

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of James Paull S3631

PA VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Pennsylvania } Ss.
County of Fayette }

On this fifteenth day of January A.D. 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before Hon. Thomas H. Baird President and Charles Porter & Samuel Nixon Esquires Associates, Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in & for said County, now sitting, James Paull Senior, a resident of Dunbar Township in the County of Fayette, and State of Pennsylvania aged about 72 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 named officers, and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service about the last of May, or first of June A.D. 1781 as a first lieutenant, and as a volunteer, his Captain was Benjamin Whaley, and commanding General, George Rogers Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark, pension application VAS269]; and that he left the service as lieutenant aforesaid about the first or middle of December 1781. This service was in what is known as “Clarke’s campaign.” Among the other officers whom he recollects as being in said campaign were Colonels Crocket [sic: Joseph Crockett], Hardin and Zechariah Morgan [sic: Zackquil Morgan], and Majors Wales [sic: George Walls] & Lowder [sic: Lowther] – also Captains Young [Thomas Young S11921] Chapman [John Chapman R13115] & Tipton [Abraham Tipton R18512] – the two last of whom were killed at the falls of the Ohio [now Louisville KY, 2 Sep 1781], and were of the Virginia State troops, and commanded by Col. Crocket & Major Wales. Major Lowder deserted us on the expedition at Blennerhassets Island in the Ohio [sic: Blennerhassett Island].

That he under orders of Gen’l. Clarke, commenced recruiting in Westmoreland now Fayette County, in May 1781 [then considered to be in Virginia], and with his company (having received his Commission as Lieutenant, signed as he thinks by Thomas Jefferson) some time early in July 1781 started from said County, and at Elizabeth Town on the Monongahela River, they went on a boat & went on by water. At Pittsburgh, they were joined by a company of Artillery under Major Craig. Having gone as far down the Ohio as the mouth of Chartiers Creek [at present McKees Rocks PA], the there encamped (that is deponent’s company) where they lay about two weeks, & where they had three men killed by Indians. Thence they proceeded on to the falls of the Ohio, where they arrived in August sometime, and garrisoned in the “old garrison.” A “new garrison” was erected at the falls where Louisville now is, in which were some troops. The “old garrison” was the lower one on the river. General Clarke’s design was to go to Detroit. But having arrived at the falls of the Ohio, upon council of officers held, it was found that men enough could not be raised in Kentucky, & the expedition fell through. That deponent with others, being dismissed, started home in October 1781. They were allowed two months to come home but it took them longer. He with about 100 others came round through Virginia, {a company or squad of six or seven of which he was one were surprized on the way by indians. all were killed or taken prisoners except deponent who escaped & travelled several days by himself.* Note by deponent before swearing & subscribing to this declaration. The incident related in the part here enclosed in brackets is inserted here by mistake. It took place on his return from Crawfords defeat.} That Major Craigs artillery came up the river by water. That deponent got home to Westmoreland or Fayette County Penn’a. about the first or middle of December 1781.

Deponent further swears that about the 1st of August 1778 he was drafted to serve a months duty in guarding the Continental stores at Redstone old fort now Brownsville Fayette County Pennsylvania on the Monongahela River – that he served one month. Robert McGlaughlin [Robert McLaughlin] was either Captain or lieutenant of the company to which he belonged. Deponent was in this service a private. Had

not much to do during the months service – swam in day time & stood centry at night.

Deponent further swears that about the 1st of April 1782 he was again drafted to serve as a private, on a months tour of duty at Turtle Creek, on the Monongahela River above Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. That he served one month on this service under Captain Joseph Beckett – no other Officer recollected.

Deponent further swears that a day or two after he returned home from the last mentioned tour of duty, in May 1782 he again entered the service in what is called “Crawfords Campaign” [William Crawford BLWt921-500] to Sandusky as a private volunteer. his Captain was John Biggs – his lieutenant Edward Stewart, & ensign Wm. Crawford [William Crawford] nephew of Colonel Crawford: the leader of the campaign. No other officers are recollected. The Officers mentioned all got killed returning home from the battle [4-6 Jun 1782]. That he with others set out from home about the 10th May 1782 and went first to Mingo bottom on the Ohio River, where they remained while troops were coming in for a few days. then marched directly on to Sandusky, – was engaged in the battle of Upper Sandusky on the 4th June 1782 called Crawford’s defeat. That he returned home & left the service about the middle of June 1782.

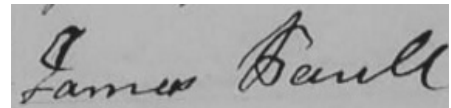
Deponent has no documentary evidence to prove his services as herein before stated, neither are there any persons with whom he served, whose testimony he can conveniently procure. He has been told that his Captain in Clarke’s Campaign – Benjamin Whaley [31472] was living a year or two since in Kentucky some where near Lexington, but where exactly or whether living now he knows not. Also that David Shelby a private in same campaign was some time ago living in Ohio near Circleville, but where exactly, or whether living now he knows not. If either of those men are living now & they could be conveniently got at, he could bring their testimony to prove his service in said campaign. Besides them he knows of no others, who could testify to any of his services whose testimony could without great trouble & expence be procured.

Deponent has no discharge or commission now in his possession. A written discharge he never had that he recollects of – his Commission is long since lost.

In answer to the Interrogatories directed to be propounded by the Court to applicants deponent states.

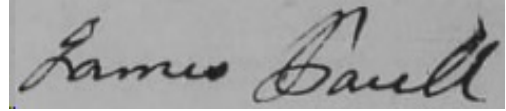
1. That he was born in Frederick, now Berkely [sic: Berkeley] County Virginia on the 17th September 1760.
2. That he has no record of his age that he knows of. His mother while living had one in a bible, but she is dead & he knows not where the said bible is.
3. When called into service he lived in Westmoreland, now Fayette County, Pennsylvania, where he lived when he entered each of his terms of service, – has lived there ever since, & now lives there.
4. In Clarkes Campaign he entered the service as a volunteer – was drafted to the tours of a month each at Redstone old fort & Turtle Creek, and was a volunteer in Crawford’s Campaign.
5. For answers to the 5th interrogatory he refers to those names of officers herein before mentioned, besides whom he recollects none others, and no other general circumstances of his service than those already stated.
6. He never recieved a discharge that he knows of. If he did it or they are lost. He recieved a commission for lieutenant when he entered service in Clarke’s Campaign, signed he thinks by Thomas Jefferson as Govenor of Virginia, but it has been long lost or destroyed.
7. In answer to the seventh interrogatory deponent refers to William Davidson Esq’r. of Connellsville Isaac Meason Esq’r. Hon. Andrew Stewart Nathaniel Ewing Esq’r. of Union Town and Rev’d. John Phillips of Union Town, as persons to whom he is well known & who can certify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution, with many others if necessary. 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.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.



State of Pennsylvania Ss.
Fayette County

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & for said County James Paull Senior who being duly sworn deposed 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 mentioned below, and in the following grades: For six months I served as a first lieutenant; For three months (i.e. three several periods of one month each) I served as a private; and for such service I claim a pension.
Sworn to & subscribed January 15th 1833 before me

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Paull".

NOTE: A letter dated 18 Aug 1838 refers to "the known celebrity of Col. Paull throughout Western Penna."