

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Nicholas Bean S32112
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

PA

State of Illinois } Sct
Clark County } }

On this 22nd day April A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Circuit Court now sitting in and for the county of Clark and State of Illinois Nicholas Bean a resident of the above county and State above named aged seventy three 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 on the 7th day of June AD 1832 relative to the Surviving Officers and Soldiers of the revolution. That is to say I Nicholas Bean was born on the 16th day of March AD 1760 in the county of Bucks in the State of Pennsylvania. My first Service was rendered as a drafted militia man. I cannot say at precisely what time I was drafted but I well remember that it was a few days [blank space] the Battle of [blank] I was at first under the command of Captain Lacy. I was rendezvoused at Trenton in the State of New Jersey. Our Lieutenant was one — Drake. At Trenton I think the whole was under the command of Col. Bull [possibl John Bull] I was in the fifth Pennsylvania Regiment of militia – from Trenton we marched to Amboy by the way of Brunswick and Elisabeth. I was drafted for six months in the Militia but before my had expired I Enlisted in Col. Lee’s Regiment of Light Dragoons [Lt. Col. Henry Lee’s Legion] under one Major Rose. I Enlisted at Elizabeth in the State of New Jersey. From Elizabeth we marched to Lancaster Pennsylvania where we wintered. Some time in March I think it was we left Lancaster in order to join General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] in the South. We crossed the Susquehanah river 12 miles from Lancaster thence to York town Pennsylvania thence to fredericksburg [sic] Maryland thence to the Potomac river which we crossed at Nolan’s, or Nolin’s, ferry [Noland’s Ferry] thence to Orange court-house virginia thence to Prince Edward court-house virginia thence to Guilford court house North Carolina where we arrived about three weeks after Battle fought at that place between the American and British Armies [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781]. I served two years as an Enlisted Dragoon under Col. or General Lee and nearly six moths in the militia for which I have never been paid one cent. I also was one of the Waggoners that went to Rhode Island to bring the French Bagage and for Eight days and nights with very little rest I hauled timber to assist in building and repairing the entrenchments at and during the Siege of York in Virginia [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. For all my services as wagoner I was paid by the United States. I had forgotten to say that we went from Guilford courthouse to Fort 96 by the way of Salisbury thence to Charlotte in Mecklinburg [sic: Mecklenburg] county North Carolina then crossed the Saluda River and thence to Fort 96 where whe found General Green [siege of Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781]. After staying four or five weeks we were compelled to abandon 96 by Lord Rawdon who was sent for that purpose from Charleston S. Carolina Those of us whose time had expired were march to Lancaster Pennsylvania where I was discharged and then I returned home to Bucks county Pennsylvania. And I do hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and I declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State

The court then propounded the following interrogatories to the above named applicant to with

Qu. 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Bucks County Pennsylvania on the 16th of March A.D. 1760

Qu 2nd Have you any Record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. I have not except that in my Fathers family Bible in which is a record of my age in the hand writing of my Father

Qu 3rd Where were you living when called into Service Where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Answer For many years after I left the service I resided in Bucks county Pennsylvania for a number of years in North Carolina and I now reside in the county of Clark and State of Illinois.

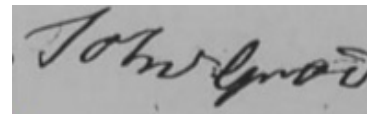
- Qu 4th How were you called into Service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?
- Answer I was at first drafted for six months and during the remainder of my service I was enlisted in Lee's Dragoons.
- Qu 5 State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served Such Continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect And the general circumstances of your Service
- Answer The general circumstances of my Service I have already stated. I do not recollect any Regiments except the fifth Pennsylvania Reg't in which I served. Of the Officers I remember Col. Thomas Craig and Major Rose.
- Qu 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service and if so what has become of it and by whom was it given?
- Answer I did receive a discharge signed by Major Rose but I went into North Carolina leaving my discharge with my Father but my mother dying in my absence my papers were disturbed and my discharge lost.
- Qu 7 State the names of persons to whom you are know in your present neighbourhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and the belief of your Services as a Soldier of the Revolution.
- Answer William Walker Standly B. Walker Abner Stark Daniel Killiam and Thomas Frasier. And I Nicholas Bean do further declare that I know of no living person by whom I can prove my services
Nicholas hisXmark Bean

State of Illinois Ss. Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for Clark County the county and state aforesaid Nicholas Bean who being by me first duly sworn according to Law Deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods stated below and in the following grade – to wit I was first Drafted as a militiaman for six months under one Captain — Lacy. of this time I served out five months when with the permission of my commanding officer I Enlisted for two years in what was called Lee's Dragoons in the fifth Pennsylvania Regiment which time I faithfully served out. When I Enlisted it was under Major — Rose. I Enlisted at Elizabeth Town in New Jersey. We were called "Lee's Dragoons" but by what name we were known at the War Office I do not know – for these sevices I have never been paid one cents and for them I claim a Pension. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of August A.D. 1833
Nicholas hisXmark Bean

