

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Prince Bent S38541

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Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Rhode Island

On this Seventeenth day of April 1818, before me the Subscriber, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Washington in said State,

Personally appears Prince Bent a man of Colour (being Born in Africa his age cannot be ascertained and he is far advanc'd Resident in Hopkinton in the County and State aforesaid who being by me first duly Sworn according to Law, doth, on his Oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by 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 Prince Bent enlisted (in March 1778) in Hopkinton in the County and State aforesaid under Lieut David Johnson joined the Company Commanded by Capt Elijah Lewis in Colo Green's [sic: Christopher Greene] Regiment (after Commanded by Colo [Jeremiah] Olney) then at East Greenwich; that he continued to serve in said corps or in the service of the United States, until about June 1783 as near as he can Recollect when he was discharged from Service in Albany (at the hospital in the State of New York That his certifycate certifyd That he served Five year Three Months and some Days that he carried his Furlow in his Pocket got it wet and it come to Pieces That he was in the Battle on Rhode Island [29 Aug 1778] in Sulivans Expedition [sic: Gen. John Sullivan's Indian expedition, summer and fall 1779] That he was after words taken Prisoner by the Enemy on gard at Quitnent Neck [sic: probably Quidnessett Neck] he was carried to Newport where he was a prisoner about Eight Months then carried to Holmeses hole Martha's Vineyard where he & for others in the night Stole a boat and made their escape to New Bedford and Joined the army again at East Greenwich That he was in the Battle at York Town at the Taking of Corn Wallace [sic: capture of Cornwallis at the siege of Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781] that he wintered in Philadelphia was at Planks Point [possibly Verplanck Point on Hudson River] Saratoga Swego [sic: Oswego] &c.

That he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for Support, and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

Sworn to and declared before me, the day and year afore said — Personally appears Colo Thomas Noyes of Westerly in the County and State aforesaid and under Oath Declares he has been acquainted with the said Prince Bent from a Boy That he was knowing to his Enlistment and after saw him while a soldier in Colo C. Green's Regiment That he the said Thomas Noyes was a Lieut in the Army at the same time

State of Rhode Island }
Washington County Ss }

I hereby certify that the within named Prince Bent a man of Colour, who from the best Information I can obtain is aged about sixty four years Is a man in Indigent Circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for his support

Given under my hand at Westerly
this 5th Day of March 1819
Amos Cross C.J.C.C. Pleas

It appears by the Regimental Book, That Prince Bent, a coloured man, residing in Hopkinton in this State, on the third day of March 1778 inlisted into the Army of the United States a Private Soldier to serve during the War That he did serve from the time of his inlistment aforesaid in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Christopher Greene and afterward by Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Jeremiah Olney, in the Rhode Island Line on the Continental Establishment, until the fifteenth day of June 1783 when he received a Furlough, which eventuated in an absolute discharge from the service of the United States and said Regiment, at Saratoga in the State of New York. Jno L. Dexter Major of Providence February 22nd 1819. said Regiment at the close of the Revolutionary War.

State of Rhode-Island & Providence-Plantations.

WASHINGTON, SC —Court of Common Pleas, Special Term, A.D. 1820

ON this fifth day of July 1820, personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of Record within and for the County of Washington, in the State of Rhode-Island, &c. Prince Bent, aged sixty Years residing in the Town of Hopkinton 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: – first in the Regiment Commanded by Colo. Greene and afterwards under Colo. Olney for the space of five years and six Months when he was honorably discharged

That he made a previous Declaration on the Seventeenth Da of April 1818, and that he received a Certificate for a Pension, being No. 8509 – And in pursuance of the Act of Congress, passed May 1st, 1820, 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 manner whatever, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it, as to bring myself within the provisions of an 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,” panned 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 hereto annexed, and by me subscribed.

Prince hisXmark Bent

A SCHEDULE of Property and Income, (necessary clothing and bedding excepted) of Prince Bent (to Wit) a Small Swine Six Old Chairs 1 Iron Pott and 1 Tin Kettle 3 Tubs and 2 Pails 1 Old Table 6 Earthen Plates 6 Cups & Saucers & Tea pott Some Trifling Other Crockery Ware Two Old Barrels 1 Woolen Wheel 1 hoe & three tin pans 6 knives and forks on Stone Jug. “That he is by profession a Labourer that he is Severely Afflicted with Rhumatism so much as to have almost lost the use of his Limbs that he is unable to Labour and wholly dependant on his Country for Support.

Prince hisXmark Bent

[value of property assessed at \$9.52]