

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jeremiah Bishop S6636

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } Ss

County of Dinwiddie }

On this 20th day of August, 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the County Court of Dinwiddie County, now sitting Jeremiah Bishop, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged seventy seven 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 June 7th 1832;

That he entered the service of the United States, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated, towit; That in the year 1776 previously to the Declaration of Independence by Congress, but he does not recollect the precise date, he entered the service as a volunteer militia rifleman for a tour of three months, under Capt. Edward Walker of the County of Dinwiddie, where the declarant then & has ever since resided – that James Reese was the Lieutenant, and Edward Pegram Ensign under said Walker; That the Company was marched to Hampton, where it was placed under the command of Colo. Francis Eppes, to whose Reg't. the company remained attached until its discharge on the expiration of the three months; That during their service at Hampton, News of the Declaration of Independence arrived, and the Declarant remembers was received by the troops with great approbation and public rejoicings. That he re'd. no individual discharge when this tour of duty ended, but that the discharge was given on one paper to the Company which he recollects to have seen subsequently in the hands of Ensign Pegram by whom he learnt it was sent from Hampton to Dinwiddie. That afterwards, (but he recollects none of these dates with precision – kept no memorandum of them, indeed could not write) he was called out as a drafted militiaman under Capt. Peterson Goodwyn of the said County (and who subsequently represented the district in Congress,) and was stationed at Smithfield in Virginia where the company completed the three months tour for which they had been called out. That he can not at this remote day, & having been so frequently out under different officers, recal to his recollection who were the Superior officers to whose command this company was attached at Smithfield.

That on a subsequent call, he was placed in a regular draft under the command of Capt. John Burwell for another three months tour of service – that Alex'r. Walker [Alexander Walker] was his Lieutenant, but Declarant does not recollect the Ensign. That the company marched to Cabin Point [in Surry County] and other places on James River, where he recollects that the corps was reviewed and trained by Baron Steuben, and that Colo. J. Banister [John Banister] commanded the Regiment to which this company was attached.

That he served the next tour of three months (as a drafted militia man, as on all occasions subsequently to the first,) under Capt. Rich'd. Jones [Richard Jones], and was stationed principally at Williamsburg and was attached to a Reg't. commanded by Colo. Joseph Jones.

That he served the next tour under Capt. Wm. Meanly [William Meanly] and served principally at Bab's old field near Bland's Mills and other places on James River for the same period – three months; but cannot now recollect the name of any other officer, at that time in command there.

That he served the next tour of three months service as afores'd. under Capt. John R. Davis who had been previously for several years in the regular service, & under whom the declarant was placed at Petersburg. His Lieut. was Wm Hudson [William Hudson], and his Ensign ___ Eppes. That during this tour he was present at the cannonading which took place between two British Ships at City Point and the American Artillery on shore, commanded by Capt. Rich'd. Hill [Richard Hill], whose company served in the artillery. That he was also at Stono's Mill where he saw Gen'l. [Robert] Lawson who he understood commanded all the troops in that neighbourhood. He recollects also to have seen Colo. [Ralph] Faulkner

there. That subsequently he was one of a detachment called down to Petersburg to guard the Magazine there where he remained in service, he thinks but three weeks, when he was discharged. He was commanded during the time by John Jackson an Ensign.

The next and only remaining occasion on which he was called on to render militia service during the war was under Capt. Baker Pegram who was ordered to march with his company to York town in Va. but on the arrival of the company at Petersburg on their way, intelligence was re'd of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781], and the company was there discharged within very few days after they had been called out. He further states that his brother James Bishop [pension application S6637], now living and residing in his neighbourhood served as a soldier with him in all the different tours in which he was himself in service as afores'd. with the exception of the one first stated at Hampton, and that allowing for time lost in marching to and from the points of service to which he was called, he has ever believed himself to have served in all, about two years.

The Declarant in response to the interrogatories prescribed by the War department states that he was born & has ever since resided in the County of Dinwiddie. That he has seen what he was informed was a record of his age in an old Family Bible but that it has been destroyed many years ago; that his age as there recorded as well as satisfactory collateral information, leaves no doubt in his mind of his age being what it is above represented. That he never rec'd. any written discharge in his life, but that the militia was usually discharged by companies under regular orders he presumes but such as were only verbally communicated to the privates. And that he has no documentary evidence of the service above stated, but can proove by Wm. Nunnally [William Nunnally, pension application S5844], Nimrod Burrow, Ann Jackson, his brother James Bishop & possibly others, that different portions of this service was performed.

He the said Jeremiah Bishop hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state whatever.

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid. Jeremiah hisXmark Bishop

State of Va. Dinwiddie County towit

Personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Dinwiddie this 20th day of May 1833 Jeremiah Bishop, who made oath in addition to his former Declaration (hereto appended) to entitle him to a pension, that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, more particularly those he has heretofore done. That he knows that he served five full & complete tours of militia service of three months each, and a small part of a month as therein explained, but he cannot say positively how many days he was engaged in the last tour, or how many were occupied in returning home when discharged on other occasions, & can not be precise as to periods, except as to those five tours. And that as to those five tours while he distinctly recollects the order in which they occurred, and the officers under whom he served as before detailed he cannot recollect the date of any particular tour further than is stated in his former Declaration. That therefore he served certainly one year and four months, as a private. Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this day above mentioned.

Jeremiah hisXmark Bishop