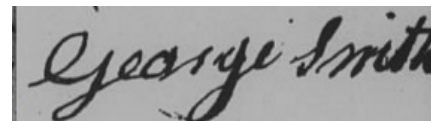
Jefferson County State of Kentucky

The deposition of John Grove [pension application W1756], who served in the revolutionary war during its whole continuance who was born in Philadelphia county seven miles of the city of Philadelphia on the 22 day of July in the year 1750, being legally sworn states as follows viz. That he is well acquainted with the declarant Nicholas Bean, who was raised about 30 miles above Philadelphia in Bucks county and was about 12 or 14 years old when I first became acquainted with him which was in the year 1775 or 6 he the said Bean was only a private and belonged to Capt Phillip Hinkles company, said Hinkle being a black smith to the army having under his command as many men as he deemed necessary, set up shop when ever the army stopped and moved when it moved. The said declarant was I think a volunteer in the service and acted in various capacities such as hauling coals &c and sometimes served in the lines just as the exigencies of the times required. I lay with said Bean at vally forge one winter [Valley Forge 1777-1778] and one winter at White marsh one winter in Philadelphia in the continental yard. I also saw him before and after the battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] Germantown [4 Oct 1777] and many other places that I now cant recollect. This depon't thinks the said declarant was discharged at Philadelphia just after the capture of Cornwallis at Yorktown virginia [19 Oct 1781] and this deponant states that he thinks the said

Nicholas Bean must be not less than 70 years old at this time as he entered the army very young from appearance, don't ever remember hearing him state his age, and this deponent further states that after the war the declarant moved to rowan county north carolina and resided there some time near this deponent, and that he now resides in Clarke county Illinois from a letter of his to deponent, and deponent further states that he thinks he voluntarily enlisted in the army & further this deponent saith not this 31 day of December 1833.



I George Smith of the county of Sullivan and State of Indiana do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with Nicholas Bean during the Revolutionary War & that said Bean was in the Army of the Revolution as a private. I believe said Bean now lives in the county of Clark & State of Illinois. Said Bean was born in in Pennsylvania near Philadelphia. I think said Nicholas Bean is at the least seventy four years of age. I cannot say certainly when he entered the Service of the United States and when I first knew him in the Service it was some length of time, but how long I cannot say, after the British took Philadelphia [26 Sep 1777]. I can not say how long he was in the Service but I knew him in it for more than one year & I verily believe he was in the service of the United States for some length of time over and above the time that I was acquainted with him. I was somewhat younger than said Bean & the time that I knew him he, said Bean, was under one Captain Philip Hinckle who formerly lived in Pennsylvania. Said Bean left the company to which I & he belonged early in the fall of that year in which Lord Cornwallis was taken at york – he left with the Army under General Washington but where he went I do not know & I did not see him again till the close of the Revolutionary War. I believe said Bean to be a man of truth & I would put the utmost confidence in any statement he might make as to his services. I have not seen Mr. Bean for about forty years & it has been so long since that I can not remember all the circumstances that might perhaps be of benefit to him in obtaining a pension
[20 March 1834]



I Michael Ripple [pension application S32479] of the county of Edgar and State of Illinois do hereby Certify that to the best of my belief and recollection I am eighty three years of age I was a private soldier in the Revolutionary Army. I served Two years and six months in it under Colonel Lee as a private mounted Dragoon [see endnote]. I knew one Major Rose in said Service under Col. Lee. I have often been at Elizabeth Town in New Jersey. During the whole two years and six months aforesaid which I served under Col. Lee I was well acquainted with the Declarant, Nicholas Bean, who was also a Private mounted Dragoon under Col. Lee. I cannot say at what time Bean enlisted or went into the Service but I knew him during two years and six months as aforesaid and I left him in the Service when I was Discharged. I think said Bean was in the Battles of Bunker's Hill [17 Jun 1775], Long Island [27 Aug 1776], King's bridge [17 Jan 1777], Black River [see endnote], Brandywine & others.
Subscribed and sworn before me this 16^h day of April AD 1834 Michael hisXmark Ripple

NOTES:

In his own pension application Michael Ripple did not claim to have served under Lee. The only known battle at a place called Black River is usually referred to as the Battle of Tearcoat Swamp in South Carolina, which on 25 Oct 1780. Lee's Legion was not involved.

On 16 April 1834 Isaac Bean, 40, certified that he had always understood that his father, Nicholas Bean, had been a soldier of the Revolution.