

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

Pension Application of Reuben Blankenship S32120
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Alabama } County Court August Term 1832
Shelby County Ss }

On this 21st day of August personally appeared in open Court before Leonard Tarrant Judge of the County Court of the County of Shelby State of Alabama now sitting Reuben Blankenship a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged about sixty 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 7th 1832 – that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated –

That he was drafted in the Militia of Virginia in Bedford County in the year 1779 as he now thinks to serve on a tour of two months in guarding some tory prisoners in Bedford old town at a place called New London [now in Campbell County] under Capt. Cottrell [sic: John Cotrell], and continued till the prisoners were removed to Williamsburg, where he was dismissed without any discharge

That during his second tour he served as a substitute in the place of Jesse Burton under one Captain [Joseph] Poindexter, and Obediah Clay our Lieutenant, for a tour of three months – joined the service in Bedford County, were ordered to rendezvous at Charlotte courthouse, from which place they marched to Petersburg, our Major was on De Cloman [sic: Christian Charles de Klauman] under Col. Maryweathers [sic: probably Thomas Meriwether] – our General was by the name of [Robert] Lawson. From Petersburg we were marched, as volunteers under Colo. Parker, with about a hundred others, to a place called Long bridge [sic: Great Bridge in present Chesapeake] low down in Virginia, near the Dismal Swamp – we lay there about eight weeks – no fighting took place here – from this place we marched to Portsmouth where we joined the Regular Army under the command of Baron Steuben, we were soon marched back to Petersburg where we were dismissed having served three months and without any written discharge –

That he was again drafted in Bedford County for a term of two months under Capt. Cummings, we were marched then to Prince Edward Courthouse, our place of rendezvous. Our Major was De Cloman under Colo. Maryweathers and General Lawson. We then were marched to the pointed fork [sic: Point of Fork at the confluence of James and Rivanna rivers], Ross' plantation, on James River – from this place we were soon marched to Jude's Ferry on James River [near Subletts in Powhatan County] we remained there about three weeks, when we marched to Jamestown – here our term of service expired and we were dismissed without any written discharge

Applican states that he was principally employed in marching as before stated but was in no battles – Applicant states that he has no documentary evidence by which to establish his claim – having been dismissed without any written discharge. That he does not know of any person living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service – That his associates he left in Virginia and knows not that any of them are living

He hereby relinquishes every claim 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 — Reuben hisXmark Blankenship
Interrogatories propounded by the Court pursuant to the directions of the War Department answered
Answer to the 1st. I was born in Chesterfield County in 1765

Answer 2^d. I have no record of my age

Answer 3^d. I was living in Bedford County Virginia. I was drafted twice and once a substitute for Jesse Bunton

Answer to 4th. I knew Baron Steuben – Gen'l. Lawson Maj'r. Da Cloman Capt. Poindexter – And Capt. Cottrell

Answer 5th.

I never had any written discharge

Answer 6th.

Richard C. Shackelford Abraham Smith Charles Mundine Amos Elliott [neighbors who could testify to his character for veracity and the belief of his services]

NOTES:

On 19 Aug 1837 Reuben Blankenship stated that he had been living in Talladega County AL for the previous two years and six months.

Elizabeth Blankenship of Coosa County AL, widow of Reuben Blankenship, received the final pension payment up to his death on 27 Oct 1850. Another document states that Reuben Blankenship died in Coosa County leaving the following children: Henry, Polly, Eda(?), Susan, James, Mark, Neiles Green & Rhoda."