

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Benjamin Williams S40693

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky SS.

On this Twelfth day of August 1818 before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Circuit Court for the said State, personally appeared Benjamin Williams, aged Fifty six years, resident in Bourbon County in said State, 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 Benjamin Williams, enlisted in the year 1780, he believes in the month of February, in Hagerstown in the State of Maryland, in the company commanded by Capt John Smith of the 6th Regiment of the Maryland Continental line, that he continued to serve in said Corps or in the service of the United until the conclusion of the War, when he was discharged from service in Anapolis [sic: Annapolis] in said State of Maryland; that he was in the battles of Cambden, or Gates's defeat [Battle of Camden SC where Gen. Horatio Gates was defeated, 16 Aug 1780], Guildford [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781], Eutaw Springs [SC, 8 Sep 1781], Cow Pens [Battle of Cowpens SC, 17 Jan 1781] and Seige of 96 [Seige of Ninety-Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781]. that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support, that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services and that has never received a pension from the United States.

Commonwealth of Kentucky } SS
& Circuit of Bourbon }

On this [blank] day of [blank] in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty [Certified 21 Sep 1820], personally appeared in open Court, being a court of record holden in and for said Circuit & Commonwealth, Benjamin Williams resident in Bourbon County & Circuit aforesaid, aged about or near sixty years who being sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows, to wit, three years & eight months in the company commanded by Captains Truman [possibly Alexander Trueman], Dobson & Bett [Beatty?] of the sixth & second regiments of the Maryland line on Continental establishment as more fully detailed in his original declaration, in the War office dated on the twelfth day of August one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, in pursuit of which he has been inscribed on the pension list roll of the Kentucky agency at the rate of eight dollars per month & has received a certificate thereof dated on the sixth day of September one thousand eight hundred and nineteen No 14.118 - now in his possession. And he does solemnly swear that he was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18 March 1818 and that he has 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 persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War; and that he has not nor has any person in trust for him, any property or securities contracts or debts due to him; nor has he any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed.

Schedule of the estate of Benjamin Williams the aforementioned Revolutionary soldier, wearing apparel and bedding excepted - to wit,
About six acres of land lying in Bourbon County on Flat River, held by bond, and the same pledged to Abraham Bahia to secure him in the payment of about thirty three dollars of debt.
One Cow - two hogs —
A small portion of household and kitchen furniture -
Some few carpenters tools

He is indebted to Abraham Bahia about thirty three dollars — To Samuel Blacke[?] about 16 dollars — to James Waites about ten dollars — to Young & Arnold he supposes about 9 dollars & to Robert Shields about ten dollars.

He has a wife & one child living with him to support, and feels a total inability thro' age and debility to go through a days work without injuring himself at his trade, being a carpenter.

Benjamin Williams of the County of Bourbon, State of Kentucky, respectfully represents - That he enlisted on or about the year 1778 as a soldier in the Sixth Maryland Regiment on continental establishment, in the company commanded by Capt. Truman. That the said Regiment was commanded by Colo. Otho H. Williams - that he was marched to the north, and continued with the army, under the Command of Gen'l. Washington, till the Spring of 1780 - that he was present at the Battles of Trenton [26 Dec 1776] - Princeton [3 Jan 1777] - Germantown [4 Oct 1777] - Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] and Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] — that Seven Regiments of the Maryland line were ordered to the South - and he accompanied them and was attached to the sixth Regiment till after Gates defeat - and in consequence of the great loss sustained by the Maryland Regiments they were broken up and formed into two Regiments. That after the troops were then reorganized, he was attached to the company commanded by Capt. Henry Dobson who was killed at Eutaw Springs — that he continued to serve in the second of the two Regiments aforesaid, till the last of the summer or early in the fall of 1782, when he embarked with the troops from Charleston, South Carolina, for Anapolis, where he arrived and was disbanded, after waiting for orders for two or three weeks. He does not recollect by whose orders the troops were disbanded they were drawn up and as well as he can now remember Gen'l. Smallwood, Gen'l. [Mordecai] Gist & Colo. Williams, were present, when the troops were disbanded. that he never received a regular discharge in writing nor does he believe that any other soldier ever did. He therefore asks that the land bounty allowed by law shall be awarded to him.

He further represents that he does [sic] know of a single person now alive who can testify to the correctness of the foregoing statement - that he is now, and has for a number of years, been a pensioner, under the act of Congress passed in 1818 & that he believes the testimony filed with his declaration will sustain his claim aforesaid to land bounty. And he begs that reference may be made to it. [signed 9 July 1834] Benjamin Williams

State of Ohio } SS
County of Highland }

On this 27th day of April 1834 Before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for the said County of Highland personally appeared Benjamin Williams, who on his oath declares that he is the same person who formerly belonged to the Company Commanded by Captain Henry Dobson in the Regiment Commanded by Colonel [Benjamin] Ford in the service of the United States. That his name was placed on the pension Roll of the State of Kentucky from whence he has lately removed - and that he now resides in State of Ohio in the said County of Highland - where he intends to remain and wishes his pension to be there payable in future. The following are his reasons for removing from the state of Kentucky to the state of Ohio - towit - to better my condition in life - and to procure Land for my Children at a smaller price than I could get it in Kentucky at and thereby increase their means of making a living in the world

[signed] Benjamin Williams