

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Peter Bryant S30290

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Shelby County Sct.

Shelby Circuit Court June term 1820

On this 30th day of June 1820 personally appeared in Open Court being a Court of record of Common law and Criminal Jurisdiction for the County and Circuit aforesaid Peter Bryant aged near sixty one years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Act of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818 and the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1820 that He the said Peter Bryant enlisted for the term of eighteen months in the moth of January 1778 in the State of Virginia in the Company Commanded by Captain Harry Fauntleroy [Henry Fauntleroy] in the the 5<sup>th</sup> Virg'a. Reg't. Commanded by Colo. [Burgess] Ball in the line of the state of Virginia in the Continental Establishment that he continued to serve in the said Corps untill the fall 1779 when he was discharged from the said service in Middlehook in the State of Newjersey [sic: Middlebrook NJ] – that he was in the battles of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] and White plains [28 Oct 1776], and that he has no other evidence now in his favour of his said services except by persons living at a great distance. he further states that He is old and infirm he follows the Occupation of farming but is unable to follow it or do hard labour he has three Children living with him One son two daughters the son about thirteen years of age the daughters one about twenty years and one about eighteen years of age – they can render him but little service towards a support &c &c And in pursuance of the Act of the 1<sup>st</sup> May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

The following is a schedule of his property, towit, two mares & one Colt worth \$80 three Cows & Calves 28 three sows & some shoats 18\$ three sheep \$3 six old Chares 2 two tables & one Cupboard 10 two Hoes two plows & gears \$9 One Wooden Clock 5 One old Waggon \$20 with some Cooking utensils and table furniture worth about \$12 making the Amt. of his property equal to about \$195 he further states that he is owing about \$50 on Account of the foregoing property

Peter Bryant

Rec'd 9 Dec 1830.

I Elizabeth Clarke do Certify that Peter Bryant did Inlist in the Regalar Serves in the Revolution under a Capt Henry Pantalroy as I understood as I was well acquainted with him and do no that he went in to the Serves for I made some does for him which he wore away and I have frequently seen him sence he returned home and do no him to be the same man as he is now in my presents given under my hand this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October 1830

Elizabeth herXmark Clarke

[William Clarke made a similar statement.]

State of Kentucky } On this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of Christ 1833 personally appeared before  
Shelby County } the County Court of said County now sitting Peter Bryant a resident of the  
County and state aforesaid, aged seventy three years, who being duly sworn

according to Law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. Said Bryant states that he was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1760, as he has been informed by persons intimately acquainted with his father's family – that his age is so registered in a Bible now in his possession, and the record has been there for many years. that he was born in Richmond County, which was between the Rappahannock and the Potomack [sic: Potomac River] in the state of virginia. He states that he is the same Peter Bryant to whom the enclosed Letters from I D Ingham then secretary of the Treasury are directed, accompanied by the endorsement on one of them subscribed by the Honorable Richard M Johnson, which show that he has been an unsuccessful applicant for a pension under the Act of Congress, entitled an act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the army of the Revolution approved 15<sup>th</sup> May 1828 [letters and 1828 application not found]. He states that he is now for the first time informed that he can derive no benefit from the provision of that Act, however conclusive might be the proof of the services rendered by him to the united states in the army of the Revolution. If however he is badly advised not to persist in asserting his claim for relief under that act, and if it should be the opinion of the War Department upon the examination of his claim that he ought to be registered upon the Pension Roll of the united states under and by virtue of the provisions of that Act, he desires that it may be done. He refers the War Department to the Letter of secretary Ingham dated 9<sup>th</sup> Decr 1830, particularly, and also to those of a previous date, which allow him to indulge the hope that he is not absolutely precluded from the benefit of the act of Congress approved the 15<sup>th</sup> May 1828. Requesting a careful examination of his case, he proceeds to state that about the last of September or the 1<sup>st</sup> of October in the year 1776, he enlisted in Richmond County in the state of Virginia under Captain Harry Fantleroy [sic: Henry Fauntleroy] to serve for a period of 18 months, as a private in a company of Light Infantry. Our Company was recruited very rapidly, and we marched that same Fall to valley Forge in the state of Pennsylvania, where we joined the main Army under Genl Washington, and our Company was there attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment commanded by Coln. Ball. From Valley Forge, the Army moved to Monmouth, where our army engaged the Enemy. My Captain Harry Fantleroy was killed in the Battle of monmouth. After the Battle of Monmouth, I was detailed to assist Captn William Bentley who was Paymaster to the Regiment to which I belonged and this was the principal duty I performed until my Term of service expired and I received my discharge. I received my discharge in writing from the hand of Coln Ball in the state of Pennsylvania where that division of our Army to which I was attached was stationed at that time. Abraham Dale [pension application W8648] whose deposition will be found I suppose among the papers I sent to Washington City when I applied for a Pension before, was my orderly Sergeant. I can not recollect the Lieutenants name. There were several officers of that grade who did duty in my Company, that office in my Company for what reason I know not being frequently changed. After the Battle of Monmouth the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment were joined. Being under the control of the Paymaster Captn Bentley I did not form any acquaintance with any of the officers of the Regiment other than I have stated. After I was discharged I returned to Virginia, and my uncle James Neely advised myself and his son who had also been in the Army to send in our discharges, that it was required of us to do so. we accordingly placed our discharges in his hands to be sent somewhere, which he did, and that was the last I saw of my discharge. I received my last pay from Captn Wm Bentley I know. I cannot possibly state the precise day I was discharged from the service before stated, but I know I served out my Term of enlistment, which was for 18 months. Again in the Fall of 1777, the months I cannot recollect I entered the military service as a private in Northumberland County in the state of virginia, in a Volunteer Company of Cavalry raised by Captn John McAdams. Captn Upshaw raised another Company at the same time. We volunteered to serve for no particular period. The British Troops were then lying in the River, and frequently committing violence upon the property of the people. We were called minute men. One principal service consisted in guarding the shores of the River and the plantations lying along the River. When the British ships would leave the River, and no danger apparent we were permitted to go to our homes, but some of us were always

