

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

Pension Application of John Baldwin W1800

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } SS

Prince Edward County }

On this 15th day of September 1832 personally appeared before me Charles Woodson a justice of the peace in the county aforesaid, John Baldwin a resident of the county aforesaid and state aforesaid, aged seventy four years last June, who being first 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. Saith, that he was born in the year 1758, June the 25th in the county of Prince Edward in Virginia; and has resided there ever since (except that he traveled as an itinerant minister of the gospel, in the methodist church for about sixteen years)

That in the year 1777 may the 27th, as nearly as he can now remember, he enlisted as a volunteer in a company of minute men commanded by Captain Charles Allen, Lieutenant Moses Parks, and Ensign not remembered, and marched about that time to Portsmouth and Norfolk in Virginia, where he served about six months being in service somewhat more than that time say near seven months from beginning to end of the service.

That he next enlisted in a company of volunteers commanded by Captain Smith (he thinks* John Blair Smith) who was afterwards, and perhaps at that time, President of Hampden Sidney College – and he thinks Samuel Venable Lieutenant, it being a company mostly of collegians, – The date not remembered with certainty – and marched to Petersburg in Virginia, where he served a short tour of duty, say of about one month, for which he was then considered and had credit for one tour of militia service of three months.

*Note by the Justice of the peace, – Samuel S Smith and John Blair Smith were each successively Presidents of H. S. college, and the memory of the applicant being much impaired by age and infirmity does not now certainly as to which of the two was Captain of the company of Collegians C. W.

That in the month of February or march 1781, he was drafted in the militia service, and marched as a guard to waggons, under the command of John Watson, who acted as waggon or Forrage Master, and joined General Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] Army near Guilford in North Carolina a short time after the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]. That he marched with the army to Ramsays Mill on Rocky river or Deep river [Ramsey's Mill on Deep River] where he was discharged by General Robert Lawson, under whose command he was placed after he joined Genl Greens Army – having served from one to two months – That he was next a volunteer in a company commanded by Capt. Dick Holland [Richard Holland] and Lieutenant Robert Venable and marched as a guard for prisoners, to Albemarle Barracks in the summer of the year 1781, this was a short tour, say three or four weeks.

That in his first service at Portsmouth and Norfolk in Virginia he thinks the Colonel in command was Meredith – and does not remember the names of any other officers. – That in his second tour of service at Petersburg in Virginia, he thinks he was commanded by Colonel George Walker of Prince Edward County Virginia, there being only three companies in service there, and does not remember any other officers – That in his third tour of service in North Carolina, he was commanded by Colo John Holcombe, and he thinks Major Henry Skipwith, and does not remember any other officers except Generals Green and Lawson –

That as stated above he was born the 25th day of June 1758 and is now 74 years (and upwards) of age –

That he has a true copy of the record of his age now in his own possession at home, which he took from his fathers family bible, which bible was last to his knowledge in possession of his brother in law

Matthew Clark, who removed to South Carolina –

That he was living in the County of Prince Edward Virginia at all times when called into service, and has lived there at all time since the revolutionary war (except as stated above) and still lives in the same county –

That his memory is so impaired by age and infirmity that he cannot recollect the names of any other regular officers than those stated above, nor any other of the general circumstances of the service, nor any other of the continental or militia regiments

That he had discharges in writing which were accidentally destroyed –

The names of persons to whom I am known in my present neighbourhood who can testify as to my character for veracity are Colo Charles Woodson, Mr Jehue Simmons [Jehu Simmons, pension application S6093], Mr John Tuggle, Mr Edward Booker, Doct'r Merit B Allen & Mr Charles Fore – Those who can testify as to actual knowledge of part of my services and those who can testify to their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution are Mr Jehue Simmons, Colo Charles Woodson, and I suppose almost all my neighbours – He 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}

[signed] John Baldwin

State of Virginia } S.S.
Prince Edward County }

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace in and for the said county and state, who being duly sworn, depose and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and at all time in the grade of a private soldier; For at least six months in the year 1777 under the command of Captain Charles Allen and Lieut Moses Parks – for not less than one month under the command of Captain* Smith and Lieut Samuel Venable (date not remembered certainly) – For not less than one month in the year 1781 under the command of Waggon or Forage Master John Watson – For not less than fifteen days, in the summer of 1781 under the command of Captain Dick Holland and Lieut Robert Venable. In all I served as a private soldier not less than eight months and twenty one days – And am very certain I served near a month longer than above stated in 1777, and not less than fifteen days longer than above stated in my first service in 1781 – and for which service I claim a pension, for at least eight months and fifteen days.

[signed 31 May 1833] John Baldwin

NOTE: On 19 May 1849 Agness Baldwin, 80, applied for a pension stating that she married John Baldwin on 27 Sep 1797, and he died on 24 Apr 1837. The Clerk of Powhatan County stated that among the marriage records returned by Bennett Maxey were the following:

John Baldwin and Agness Towles 27th Sep. 1797

James Stratton and Dinah Russell 30th of Sep. 1797

Daniel Cheatwood & Sally Porter 20th of Oct. 1797

Benjamin Towles and Fanny Spears 24th of Jan'y 1798