

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

Pension Application of Joshua Worley S18667

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 9 Dec 2014.

State of Virginia }  
Bedford County } SS

On this 23<sup>d</sup> day of September 1833 personally appeared in open court before the county court of Bedford now sitting, Joshua Worley, a resident of Russell parish in the county and state aforesaid aged 74 years, 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 7 June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That in the month of March 1776 (cannot recollect the day) – in the county of Charlotte Virginia he volunteered into a minute company of militia - to be ready at a minute's warning to enter the service of the United States. Soon after he enlisted he believes early in March 1776 his company was called into service and they rendezvoused at Charlotte court house – marched from thence under Capt. Thomas Collier, Lieut Douglass Watson [Douglas Watson] – & Ensign Joshua Morriss [Joshua Morris] to Petersburg – went down the south side of Appomattox river & crossed James River at Jamestown – from thence to Yorktown where he crossed York River & from thence down the River to Gwinns [sic: Gwynn] Island where we joined other troops commanded by Gen'l. Andrew Lewis who had collected there to expel Dunmore from that place. They cannonaded Dunmore on the island and expelled him from thence some time in July he believes [8 - 11 Jul 1776]. They pursued him up to a place opposite Cherry Point on Potomac River, where he landed in Maryland. They pursued Dunmore no further – an express having arrived calling them home to go against the Indians on Holstein [sic: Holston] River. There were regular troops with him – and field officers but he was very young at the time and cannot recollect the names of these officers He returned home in August 1776 & as soon as he returned home he marched under Lieut Watson (Capt. Collier being sick) & ensign Morris from Charlotte county thro' Bedford & Botetourt counties to Long Island on Holstein River [sic: at present Kingsport TN]. His Col. was Col. Haynes Morgan. The troops were commanded by Col. [William] Christian. He does not recollect that there were any regulars with him. When he reached Long Island the Indians had gone. He remained at Long Island some time & returned home about Christmas. He was engaged in this service at least nine months against Dunmore & the Indians. He was discharged by Col. Morgan – but has lost his discharge. He has no documentary evidence. He has procured the affidavit of Benjamin Marshall [pension application S5728] after great delay & difficulty, from the county of Charlotte He is very infirm and cannot attend to business at a distance. & has had to send the affidavit back to Charlotte for the purpose of having it in form. S'd Marshall was not with him this tour – he knows no person living by whom he prove his services this tour.

Again in the month of April 1780, he cannot recollect the day, he was drafted into the service of the United States from the County of Charlotte Virginia under Capt. Thomas Williams, Lieut. Baker, & Ensign William Marshall. He rendezvoused at Charlotte Court house and marched from thence across the Roanoke river at the confluence of Dan & Staunton rivers at a place called Dixes Ferry [sic: Dix's Ferry on Dan River about 15 mi upstream from present South Boston VA] into North Carolina, on to Hillsborough, where he joined Gate's [Gen. Horatio Gates's] army. From thence he marched to Pedee [sic: Pee Dee] river where he remained until after Gate's defeat [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] – the army having gone on & left him with other troops there to guard some sick & baggage. He cannot recollect the names of any regular or field officers, except Gen'l. Gates. He believes he was in Col. [Nathaniel] Cocke's regiment. He thinks Col. [William] Nicholas commanded a militia regiment. He was first corporal during this tour. After Gate's defeat, the army was dispersed, & rallied at Hillsborough and marched about in various places. He was discharged some time in the summer, he cannot recollect what month, – he believes by Capt. Williams, but he has lost his discharge. He has no documentary evidence.

He was engaged in this tour 3 months – refers to the affidavit of Benjamin Marshall.

In January 1781, he cannot recollect the day of the month, he volunteered into the service of the United States in Charlotte County under Capt. William Morton, Lieut. John Richardson & Ensign John S. Davenport & was commanded by Col. Cocke. He rendezvoused at Cole's Ferry on Staunton River [8 mi below Brookneal] & marched to Irvine's Ferry on Dan River [about 4 mi W of present South Boston] – from thence into North Carolina and joined Gen'l. Green's [sic: Nathanael Greene's] army somewhere between Irvine's Ferry & Guilford. He was in the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC], which took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 1781. Of the regular officers he recollects Gen'l. Green & Col. [William] Washington. he does not recollect the officers of any militia regiments. After the battle he was sent on to Albemarle County or Halifax Va as a guard to some prisoners, under ensign Dupuy He was discharged by ensign Dupuy the last of March or first of April 1781 – but has lost his discharge. He has no documentary evidence – refers to the affidavit of Benj. Marshall to prove his services. He was engaged 3 months in this tour.

In answer to interrogatories he states –

1 – He was born in Chesterfield Co. Va. – he cannot tell in what year, but from the best accounts he can get he was born in 1757 – the 22 of February.

2 – He has no record of his age.

3 – He was living in Charlotte when called into service – lived there ever since the revolution until Christmas 1828, when he removed to Bedford, where he has lived ever since.

4 5 & 6. He has answered to the best of his recollection in his declaration.

7. John Oden & Nancy Worley are persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. Their certificate states that they believe him to be 67 years of age. He supposes that was his age when they made the certificate & without knowing, they state their belief that he is as old as he himself once supposed, & informed them he was, but from circumstances since recollected he is induced to believe he was born in 1757 instead of 1766

He has so recently removed to Bedford that he cannot find any person in this county who can give traditionary evidence, except John Oden & Nancy Worley, who removed from Charlotte. they are unable to attend court. He cannot procure a clergyman's certificate, not knowing any who can testify.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Joshua Worley

This day Benjamin Marshall of the County of Charlotte & State of Virginia appeared before me a Justice of the peace in said county & State & being sworn saith, that Joshua Worley enlisted under Capt. Thomas Collier, Lieut. Douglass Watson & Ensign Joshua Morris & he believes enlisted in the minute service for twelve months, & think he went to Gwins Island on James River [sic] with Companies that went against Governor Dunmore, after which time, said Worley returned home, and then went out on Holstein against the Indians

And in the year 1780 in April he marched into Carolina, under Capt. Thomas Williams Lieut Baker & Ensign William Marshall, and after marching there, he was left at a garrison on Pedee River to guard some baggage that was left there, & during the trip said Worley acted as Corporal, this affiant having gone on to Gates' defeat, & on returning home in December following found said Worley at home

And in January 1781 said Worley volunteered under Capt. William Morton, Lieut John Richardson Ensign Jack S. Davenport in Col. Cocks Regiment of Halifax, and joined Gen'l Greens Army near Irvins Ferry on Dan River in Halifax County Va. and was in the battle at Guilford Court House from which place he was sent as one of the Guard with the prisoners to Albemarle Virginia, further this affiant saith not Given under my hand this 28<sup>th</sup> December 1832 Benjamin hisXmark Marshall