

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Bishop S6637

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia                }  
County of Dinwiddie } Ss.

On this 20th day of August in the year 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the County Court of Dinwiddie County, now sitting, James Bishop, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged Seventy two 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 into the service of the United States, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That some time in the year 1777 but he does not recollect the dates for he has no written memoranda of his services. he was called out as a drafted militia man and performed a three months tour of duty under Capt. Peterson Goodwyn of the County of Dinwiddie (who subsequently represented the Dinwiddie district in the Congress of the United States) and was stationed at Smithfield in Va. until the expiration of the period of service. That he finds himself unable at this remote distance of time, and having been so frequently in service at different times & under different officers, to recal to his recollection the names of the superior officers, to whose command this company was attached at Smithfield.

That he was subsequently drafted in regular rotine of numbers for militia service to perform a tour of duty under Capt. John Burwell for three months – that Alex'r. Walker [Alexander Walker] was the Lieutenant of the company, but he does not recollect who was the Ensign. That the company was marched to Cabin Point [in Surry County], and other positions on James River, where the corps was reviewed and trained occasionally by Baron Steuben whom he well recollects, and that the company was attached to a regiment commanded by Colo. J. Bannister [John Banister].

That the next three months tour of duty which he was drafted to & performed was under Capt. Rich'd. Jones [Richard Jones] company. was stationed principally at Williamsburg and formed part of a Reg't. commanded by Colo. Joseph Jones.

That he served the next tour of similar service under Capt. Wm Meanly [William Meanly] and served principally at Bab's old field near Bland's Mill in Prince George and other places on James River for the same period, but does not recollect the name of any other officer, at that time in command there.

That he served the next tour, for the same period & called out in the same mode, under Capt. John R. Davis, who had been previously for several years, as was then stated, in the regular service and whose Liut. was Wm Hudson [William Hudson] and Ensign Eppes. That he was placed under command of Capt. Davis at Petersburg after having been detached in the County of Dinwiddie and marched to that place. That during this tour the troops were marched under command he thinks of Maj'r. [illegible] & Colo. Jones to City Point, where he saw the cannonade between two British ships lying there and a company of Artillery commanded by Capt. Rich'd Hill [Richard Hill]. That he was also at Stone's mill, where he remembers to have seen Gen'l. [Robert] Lawson, who he understood was the commander of all the troops in that neighbourhood. He also recollects to have seen Colo. [Ralph] Faulkner there.

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

That the only remaining service to which he was called during the war, was under Capt. Baker Pegram who was ordered, with this company detailed for the purpose, to march to Yorktown in Va. but on the arrival of the company at Petersburg on their way, they were met by intelligence of the surrender

of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] and were immediately discharged within a very few days after they had been called out. Allowing for the time consumed in marching to and from the different points at which he served, he has always computed the period of his service for his country at nearly two years.

The Declarant states that he was born in the County of Dinwiddie and has from that time and still does reside there. That there was a record of his age formerly in an old Family bible, but which has been carelessly destroyed many years ago, but that his recollection of that record and other collateral information leaves him no doubt that his age is what it is above represented. That he never re'd. any written discharge in his life – the custom having been on the expiration of a tour of service, for the Capt. verbally to discharge the whole company together, sometimes at the point where the service was rendered, & sometimes after marching them to their County, he himself acting no doubt under written orders. That he has no documentary evidence of his said services but can prove by Wm Nunnally [William Nunnally, pension application S5844], Nimrod Burrow, Ann Jackson, his brother Jeremiah Bishop [S6636] and perhaps others, that the services above detailed, or different portions of them were performed. Indeed that his brother Jeremiah served with him every one of the different tours above spoken of.

He the said James 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. James hisXmark Bishop

State of Virginia/ Dinwiddie County Sct.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace for the county aforesaid Nimrod Burrow, who being first duly sworn, states and deposes that he has allways understood and verily believes that James Bishop served may Tours in the militia dureing the revolutionary War, that he is not from his personal knowledge able to say how long he served but this he knows, that several Barbacues and treats have been given to Jeremiah Bishop and his brother James Bishop by their Neighbours on account of their services in the revolutionary war and for their zeal in that cause. sworn to & subscribed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 1822. [signed] Nimrod Burrow

State of Virginia, Dinwiddie County towit

Personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Dinwiddie James Bishop who made oath; in addition to his former Declaration to obtain a pension, hereto appended, that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise period of his service, further than he has already done. That he knows he served five complete tours of three months each – one service of three weeks and a few days when last called out but he does not recollect certainly how many days he served on that occasion, or how many were occupied in returning home on other occasions and cannot be precise except as to the said 1 year & 3 months – and as to those tours – while he recollects distinctly their order he cannot state the dates of either more particularly than in his former declaration. Sworn to & subscribed this 20th day of May 1833 James hisXmark Bishop