

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Phillip Bailey S5266

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 5 Dec 2014.

State of Virginia }
County of Bedford } S.S.

On this 26th day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of Bedford County now sitting the same being a Court of record Phillip Bailey Sen'r. aged 85 years, a resident of the parish of Russel [sic: Russell] in the County and State aforesaid, 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 June the 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. The precise year he cannot recollect but it was about two years before the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781], he was drafted as a Militia man from the County of Amherst and State of Virginia but from that part which now bears the name of Nelson under the command of Captain Samuel Richardson. Being a poor man and having a crop of Tobacco growing upon rented land (for it was in the summer time the month or day he cannot recollect) he was fearful if he left it at that time he should lose it entirely and therefore hired a man of the name of John Oglesby as a substitute in his place who went accordingly and performed the duty. The Tour was one of three months duration. By reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory being also entirely blind as he has been for a length of time, and therefore unable to refer to dates and the history of the times to refresh his memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service in any of his different tours of duty, nor can he for the same reasons state the precise periods of the war in any case when he left or when he entered the service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned before and in the whole of the said service as a private soldier. Sometime during the fall of the same year that he was first drafted and employed the substitute as aforesaid, but the day or month he cannot recollect, he was again drafted as a Militia man from the same place and after meeting the rest of the men at Amherst old Courthouse the place of Rendezvous he marched from thence under the command of Capt. William Penn and was attached to the regiment under the command of Colo. John Pope, Lieutenant Col John Penn, and one Rucker was also an officer he thinks a Colo of another regiment in the same County. The company of Capt. Penn was ordered to the mouth of Rockfish River a branch of James River to which place this deponant went with the said Company. He was informed that the British were there some distance before in the County of Goochland or at least a party of them, and he supposes Capt. Penns company was stationed there to keep an eye on their movements. He believes too that about this time a united action of the enemy against Virginia was expected, but the main body of the American army having turned their attention to Virginia and having come over from the Carolinians, the enemy pretty soon decamped from the interior of the State and made the best of their way to the sea board having previously done much mischief by plundering the County which was left thus exposed to their ravages. The company of Capt. Penn and this deponant after having been in service, this tour was not less that Two months, was discharged; He received a discharge he thinks but has now lost or mislaid it, not expecting ever to want it again. The day or the month he left service he is entirely unable to tell. He knows he served out the full time required and left the service honourably. He does not remember who gave him the discharge if he did in fact ever receive one. The place where the British were at the time aforesaid [7 - 15 Jun 1781] in the County of Goochland was a place called Elk hill oposite the Elk Island in James River which had once been owned by Colo. Shelton and was at that time owned by Thomas Jefferson he thinks. Some time after this the date of the month or the year he cannot tell for the reasons before assigned but imagines it was in the fall of the next year after he was last discharged as aforesaid he was again drafted as a militia man from the same place and marched thence under the command of Captain John Loving to Chesterfield County near Richmond where he was stationed for the purpose as he supposes of watching

the enemy and to be used as necessities might require. On their way to this place he marched through the Counties of Albemarle, Goochland, Henrico and the City of Richmond where they crossed James River at the place called Rockets [Rocketts Landing E side of James River about 1 mi below old Richmond]. They remained at their station and this deponant continued there in the service Three months and not less than Three months when he was honourably discharged from the service of his country for that full tour. He thinks he received a written discharge from Colo. Pope but cannot be positive. if he ever did it is now lost or mislaid. His son some years since moved to Missouri and took a number of old papers with him belonging to this deponant and he thinks his discharges were amongst them. The main army was then in Carolina. A short time after this in the latter part of the same fall or the first of the winter the date of the year or month he cannot tell for the reasons above specified volunteered under Captain William Harris and marched from the same place in the preceeding tours to the County of Goochland for the purpose of watching the movements of the enemy who it was expected would again make some further incursions upon the Country but they did not at that time. After being in actual service this time not less than one month and ten days, this deponant was again honourably discharged, the day he left the service in this instance or in any of the preceeding service he cannot now remember at this distant time owing to the reasons above specified. He does not remember that he ever received a written discharge for the last mentioned service but if he ever did it is now lost. After the last of his actual service aforesaid the men were divided into districts of five each and this deponant and the other four of his class employed a man to go in the place of one of the five (who was required and he in the fall of the year went accordingly as their substitute and returned home in a short time as it was soon after that Cornwallis surrendered. This deponant never was in any battle, any skirmish or engagement whatever and never in fact joined the main army as will be seen by reference back to the detail of his services. He is therefore unable to give the names of any of the regular or field officers except as above, and he had no acquaintance with any of the continental or militia Regiments having never been with any of them or near them. For the above specified periods of services of Two months at one time, three months at another time and one month and ten days at another in the whole amounting to Six months and ten days he claims a pension, and indeed is much in want of such assistance as he is entirely blind, miserably poor and unable to work. He has no documentary evidence of any kind by which to prove his services but refers to the affidavits of Susan Oglesby and Caney Witt who prove his services circumstantially, but he knows of no person who can testify to his actual service whose testimony he can procure. He was born in the County of Goochland in the State of Virginia in the year 1749 as he has been told and is now 85 years of age or thereabouts. He has no record of his age nor did he ever have that he recollects. He lived in Amherst at the time he entered the service. He has lived since the Revolutionary war in the County of Amherst in the State of Virginia Six years, from there he came over to Bedford County the lower part of it, there he lived about four years. He then went into the County of Campbell where he lived awhile and from thence he removed to the County of Bedford where he has resided ever since and and now resides there. He is known to Thomas Preston and James Campbell in his present neighbourhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the Revolution. He does not believe he can procure the certificate of a clergyman as required by law there being none immediately in his present neighbourhood that have known long enough to have been acquainted with any part of his services from common reports and having so often moved since the war of the Revolution he is utterly unable to procure the testimony of any one except the persons above named nor does he know of anyone now living that can testify to his services. He makes the following answers to the several interrogatories prescribed by the War department

To the 1st he answers ~ In the County of Goochland in the State of Virginia in the year 1749

To the second he answers ~ I have not nor did I ever have [a record of age]

To the 3^d he answers ~ I lived in the County of Amherst in the State of Virginia in that part of it now called the County of Nelson.

To the 4th he answers ~ I was drafted each time except once when I volunteered.

to the 5th he answers ~ See the body of the declaration for an answer

To the Sixth he answers ~ I think I received a discharge for all my services and I am confident from Colo. Pope. If I did for the other Tours I cant tell from whom. They are now lost or mislaid or were carried to the west by my son sometime since

To the Seventh he answers ~ See the body of the declaration for an answer.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and except the provision made for him as a pauper by the County of Bedford, if it comes within the meaning of the term "pension or annuity" (which he supposes it does not and which at most is barely sufficient for a support) and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court.

Phillip hisXmark Bailey