

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Bryant S39220

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

To the Honorable Secretary at War.

The subscriber William Bryant represents that he enlisted as a regular soldier in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six (1776) under Capt. John Brunt [sic: John Brent] in the fourth Virginia Regiment and afterwards served under Capt Reddick [sic: Jason Riddick] of Nansemond County Virginia – and afterwards under Capt. Claiborn Lawson [sic: Claiborne W. Lawson] and James Grey [James Gray] and Capt Robert Beal [sic: Robert Beall] and continued in service until the close of the Revolutionary War. – he was a soldier at the Battles of Trenton [26 Dec 1776] Princeton [3 Jan 1777] Brandywine [sic: Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777] and Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] and was taken a prisoner at Charleston [12 May 1780]

his certificate of discharge was burned in his house soon after war at which time he lost all his papers. he further represents that he is now about sixty four years of age and resides in the State of Tennessee in Davidson County. he is in indigent circumstances and has a family to support and he is so much worn down with age and bodily infirmity that he cannot procure a support without much difficulty and that as he is informed all of the captains under whom he served are dead and that he does not know of any officer of the Revolutionary army within convenient distance to whom he apply for testimony of the facts set forth in this memorial

he begs leave to refer to the certificate of Judge Peter Johnston of Virginia and also to the annexed certificate of many respectable citizens of Charlotte and Prince Edward County Va. where he was well known & resided before his moval to the state of Tennessee

he therefore prays to be allowed a pension form the Untied States of such sum as by law he may be entitled for the short residue of his life

[signed 16 Apr 1818] Wm Bryant

This is to certify that Wm Briant was a soldier in the late war, that he enlisted early in the year 1776 in Capt. Brents company from Charlotte County & continued in service to the end of the war

Godfrey Jones

[Certified 1 Dec 1807]

Prince Edward March 21st 1808

This is to Certify that William Briant enlisted as a Soldier Under Capt. Brent from Charlotte County Virg'a. a Revolutionary officer Early in the year 1776 and reinlisted in December the same year to serve to the end of the War which time he served – Given Under my hand this 21st March 1808

James Morton late Lieut. 4th Virg'a. Reg't.

State of Tennessee, West. Davidson County.

On this 27th day of July 1820 personally appeared in open court, of the court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of Davidson County and State of Tennessee, William Bryant aged sixty five years, four months and twenty four days, resident in Davidson County and State aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth, on his oath, declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows. in the Virginia line, fourth regiment, commanded by Col. Lawson, Col. Stephen and Col. Nevill and lastly in the company of Capt. Robert Beall, and that, as well as he reccollects, his original declaration was made on the 16th day of April 1818 and that he has drawn pensions from the agent for West Tennessee at Nashville and that the number of his pension certificate is four thousand, eight hundred and eleven.

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 manner 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 person 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 hereto annexed and by me subscribed. And this deponent further states that he is a farmer by occupation and from age and infirmities is scarcely able to pursue his occupation, and that he has only in his family, a wife who is helpless, and has been in that situation the best part of twelve years) aged fifty two years & a Son) who is healthy and active) aged twelve years; that the name of his wife is Elizabeth, and the name of his son is Hartwell Meekins Bryant.

Sworn to & declared on the 27th day of July 1820 before Thomas Edmiston, J Horton & Thomas Claiborne holding by law the said court
Wm Bryant

NOTE: The file contains a letter dated 2 Sep 1845 from H. M. Brant of Bellefonte AL.