detailed as guards, and stationed at particular houses, and upon the reappearance of the Enemy, the whole body of the Minute Men were again summoned to arms. The company of Captn McAdams to which I belonged, as also Captn Upshaw's Company, were attached to a Regiment of Virginia militia under the Command of Coln Gordon, the number of the Regiment I can't recollect.

When the British sailed up York River we were moved on towards York on the Gloster [sic: Gloucester] side of the River. The British had possession of both York and Gloster. Genl Washington was on the York side of the River with his troops [during Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. I continued in the same service until after the surrender of Cornwallis. I received my discharge from Coln Gordon in the month of October 1781; it was in writing but I have [illegible word] I never took any care of it. Being further questioned said Bryant states that from the time he first entered upon the service last above set forth as a volunteer private, until he was discharged as before stated, he was not during all that time engaged in any civil employment or engagements, that is to say, any such as would conflict with his duty as a volunteer private as aforesaid, or with the terms upon which he entered said service, but he was at all times during the interval aforesaid bound to obey the summons and order of his superior officers, and subjected to the usual discipline of a soldier as before stated. During all the interval from the Beginning until the ending of the service named last, he had his horse, arms and equipage in constant readiness, to march at the summons and order of his commanding officers, if not actually engaged in military duty. He states that he served the United as a volunteer private as last above stated two years. He states that he has now no documentary evidence of his having served as before stated in the army of the Revolution, nor does he now know of any living witness by whom he can prove the statements herein made. Abraham Dale the orderly sergeant who served with him in his first service as an enlisted soldier died some time in the year 1829 or 1830. Said Bryant refers to said Dale's Deposition lodged he supposes either in the Treasury or War Department, and respectfully asks of the present Head of the War Department, if the reason assigned by Mr Ingham in his Letter dated "Treasury Department 6 August 1829" for not respecting the Deposition of Dale because he and this applicant had "testified for each other" is sufficient to deprive the applicant of all benefit from said Deposition? Is it a rule not to be departed from, that "such Testimony should be corroborated by other evidence"? He states that during the past summer he heard that a certain John Bryant [W8390] was then living in Garrard County in this state, and supposing that he might be a brother of his, of whom he had not heard for many years, and who if he was such person, had served also with him in the Revolution, he procured James C. Sprigg of Shelbyville to write to the Hon'ble R P Letcher and request that gentleman to enquire of said John Bryant where he was from &c &c. Mr Letcher wrote in reply the Letter here accompanying these papers, stating therein that John Bryant had died with the Cholera some weeks before that time.

Said Bryant states that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot state more precisely than he has done, the beginnings and terminations of the services performed by him as an enlisted and volunteer soldier in the army of the Revolution as herein before stated. He believes he has mentioned with sufficient precision the periods of the War when he did the aforesaid services. He states that he served the united states during the War of the Revolution, and in the manner here in stated, for the Term of three years and six months. He states that for the last 40 years or more he has resided in the state of Kentucky, and that previous thereto he resided in the state of Virginia

He refers to the Rev'd Zacheus Carpenter and Daniel Frazier who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief and the belief of his neighborhood generally of his having served as a soldier in the Revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency in any state, or Territory Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Peter hisXmark Bryant