pitt, and joined the main Army, under the command of General [Lachlan] McIntosh, at fort McIntosh [at present Beaver PA], from thence the main army proceeded across the Muskingum River and built a fort called “Tuskaroras” or “Laurence,” [sic: Fort Laurens on Tuscarawas River in Ohio, completed Jan 1779], & returned home to Augusta County, Virginia, about New-year of the year 1779.

He was again drafted, in Augusta County, Virginia, to serve an other tour, & left home under the command of Capt. Thomas Smith, and attached to Col. Samuel McDowel’s [sic: Samuel McDowell’s] Regiment of the Virginia Malitia, & was put under the command of General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], of the united states, Army, and was in the battle at Guilford Court House in North Carolina [15 Mar 1781], between the Brittish and Americans – after which he was discharged & sent home.

This deponent was again drafted to serve with the Virginia Malitia, in Augusta County Virginia, & left home under the command of Capt. James Bell of the Virginia Malitia, attached to Col. Samuel Lewis Regiment of Virginia Malitia, and attached to the main body of the United States Army under the command of General Washington. in this tour he was at the battle of York Town [Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep – 19 Oct 1781], between the Brittish & Americans and at the surrender of Cornwallice [sic: Cornwallis] to the American Army & was in the service of the United States until he was discharged after the close of the revolutionary war, – this deponent has no documentary evidence to substantiate these facts. the precise dates of his entering and being discharge from service he does not recollect, on account of the length of time which had elapsed, since he was so engaged in the service.

Some of the facts in the foregoing declaration, this deponent states that he can not prove by any of the soldiers who were acquainted with him in the several tours in which he served, because, he

believes they are mostly or perhaps entirely all dead –

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, of the United States, or any Territory thereof.

[signed] William Berry

And the St. Louis County Court, being now here in session for the February Term of said Court, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty three, propounds the following interrogatories to William Berry an applicant for a pension on account of services as a soldier in the Revolution, as stated in the foregoing declaration.

1. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – I was born in Augusta County Virginia, near Staunton, on the tenth day of October 1755.

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

Answer – I have no record of my age; but I have seen my birth recorded in my fathers family Bible, but he has been dead more that twenty-five years, and what became of his Bible, in which my age was so recorded, I have not been able to learn.

3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer – I lived in Augusta County, near Stanton Virgin; about forty years ago, I removed to the state of Kentucky, and settled in Fayette County about five miles south of Lexington, where I resided for some years, when I removed to Gallatin County in the same state, where I resided until about ten or eleven years ago when I removed to the state of Missouri, and settled on the River DèS Perès [Des Peres River] in St. Louis County where I have resided ever since and where I now reside.

4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute?

Answer – This is fully stated in the foregoing declaration.

5. State the names of the Regular Officers, who were with the troops where you served; such continental and malitia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your services.

Answer – this is fully done so far as I can recollect in the foregoing declaration.

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

Answer – I did receive a discharge, but it has been so long ago, that I have long since lost or mislaid it but by whom it was given, I do not recollect.

7. 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 their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer – I am personally known to the three honorable Judges who now preside in this court, to the ministers or clergymen who have given the above certificate [not transcribed] & to all my neighbors with whom I now reside who can testify to these facts.

Sworn to & subscribed before me in open court this 27th February 1833. [signed] William Berry

State of Missouri } SS.

County of St. Louis }

Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, William Berry, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he can not swear positively as to the precise length of his service, (as set forth in the foregoing declaration) but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades: For three months, in the drafted malitia of Virginia in the year 1774 I served as a private under Captain Alexander Long: from Augusta County Virginia: to what was called “Tiger’s Valley.” For six months, as a volunteer, of the Virginia Militia, in the year 1774 immediately after the above tour, under Captain Alexander McClannahan, who was attached to Col. Lewis’ Regiment, from Augusta County Virginia, as a private, I served, as stated in my declaration:

For five months, in the drafted militia from Augusta County Virginia: in the year 1778 under Captain William Henderson, who was attached to Col. William Boyers Regiment, & who were under the command of General McIntosh I served as sergeant: For one month and a half, in the drafted militia from Augusta County Virginia: in the year 1779 under Captain Thomas Smith, who was attached to Col. Samuel McDowel's Regiment, & who was under the Command of General Green, I served as a private: For three months, in the drafted militia from Augusta County Virginia; in the year 1779 under the Command of Captain James Bell, attached to Col. Samuel Lewis regiment, who was under the command of General Washington: I served as a private, and for such above stated service I claim I claim a pension Sworn to and subscribed before me a Justice of te peace within and for the county of St Louis aforesaid this 12th day of August 1833 [signed] William Berry

NOTE: William Berry certified that he had served with his brother, John Berry, in the latter's pension application (W5219).