

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

Pension Application of Robert Bryant S6700

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina }

Wilkes County }

On this 31<sup>st</sup> day of march 1833 appeared before me Nelson A Strange an acting Justice of the peace for the aforesaid county Robert Bryant a resident of said County and State aged seventy eight 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That in March 1776 I was enrolled as a minute-man by my master to whom I was bound as an apprentice in the county of Prince Edward & State of Virginia. We stood in readiness to march at [one or two illegible words] & were to receive sixteen pence pr. day. On the sixth day of the May following fifty of us marched from the aforesaid County under Captain Charles Allen to Manchester on James River where we remained for 3 weeks & until we were joined by 2 other companies; We then immediately marched to Williamsburg down the River, where we met Col Samuel Meredith with four other companies. From this place I marched with about 150 men under Capt Allen, Capt Clay & Capt Anderson & Col. Meredith or Meredyth to the town of Hampton on the Hampton Roads. At Manchester we remained three weeks and we remained at Hampton three months when we were carried across to Portsmouth to guard that place – because the men before stationed there, being 2 year men were sent on to the North to join Genl. Washington. At this place I remained in the service until my time was expired & returned home 8 days before Christmas in the same year. The whole length of this term was seven months & eleven days. In the month of February 1779 I with fifty others were drafted at prince Edward (Va) Courthouse for the purpose of marching to the head quarters of Genl [Benjamin] Lincoln in South Carolina. The time for marching was appointed on the first of march but on account of bad weather we did not move until the sixteenth of the month. At Salisbury North Carolina we remained three weeks. On our march to that place companies from Pittsylvania, Halifax & Charlotte Counties had joined us, at that place Col. [David] Mason with several companies from Lunenburg & other counties met us. My own Captain was Henry Walker. Our march from this place lay thro Camden [SC], across the river near to that place thence across the Congaree near Col. Thompsons [William Thomson's plantation Belleville in present Calhoun County] & thence directly to the head quarters of Genl Lincoln at Kawko [sic: Caw Caw] Swamp about 12 miles from Stono River. The British as well I recollect were on James Island at the river under Gen'l. Provost or some one of similar name [Augustine Prevost]. We arrived at Head quarters on the first of June & on the twentieth [sic] of the same month as it was said Gen'l. [William] Moultrie (who as I understood was in Charleston) sent word to Lincoln to meet him near the British encampment at 8 o'clock at a certain day shortly thereafter. Lincoln moved & took his station as requested. Moultrie never appeared Lincoln engaged the British without the aid of Moultrie and inflicted a severe loss upon them [Battle of Stono Ferry, 20 Jun 1779; see endnote]. The enemy's Camp was not taken but within three or four days they deserted it & embarked & sailed around to the Savannah River. I arrived at home on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August the same year. This Term was intended to be 5 months but we lost half a month at its commencement on account of the inclemency of the season as above stated. In February (about the last of it as I believe) in the year 1781 about fifty of us resident in Charlotte County Va. volunteered to join the army of Genl Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], which at that time [mid February 1781] was laying between the Dan & Staunton Rivers – which we did the day following under Capt John Holloway. I believe we were attached to the Command of Col Wm Morton [William Morton]. Green recrossed Dan River into N. Carolina & moved on until he encountered Cornwallis at Guilford Courthouse. On the day of the battle [15 Mar] I was of the guard on the baggage waggons. It was ordered that we should repair to Frosly's Iron Works

[sic: Troublesome Iron Works] – at this place the army reassembled after the fight & on the second day it moved in pursuit of Cornwallis. I remained in service with the army until it reached the junction of the Haw & Deep River. Gen'l Green pursued no further but bent his course toward the Cheraw Hills and I returned home after having been in the service six weeks –

I was born in the year 1755 in the month of April as I have always understood but have no written memorial of my age. the place of my birth was in Prince Edward County Virginia –

In the latter part of the year 1779 I removed to Charlotte Va. where I resided for more than four years. Then I removed to Surry County N. Carolina, here I remained for three years when I returned to Prince Edward & lived five years after which I moved to Burke County of this where I lived one year when I removed to the place where I now live & have lived ever since. I believe I will be seventy eight years of age on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of April ensuing. I received a discharge for my first Term of service from Capt Allen. My Discharge for the second Term was given by Richard Holland the Lieutenant for my Capt had died a few days before the Term expired. My last discharge was signed by Capt Jno Holloway. And my last discharge was left by me with an Uncle who was in service with me & has not been seen by me since. the other two were left in my mothers chest in Virginia. She is dead & I know not what has become of my discharges

I know of no person within my convenient distance who can testify to the services here set forth. I cannot procure the evidence of any person or of any document as I believe to establish the clam herein made for my revolutionary services. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Robert hisXmark Bryant

#### NOTES:

Bryant's account is in some respects at variance with the record. See <http://southerncampaign.org/newsletter/v1n4.pdf>.

On 30 Apr 1841 Bryant requested that his pension be transferred to Tennessee, having moved to Blount County. A letter dated 31 Jan 1842 states that in Dec 1841 Bryant's mind was so enfeebled that a guardian was appointed for him, and he died on 17 Jan 1842, leaving two sons, Thompson and John Bryant.