

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Brewer S30885

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS

Henry County } On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 1834 personally appeared before me William O'Bannon a Justice of the peace in and for said County of Henry William Brewer aged ninety years on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March last who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed the 7 of June 1832.

He stats that he was residing in Prince William County State of Virginia when he entered the service fo the United States and served as herein stated that in the Month of April in the year of 1777 a draft was ordered in said County of Prince William when he the said William Brewer was drafted into the service for a tour of sixty days and was ordered to rendezvous at a Town called Dumfries in said County, accordingly he states that he on the day appointed he did rendezvous at said town of Dumfries equipted for sixty days campain, he states that he was marched from said place of rendezvous under the command of Capt Valuntine Peyton [sic: Valentine Peyton] and Major Ramsey to Alexandria on the Potomack River. on arriving at Alexandria he states that he was stationed there about five weeks at the expiration of said five weeks he states that he was marched down the River in pursuit of British who had shaped there course down said River he stats that they pursued the Brittish as low as General Washington's Fishing bay where he states they were stationed about fifteen days. they were thence marched to the high point on the Potomack River where they staid a few days. thence to a creek called the Ocaquan [sic: Occoquan] where they remained till the aforesaid sixty days expired when he was discharged by Major Ramsey in writing having fully and faithfully served out his sixty days. he further says that in the month of June 1778 that the British again ascended the Potomac River and it was expected that they would land at Bulletts Bay when another draft was made for a tour of twenty days for the purpose of preventing the Brittish from landing he says that under this call that he was again called into the service for the above twenty days and marched from Prince William County under the command of Lieutenant Harry Lee [Henry Lee] Capt Valentine Peyton Major James Ewell and Coln Jesse Ewell, to Bulletts Bay on arriving at said Bay he states that the Brittish was lying in sight of said Bay after remaining there a short time he states that the enemy disappeared and they were marched to the mouth of Chipawanisick Creek [sic: Chopawamsic Creek] where a Breast work was ordered to be thrown up by Jesse Ewell, the Coln of the regiment he states that to accomplish this order that they went to work and was laboriously employed till the twenty days were out when he was discharged by his Capt Peyton in writing – This declarent further states that in the year 1779 that the Brittish again made their appearance in the Potomac River when another draft took place in said county of Prince william for thirty days and that in the month of may of 1779 that he was again marched from Prince William County under the Command of Lieutenant Thomas Helm, Capt Peyton, Major James Ewell, and Coln Jesse Ewell to the mouth of Chipawanisick Creak, at which place he states he was stationed for the purpose of preventing the Brittish from landing and afford some security to the inhabitants situated near the River. he states that he did remain at said encampment discharging his duty faithfully until his said thirty days were ended when he was discharged by his said Capt Peyton in writing. he also states that in fall of year 1779 in the month of September he thinks that another call of thirty days was made for the militia of his aforesaid County when he was again called into the service for that period he states that under the command of his former officers that he was marched to Chipawanisick encampment where he says he discharged his duty as a soldier for the space of thirty days and was discharged by his said Capt Peyton and went home where he staid until spring of 1780 when the Brittish appearing again in the Potomack River he was called out for another tour of thirty days and was commanded by his former officers he states they marched in

the month of May to the Potomack River to prevent the enemy from landing he states that after traversing the river that they again went to Chipawanisick where he staid until his said thirty days were ended and that he was again discharged by Capt Peyton – he further states that in the month of October 1780 that he was called out for a tour of thirty days he states he march from Prince William County commanded by his former officers to the Potomac River to defend the shores of said river from the Enemy as it was their constant practice to land and plunder when they could do it with safety he states that he did in the tour serve out his said thirty days faithfully and got a written discharge by Capt Peyton This declarant states that in the month of June he thinks that a draft was ordered in said county of Prince William for a tour of forty days he states that under this draft that he was drafted into the service of the united states and rendezvoused at Dumfries he states that the object of this draft was to oppose the progress of Cornwallis's army which at that time was marching through Va. he states that from Dumfries they were marched under the command of Lieut Harry Lee, Capt Peyton, Major Ewell and Coln Ewell to Falmouth on the Rappahannock river here he says they united with Gen [George] Weedon's Brigade he states from this place they marched through Fredericksburg, thence down the river to Williamsburg they here had to retreat before the enemy he states that on their retreat near to Richmond they fell in with Gen [Anthony] Wayne's army they then marched to Richmond and the forty day for which the Prince William Militia had been drafted being ended they were discharged and went home. He has no documentary evidence of his Service and knows of no living witness by whom he can prove said service 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 he states that from his being ninety year of age and living twenty two miles from the Court house that he can not appear in open court to make his declaration

[signed] William Brewer

Answers to the questions put by the magistrate

I was born in St Mary's County State of Maryland in the year of 1744 and my age is recorded in my Fathers Bible and when I entered the service of the United States I was living in Prince William County State of Va. I remained in Prince William until the year of 1798 I then moved to Ky and I now live in Henry County Ky – and when I first entered the service I served under Capt Peyton and Major Ramsay all my other tours I was under Capt Peyton Major Ewell and Coln Ewell on my last tour I was attached to Gen Weedons Brigade and there were no regular officers where I serviced until my last tour and there were Gen Wayne and shortly after we joined Wayne my forty days were out and I was discharged and I was discharged in writing once by Major Ramsy and the other tour by Capt Peyton. my discharges I have lost and I will name Lewis Hardin and John Lecompte residing in my present neighbourhood who can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my service as a soldier of the revolution

NOTE: The file contains a power of attorney dated 16 Mar 1853 by Elizabeth Wallace, one of the children of William Brewer, who died about 12 years previously, leaving no widow