

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Bridges S47819

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky }

Mercer County }

On this 2^d day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the County court for the county of Mercer now sitting John Bridges a resident citizen of s'd County and State aged ninety years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832. Viz I John Bridges do hereby state on my oath that I am now ninety year of age & that I was born in the county of Glouster [sic: Gloucester] & state of Virginia where I resided until 1769 when I removed to the county of Charlotte in the same state where I lived when the revolutionary war commenced and when I was called into the service of my country as follows. viz In the spring of the year 1776 I volunteered in the minute militia of the State of Virginia in Capt Friends company of Col Mortins [Josiah Morton's] Regiment and marched to Petersburg and Williams Burgh [sic: Petersburg and Williamsburg] where I was stationed as a guard for two months and faithfully served out my time, and again the summer of the same year I served another tour of two months under the same officers and we were stationed the greater part of the time at & near Richmond and in the fall I served another tour of two months and marched to Richmond and Williamsburgh where I served out my term both these tours were with the same officers I served my first tour, I recollect that when I heard of the declaration of Independence I was at Savages old field, and next spring 1777 I was drafted for three months in Capt [John] Caldwell's company and I believe Col [John] Willis's Regiment under Genl [Robert] Lawson and faithfully served out my time and was honorably dischared and I was again drafted in Capt Calwells company for three months and was at the Battle of Hotwater near Williams Burgh [Hot Water Plantation, 26 Jun 1781] at which time I was under Col Campbell who was wounded at the battle and died in consequence of his wounds [probably Gen. William Campbell, died 22 Aug 1781] – and again when Genl Green was retreating from Lord Cornwallis [sic: Nathanael Greene, Feb 1781] I again volunteered in Capt Caldwells company under Col Reid [probably Edmund Read] and in Genl Waynes [Anthony Wayne's, after June 1781] Brigade when we marched to Prince Edward [County] & Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] as a guard and when my time expired I again volunteered in the same Company and Regiment and was transfered to Genl LaFayette as commander in chief. while I was with Col Campbell – Majr Hamilton was our Major who was also wounded but recovered – I was some times under Genl Lawson and some time under Genl Mughlenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] but Genl La Fayette was commander in chief – and when the British occupied Williamsburgh Majr Armstead [Thomas Armistead] applied for a detachment to attack their picketts and I was selected as one, and this detachment was nearly all cut off – and my company was then placed under Genl. Wayne, and we were ordered to attack a mill on Kings creek where there was a quantity of flour, this brought on the engagement at Green Springs [Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul 1781] with Lord Cornwallis troops near Jamestown This affair was in August 1781 [sic] as well as he now recollects This service was performed in two other tours of three months each with Capt Caldwell in the year 1781 having served with Capt Caldwell in the year 1780 & 1781 twelve months of constant service in which he marched and countermarched in the county of Prince Edward & to Richmond & Frederickburgh just as the movements of the enemy required. I further declare that my recollection of dates is at this time very much impaired, and as I was so often transfered into different Regiments and Brigades that I cannot name all my officers I was one tour under Capt Noevек[?] but I solemnly aver that in all I serve nearly three years of actual service – being first under Capt Friend in the minute service with whom I served three tours of three months and then with Capt Caldwell the next year when I marched down to Williamsburgh in Genl

Lawsons Brigade – I further declare that I have no documentary evidence of my services except those herewith enclosed, which are a Certificate of my character in 1775 – my oath of allegiance in 1777 and one discharge of July 12th 1781 after which term he serve one other tour of three months under Capt Caldwell and was stationed in the neighborhood of Fredericksburgh and was discharged only a few days before Lord Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781] –

I farther declare that I do not know of any person now alive by whom he can prove his services in this state and I hereby relinquish all claim that I may have to any pension or annuity except the present and I am not now a pensioner of the united states or of any state. Witness my hand this 2^d day of October 1832.

John hisXmark Bridges

Virginia 9th November 1775

[Torn here and elsewhere marked *] are hereunto subscribed do Certify, that the Bearer [*]dges has for the term of six years lived in this County, [*]as conducted himself as an honest, Industrious sober [*]ing neighbour, and an indulgent & carefull Master of [*] [signed] William Jameson/ [*] Carrington/ Thos. Johnston/ Chr. McCannico/ Mack Goode/ [illegible name]/ Thos. Buford/ Edm Read/ Jonathan Read/ Isaac Read/ Wm Morton/ Tho Read/ Jo Friend/ Thomas Bouldin/ James Cunningham

Charlotte County

I DO hereby certify, that John Bridges subscribed the oath or affirmation of allegiance and fidelity, [torn here and elsewhere marked *] act of General Assembly intituled An act to oblige the free ma[*] this state above a certain age to give assurance of allegiance to [*] for other purposes. Witness my hand and seal, this 16 [*] Aug 1777

James Bou[*]

Jno Bridges a Soldier in my Company of Milita from Charlotte having served his tour of duty of two Months is hereby discharged

By order Gen'l. Campbell

Jno. Caldwell Capt./ July 12th 1781

State of Kentucky }

Mercer County } This day David Prewitt an aged revolutionary soldier came before me a Justice of the peace in and for s'd county and being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statement, viz. I David Prewitt now sixty eight years of age do hereby state That I am well acquainted with John Bridges senr who has subscribed and sworn to the annexed declaration, (now presented and read to me) I lived in the county of Charlotte and State of Virginia at the time of the revolutionary war I was not put on the list until about the year 1780 myself, but as I lived in the same neighborhood in which said Bridges resided in 1776 and afterwards. I know that s'd Bridges was out in the army every year until Lord Cornwallis was taken, and I have no hesitation in saying that from what I know myself he served as a soldier of the revolution as long as he has stated, I know of his being in the army under Genl. Lawson and under Genl La Fayette when the Brittish invaded Virginia, I have often conversed with said Bridges soon after the war and since and he always made the same statement which concerned with what I knew myself. Witness my hand this 5th day of October 1832

David hisXmark Prewitt

Mercer County viz) I George Robards [pension application S31339] being first sworn according to law in open court do hereby state on oath that I have this day conversed with the within named John Bridges and he has given me a detail of events while I was with Genl La Fayette at Racoon ford [sic: Raccoon Ford on Rapidan River, June 1781] and other places which satisfied me that he was there as a soldier and I have no doubt of the fact as he has described several circumstances which are satisfactory to me. Witness my hand this 2^d day of October 1832.

[signed] George Robards

NOTE: A document in the file states that Bridges died on 14 Aug 1836.