

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Barzilla Phillips S41071

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Transcribed by Derek Driver, Reece Phillips, Aaron Plummer, Drake Dragoo, and
Dillon Deckard

9/19/12

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Barzilla Phillips, private.

Rutland County, Vt. [Vermont]

1777 to 1780, in Colonel William Davies's regiment Virginia line.

16th February, 1819

Not on rolls [note written in different handwriting]

Thomas Hammond, judge.

R: Temple, Clerk, Clerk of Rutland county court, Rutland.

Barzilla Phillips

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I Barzilla Phillips of Tinmouth in the county of Rutland and state of Vermont aged fifty seven years do declare that in the fore part of the year 1777 I enlisted a soldier in Capt. Moseley's [perhaps, Capt. William Moseley's] company in the 14th regiment of the Virginia line of Continental Troops- the regiment was commanded by Col. Wm. Davis [William Davies]-- the lieutenants of the company were G. Holland [George Holland] and J. Johnson. After my enlistment I was by order inoculated for smallpox at Alexandria. On my recovery I joined Col. Davis' Regiment sometime in the summer of the same year- 1777- The Regiment soon after marched to join the main army under Genl. Washington in Pennsylvania- about the same time I was, with others detached and sent to guard the stores at Lancaster [Pennsylvania] – I continued on duty at Lancaster until the winter following, when by order I joined my regiment in the cantonments of Valley Forge- [then?] our army in June of 1778 marched to the northward in pursuit of the enemy, who had evacuated Philadelphia. I was left sick in the hospital- on my recovery, I again joined my regiment at the White Plains in the state of New York. The Regiment was now by some new arrangement called the First Regiment- from the White Plains we went to West Point and we were employed in building and repairing Fort Putnam and other duty until winter came on and then went into the winter quarters at Middlebrook, New Jersey- In the latter part of the winter, of 1779, I, with several others of the Virginia line went home on furlough- when our furloughs were expired we were ordered on duty in Virginia with the eighteen months men so called under the command of General Scot [probably, Charles Scott], with them I served some time- at Fredericksburg at Williamsburg and at Petersburg- from which last place I again joined my Regiment on their march to Charleston, South Carolina, where we arrived sometime before the capture of that place by the British Troops- on the capture of Charleston with the army under General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] I was made a prisoner- here for several months I suffered all the ill treatment and hardships to which those American prisoners were exposed until at length I made my escape with intent to join the American Army under General Green [Nathanael Greene], who as I had learned was in South Carolina. When I was arrived as I supposed within short distance of the American Troops I had the misfortune to be retaken by the 7th British regiment. I was sent back prisoner to Charleston and immediately confined on board a British prison ship. In this [?] and pestilential place I suffered a long and rigorous confinement how long it is not in my power to recollect. At last nearly naked and emaciated [?] with hunger

and cruel treatment, I continued by the assistance of a Hessian soldier or seaman who was doing duty on board the ship to effect my escape and got on board a Scotch trading vessel, the captain of which, out of compassion for my situation concealed me in the hold [hole] of his vessel until he was ready to sail for Europe; I took this step, from despair of any other means of escaping a lingering but as I supposed inevitable death -- the vessel soon sailed on her voyage and having sprung a leak and being in imminent danger of sinking was taken into the Havana in the Spanish island of Cuba. The capt. and crew were held prisoner but the Spanish authorities learning my situation and that I was an American citizen of the united states and gave me my liberty -- here I tarried sometime before I found an opportunity to return home. How long I cannot tell for I was incapable of keeping any journal or memorandum- when I found an opportunity and the means of returning the revolutionary war was closed and the troops disbanded so that I never received a regular discharge and probably will not be found in any returns after being made a prisoner in Charleston in May of 1780 having resided in the state of Vermont for more than 27 years at a great distance from all my former acquaintances and connections and in a state of poverty it is not now in my power to produce further proof of my services of my escape from the prison ship at Charleston or my detention abroad afterward. I also declare that I am a citizen of the united states residing and inhabiting within the same. I further declare that I have a small family, am reduced in my circumstances to poverty, and want stand in need of the assistance of my country for my support.

Sworn before me July 18th, 1819

Thos. Hammond Asst. Judge Rutland

County Court

I Thomas Hammond one of the judges of Rutland county do certify that it appears to my satisfaction that the said Barzilla Phillips did serve in the revolutionary war as stated in the preceding declaration against the common enemy and it further appears to my satisfaction that the reduced circumstances of said Barzilla stands in need of assistance from his country for support. And I now transmit the proceedings and testimony taken before me to the secretary of the department of war pursuant to the directions of the affirmation act of Congress- Rutland 16. Feb. 1819

Thomas Hammond

By order of judge [?]
[?] clk

State of Vermont,
Rutland, County ss.

On this 26 day of June 1820 personally appeared before the county court for said county of Rutland in open court, (said being a court of record, agreeably to the laws of this state, having the power of fine and imprisonment, &c.) Barzilla Phillips aged 60 years, resident in Tinmouth is said county of Rutland who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on this oath declare, that he served in the revolutionary war as follows: in Captain Mosely; Co. Col. Davis Regiment being 14 Virginia Regiment & in Captain Mack [?]; Co. of the 1st Virginia Regiment. Three years from this year 1777 and was a prisoner of Charleston, S. Carolina about one year that he

made his original declaration on the 16 day of July 1819 has received a Pension certificate, No. 11,243. 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 poetry, 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,” passed on the 18th day, of March, 1818;- and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property of securities, contracts or debates, due to me; nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule here to annexed, and by me subscribed. 1 pig- 3 hens and a rooster, my occupation is that of a laborer but am so afflicted with rheumatism that I can labor but little I have a wife named Phebe aged about 65 years in poor health. I have nothing due me but am now in debt.

Barzilla X Phillips
Mark

Sworn to and declared on 26 day of June 1820 before said court.

R. Pierpoint

State of Vermont
Rutland County, ss.

I, Robert Pierpoint clerk of the county court for the county Rutland do hereby certify, that he forgot oath, and the schedule thereto annexed, are truly copied from the record of the said court: - And I do further certify, that it is the opinion of the said court, that the total amount and value of property exhibited in the afore- said schedule is Two dollars.

In testimony where in' I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the seal of said court, and at Rutland this fifth day of July 1820,

R. Pierpoint