

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Shadrach Battles S37713

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 Jun 2017.

Virginia towit

On this 14th day of May 1818 before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Gen'l. Court for the State of Virginia personally appeared Shadrach Battles aged seventy years resident in the County of Albemarle in the said State who being by me first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the late act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war"

That he the said Battles enlisted in Amherst County in the State of Virginia for the term of three years in the Company commanded by Capt James Franklin of the 10th Reg't of the Virg'a. line on Continental Establishment. that Clough Shelton was his Lieut. who afterwards was advanced to a Captaincy, that he continued to serve in the said corps or in the service of the United States untill the end of three years when he was honorably discharged from service in Augusta in the State of Georgia, that he was in the Battles of Brandy Wine [sic: Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777] Monmouth [28 June 1778], Germantown [4 Oct 1777], and at storming the fort at Savannah in Georgia [9 Oct 1779] & that he is now in reduced circumstances and needs the Assistance of his Country for support. Sworn & subscribed the date above stated ~

Virginia

At a Superior Court of Law continued and held for Albemarle County the 11th day of October 1820

On this 11th day of October 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record for said County Shaderich Battles aged about seventy four years resident in said County who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows to wit; that he enlisted about the year 1777 or 1778 under Capt. Franklin of the tenth Virginia regiment attached to General Weedens [sic: George Weedon's] Brigade, that he continued in in the said Corps or in the service of the United States for three years and upwards untill the close of the war when he was honourably discharged that he was in the battles of Brandywine, Jerman Town, and Maunmouth Courthouse in New Jersey that he made a declaration in [blank] and that he has obtained a pension certificate numbered [blank] which he has lost or mislaid and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any other manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with Intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of the act of congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereunto annexed Viz: one broad axe, one oven and one hand saw.

Shaderick hisXmark Battles

And the said Shaderick Battles further declareth that his occupation is a carpenter and that he is infirm and unable longer to support himself by his labour that he has a wife about sixty years old very infirm. Sworn to and subscribed before the said Court setting this 11th day of October 1820 The Court doth certify that the property in value exhibited in the aforesaid schedule does not exceed the sum of five dollars and that this Court is a Court of record being legally so constituted by State authority.

Dear Sir [The hon'ble Hugh Nelson Esqr, Washington]

Staunton 24th Nov'r 1820

I take the liberty of enclosing to you the papers of Henry Painter & Shadrach Battles two revolutionary soldiers both of whom reside in your County & consequently have some claim to your

friendly services in aiding their efforts to obtain pensions. They are both men of good character & are far advanced in life & are in the lowest grade of poverty. Battles is a man of color was the right hand man of Clough Shelton at the Storming of Stony point [in New York, 15 July 1779] and in all the daring acts of that most intrepid officer. Independent of the enclosed papers he made his declaration in my Court holden at Charlottesville in Oct'r last when he was in such a low state of health that he was brought to court in a litter. At that time he was supported by the Charity of his neighbours. You will discover from the enclosed papers how long these poor fellows have been asking for their rights under the late act of Congress which have been evaded under the most frivolous pretexts. It is surely an excellent trait in the character of public officers to guard faithfully the public Treasure, but certainly that principle ought not to be carried so far as to produce injustice particularly with decrepid Ignorant men claiming to be objects of public Charity. The last declaration of Painter was made as you will perceive in the county court of Augusta which has been duly certified by the Clerk This has been rejected & a form enclosed to him for a transfer of the place of paying his pension – I presume this can only be necessary after a man has obt'd a pension in One state & removed to another to enable him to draw it more conveniently but surely in an original application no such Form can either be proper or necessary. The requiring it shows how superficially this subject has been attended to. If you think with me that the objections to these claims heretofore are groundless and ought not to have been made I hope you will contend that their pensions shall commence from the dates of their first declaration made before me.

Accept my best wishes for your health & happiness [signed] Arch. Stuart
NB. If you get the Warrant enclose them to me as painter lives nearer Staunton than Charlottesville.
Battles also lives in the uper part of the County

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I do certify that I was acquainted with Shadrack Battles and he was a good and faithfull soldier for three years and was in the battle of brandy wine and Germantown
May 16th 1821 Edw Hughes [Edward Hughes S5574]

I certify that Shadrack Battles of Albermarle County and State of Virginia thus I was a private in the 10th Virginia Rigtmt a man of colour and served three years as a private and was in the battle of brandywine, Monmouth Courthouse, Germantown, Savanah Shadrack hisXmark Battles
[24 May 1821]

NOTE: A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates taken at Cumberland Old Courthouse lists Shadrack Battle/ age 26/ height 5' 10¼"/ black hair/ yellow eyes/ yellow complexion/ planter/ born in Albemarle County/ residing in Louisa County/ enlisted 14 Dec 1781. Sized on 15 Dec 1781. Previously served two years. "Sentenced by Court Martial to serve 2 years"