

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

Pension Application of James Bailey S2945

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Pt Harmay O 5th Feby [1829]

Hon. P. B. Porter Sec'y War Dept.)

Sir Some time in the year 1818 or 19 I presented the petition of James Bailey for a Pension. Mr. Edwards informed me the Regt was not "on continental establishment from Baileys statement. I have always believed the Rigt. although originally a State Rigt. was afterwards made a continental one his statement is that he enlisted March 17th 1777 for three years in (he believes) 1st Va. Reg't. commanded by Col. George Gibson, that shortly after they were marched to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] where each rec'd. (say) \$40 additional bounty making them equal to constitutional [sic] troops. the Rigt. was (by forced marches) immediately moved to the North & joined the main Army three days after the battle of Germantown [4 Oct 1777] – that the Rig't. was sent to the relief of Mud fort & arrived immediately after its surrender [Siege of Fort Mifflin on Mud Island , 10 Oct - 15 Nov 1777], that he was in the jersey's and at the taking of Stony Point [16 Jul 1779] &c. was the whole time of his three years at the North was on his march to the South with the Army when his time expired & was discharged Feby 8th 1780 at Alexandria. From the above circumstances & his being constantly paid Cloathed and [illegible word] by the United States, it would seem that that the Rigt. must have been placed on continental establishment. He is very old, infirm, & very poor if any thing can be done for him it would be at least Charity. Mr Edwards will undoubtedly examine & give me an answer. Respectfully your Obt Servant L. Barber

State of Ohio Ss }

Washington County }

On this 25th day of October 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Hon. Judges of the court of Common Please, now sitting James Bailey, a resident of Roxbury township Washington County & State of Ohio, Aged Eighty one (81) 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 June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated

I enlisted under Capt Thomas Uel (or Ewel) [sic: Thomas Winder Ewell] Lieut Charles Uel or Ewel [sic: Charles Ewell] of the first Regiment of Virginia State troops under the command of Col. George Gibson in the fall of year 1776 for 3 years in the town of Dumfries. We did duty in this town 'till the 17th March 1777 then started for Williamsburgh on dicipline, remained there till the sixth (6th) of June doing Regimental duty, from there we went to Alexandria where we waited till we drew what would make us equal to the Continental Troops. We then received orders to march immediately to Germantown; our march was forced day and night but we did not arrive till three days after the battle of Germantown was fought, when we marched and joined head quarters at Conastega River [sic: Conestoga River], then marched northward to the Gulf Mill for winter quarters Soon afterwards we were detached to reinforce Col. Morgans [Daniel Morgan's] Riflemen. took thirteen Light horsemen of the Queens Greens and a Trumpeter at Darby near Philadelphia and footmen at sundry times. Staid one month and returned to my Rigiment in 1778, marched from there to Smiths Cove of Clove near fort Montgomery [in New York state] and laid there some time doing Rigimental doty, we were then detached on fatigue at Fort Arnold [probably West Point] and were two months repairing the Fort, marched from there to Sommersett [sic: Somerset NJ] to prevent the British from getting possession of that place, marched from there to Smiths Gap and took up winter quarters near the town of Barnbrook [sic: Bound Brook NJ], where we did Rigimental duty until the campaign opened in the Spring of 1779. we continued marching northward till

we received orders for our rigiment to march to Mud Island Fort [sic: in 1777], but was stopped by some Horsemen who met us about three quarters of a mile from the fort, we did not arrive in time to be in the battle although our march was forced day and night, orders then countermanded and we returned to head quarters. we were then detached under the command of Col. Parker & Major Cavel and other Rigimental Officers in the league[?] Battallion. remained two months and returned to my rigiment, and did duty in the regiment until there was a call for volunteers to storm Stony Point. I then turned out and went under the command of Gen'l [Anthony] Wayne and we took the Fort. when I returned to my rigiment and continued doing rigimental doty until we marched for winter quarters at Bear Skin Ridge [sic: Basking Ridge] near Morristown, the Southern troops were ordered to Charleston and we marched to Philadelphia where we were detached, under the command of Capt. Campbell and Lieut. Russel, to take the prisoners (that we had taken at Stony Point) to Fort Frederick & from thence to Alexandria where we were honourably discharged by Col. John Alison [sic: John Allison] on the eighth of Febry. 1780. I lost my discharge many years since & know of no person who can testify to my service. When my term of service expired I rec'd. a Rec't. for my arms and accoutrements which was signed by James Harper the Quarter Master Sergeant of our regiment. This receipt I gave to Col. Augustus Stone of Marietta, who forwarded it to the War Department when I applied for a pension a few years since; it cannot now be found but is either at the war department or has been lost or mislaid after it was returned. I was born in Prince William County Virginia near the City of Dumfries in October 1751. My age was recorded in a book called "Christ the Christian's Life" which was lost while I was in the army. My three years service expired in the fall of 1779 but we were ordered to take charge of the prisoners which were taken at Stony Point we marched as far as Hagerstown Va. & when we were detained by a fall of snow very deep for about 5 weeks; when some militia were raised I think by a Col. Live[?] who took charge of the prisoners & relieved us, when we marched to Alexandria and were discharged. After my discharge, I lived 4 years in Fairfax Co. Va. I then removed to Prince William & lived there nine years. I then removed to near Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] Va, where I lived about ten years, I then removed to Ohio & have lived in Marietta, in Warren township, & in the townships of Wooster, (now called Watertown) & Roxberry where I now live & always in the County of Washington for 28 or 29 years. I can name Col. Augustus Stone & Col. Levi Barber as persons who can testify as to my character for truth & veracity & who have known me for many years. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state
Sworn to & subscribed, the day & year aforesaid. James hisXmark Bailey

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the township of Marietta, County of Washington & State of Ohio, James Bailey, who being duly sworn, deposed and saith, that he has had read to him the objections made at the War Department to the allowance of his claim for a pension & in answer states that he knows of no clergyman who could testify respecting his age, reputation &c; that for many years he has lived in a sparsely settled country, where most of the clergymen were of the Methodist Denomination, & are every year or two assigned to new circuits.

He further states as to the loss of his discharge (which he thinks was dated the 9th of Feb'y. 1780 instead of the 8th as stated in his declaration, as he believes it was given at the same time with the receipt for his arms and accoutrements, which rec't. he referred to in his first declaration, & which has never been found & bears date on the ninth of Feb'y. 1780) that in a short time after his discharge he sold his right to bounty lands to one Spencer Colburd & delivered him his discharge. That Colburd agreed to return the discharge to this affiant again but afterwards told him it was retained by the Auditor at Richmond Va. & could not be obtained. This affiant would have been more particular in stating the circumstances of the loss of his discharge had he supposed it necessary.

Sworn & subscribed this seventh day of October 1833

James hisXmark Bailey