

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

Pension Application of William Bickley S30864

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky County of Mason Ss

On this ninth day of December in the year Eighteen hundred and thirty three, personally appeared in open court, before County Court of the County aforesaid now siting William Bickley a resident of the said County of Mason & state of Kentucky, aged seventy seven 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the united states under the following names officers, and served as herein stated. That in the month of June in the year 1777 he was at the house of Colo. Anthony Winston in Buckingham County, Virginia, being then a resident of Prince George County in said state, that at Colo. Winstons he fell in with Colo. William Christian, Captain John Montgomery & others escorting a party of Cherokee Indians who had been on a visit to the seat of Government, that he this affiant was then & there employed by said Capt'n. Montgomery to serve as a guard over some public property, destined for the long iseland on Holston river [sic: Long Island, at present Kingsport TN], where a treaty was about to held with the Cherokee Indians in the month of July [sic]; that upon his arrival at that place he found Colo. [Evan] Shelby (father of the late Governor of Kentucky of that name [Isaac Shelby]) commanding a regiment, with which he this affiant did military duty until the treaty was concluded, (about the middle of July [sic: Treaty of Long Island, 20 Jun 1777]) and then enlisted under the above named Capt'n. Montgomery for six month, in a company destined to protect the inhabitants of Kentucky against the Indians, but as the company could not march for some weeks, Capt'n. Montgomery persuaded him to accompany Colo. Richard Calloway [Richard Callaway], who was on his way from Richmond to Kentucky, the quarter master supplying ammuniton and provisions by order of Colo. Shelby. We arrived at Boonsborough [sic: Boonesborough] about the 10th of August, where Colo. [John] Bowman had arrived a few days before at the head of about one hundred men with whom this affiant did duty until the arrival of Capt'n. Montgomery. At the expiration of his term of enlistment, some of the officers and men returned home but he again enlisted for six months. Lieutenant John Williams then commanding the company in the absence of Capt'n. Montgomery who had returned to Virginia; before the termination of this second period of enlistment the company was ordered to the falls of Ohio [at present Louisville] there to join Colo. George Rogers Clark, who was descending the river with a body of men destined for an attack upon the posts upon the Mississippi and Wabash rivers. Upon the arrival of Colo. Clark they descended the river in boats to the mouth of Tennessee river and from thence marched to Kaskaskia, which place was taken by surprise [4 Jul 1778] and the other villiages on & near the Mississippia surrender soon after, after which the men agreeably to the promise of Colo. Clark made at the falls of Ohio were entitled to be discharged & some of them returned home, but as many as could be prevailed upon were reinlisted for six months or until the first day of the succeeding month of March, (when Capt'n. Montgomery was expected to join with some regular troops from Virginia) and this affiant again enlisted for the term of six months. In the fall of that year Colo. Clark learned that Governor Hamilton of Detroit was on his way to the Wabash at the head of about 100 regular troops & seven or eight hundred Indians and having ascertained his arrival at Port St. Vincennes about the first of Feb'y., Colo. Clark marched immediately for that place this affiant being with & doing duty under him. the place was taken about the first of March [25 Feb 1779] & we then returned to Kaskaskia where we found a company of regular troops had arrived under the command of Capt'n. George – the services of this affiant being no longer required in the fort he was employed and did duty as an artificer, geting timber for the erection of a fort, in which service he continued about two months at the termination of which time all the troops in

that country were ordered to Vincennes, with a view as this affiant understood to an attack upon Detroit, but not finding the number of men there he expected Colo. Clark relinquished the expedition, this affiant continued to serve as an artificer repairing the fortifications, public boats &c until the first of September, when he was discharged and returned to Kentucky. The next spring he returned to Virginia and in the fall of that year enlisted in a regiment raised by Colo. Charles Lynch & Wm. Leftwitch [sic: William Leftwich] to be commanded by Gen'l. Robert Lawson intended for the Southern service, he thinks principally with a view to the Seige of ninety-six [sic: Ninety-Six SC, 22 May – 19 Jun 1781] this affiant was attached to a company commanded by Captain Jacob Early and joined the regiment at the house of one Colo. [John] Ward in Bedford County Virginia and at the end of one days march from thence the march of the regiment was countermanded and we were ordered to Petersburg [sic: Petersburg], the enemy having landed at Portsmouth. on our arrival at Petersburg we met the militia returning home the enemy having reembarked. we remained encamped some weeks at Petersburg and were then discharged by Gen'l. Lawson. This affiant then returned to his fathers in Amherst County and in the month of December the enemy having again landed in the neighbourhood of Portsmouth he volunteered in a company commanded by Capt'n. Joseph Poindexter, and after joining their regiment it was discovered that there was a sufficient number of riflemen to form a company and they were enrolled accordingly, this affiant being one, and put under the command of Captain Otis (said to be) the senior Capt'n. of the Regiment. Colo. Thomas Mennyweather or Merryweather [sic: Thomas Meriwether] commanding the regiment and Gen'l. Mulendburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] the brigade we were continued from the 15th of January (the time we were regimented) until the 15th of April when we were discharged. In June of that year [1781] the enemy having ravaged the country as far as Richmond Petersburg and even Charlottesville, Gen'l. [Thomas] Nelson then Lieut. Governor of Virginia issued his proclamation offering credit for a tour of duty to all militia men who would repair to the lines and serve twenty day, this affiant volunteered and served twenty eight days and was then discharged. Upon the whole this affiant states that he was in the public service during the war of the revolution at least two years his last service was under the command of Capt'n. John Woodrough [possibly John Woodruff] He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his services and knows of no other person by whose testimony he can prove his services than those whose evidence is hereto annexed, except Simon Kenton [pension application S41719] of the State of Ohio, who if alive could prove his services while under the command of Colo. George Rogers Clarke, but Kenton (if alive) lives so remote from this affiants residence that the procurement of his evidence would be attended with great trouble & expence. He further states that there is no clergyman resident in his neighbourhood or who has such knowledge of him as to render it probable that he knows or has heard the reputation of his services in the revolutionary war. He relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Role of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

[signed] William Bickley