

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Charles Bush W2911

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS

Henry County }

On this 18th day of January 1834 personally appeared before me Thomas M Ballard a Justice of the peace in and for Henry County and on of the Judges of the County Court of Henry Cty Charles Bush aged 80 years who being first duly swon according to law doth on his oath make following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832

This declarent states that he was residing in Orange County State of Virginia when he entered the service of the united States and served as herein stated and under the following named officers that in the year of 1780 in the month of December a draft was ordered in the county of Orange under which he was drafted for a tour of three months, he states that the company to which he belonged rendezvoused at Orange Courthouse and was Commanded by Capt Hunter he states that Capt Hunter's Company was attached to Coln Ennis' [sic: James Innes's] regiment and in that regiment he states that he did march from said County of Orange to Richmond, thence they were ordered and marched from the town of Richmond to Williamsburg, and after remaining a short period in Williamsburg, they were then marched to Norfolk, whhere he remained until the three months for which he had been drafted expired when he was discharged by his Capt Hunter in the month of march 1781. He further states that on returning home that he moved his family into Albemarle County. about this time he states that the brittish army was making inroads into the country and spreading alarm and distraction throughout that part of Virgin a draft was ordered in the county of Albemare in the month of may when he was again drafted for a term of three months he states that he belonged to Capt Carr Company. he states that he did march from Albemarle County under the command of Capt Carr to Richmond and joined the main army commanded by General Washington after remaining at Richmond for a short time the army grew short of provisions when Capt Carr and a part of the company were sent into the country to press beeves for the army he states that he did go with Capt Carr in pursuit of Beeves for the army and as soon as they collected a suficient number that he aided by some more of Capt Carr's men drove them to the army in this occupation he states he continued until his three months expired when he was discharge by his said capt Carr in the month of August 1781. He further states that in the month of September 1781 that he was again drafted into the service of the united States from said County of Albemarle for a tour of three months and served under Capt John Woods he states that from his having driven Beeves upon his second tour and hiving faithfully discharged his duty, that he was again sent with the press master into the Country to Collect Beeves and take them to the army. he states that he did drive Beeves from the month of Sept to the army until after the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] when he was discharged by his Capt Woods in writing

he states that from old age and bodily infirmity that he is unable to appear in open Court to make his declaration he states that he has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no living witness by whom he can prove said service

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 Charles his mark Bush

Interrogatories put by the Magistrate

Ques Where and in what year were you Born?

Ans. I was Born in Culpeper County State of Virginia in the year of 1754

Ques. Have you any record of your age

Ans. I have my age recorded in my Bible

Ques Where were you living when called in the service} where have you lived since the revolutionary war} and where do you now live

Ans. When I first entered the service I was living in Orange County State of Virginia. I then moved in Albemarle County State of Virginia where I was living when I was called into the service the second and third time I remained in Albemarle County until the year of 1786[?] I then moved to Craigs Station near the Crab orchard in Lincoln County State of Kentucky. I then moved to Fayette County where I remained until the year 1819 when I moved to Henry County where I now live

Ques How were you called into the service. were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Ans. I was drafted three times for three months each

Ques. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served and such continental and militia regiments as you recollect and the general circumstances of our service

Ans. Of the Regular officer I remember of seeing General Washington General Lafayette and General [Anthony] Wayne as two thirds of my time were spent in driving Beeves and being but a short time with the army, I have not an opportunity of becoming acquainted with many of the officers

Ques Did you ever receive a discharge and by whom was it signed

Ans. I did receive three written discharges [two or three illegible words] By my then Captains, Hunter Carr and Woods. these discharges I have lost not thinking that I should ever need them

State the names of some of your neighbours who can testify to your character for veracity and the belief of your service as a soldier of the revolution? I will name Mr Amasa Thompson and Mr Alexander Eddy

NOTES:

On 26 Sep 1843 Elizabeth Bush, 87, applied for a pension stating that at about age 17 she was married to Charles Bush by Parson Wingate at the "brick church" in Orange County, where her father lived, and that Charles Bush died on 17 April 1834. She stated that she moved to Fayette County near Lexington KY about 63 years previously and lived in Henry County about 29 years. She stated that she had nine children living, the youngest of whom was Levi Bush, 49, with whom she lived. A letter dated 3 Jan 1844 states that Levi Bush was 51, and that four of Elizabeth Bush's children had died. On 16 Oct 1848 Elizabeth Bush was said to be 97 years old. The file includes a deed dated 10 Aug 1784 by which Charles and Elizabeth Bush sold 49 acres of land in Albemarle County.

The file also includes a copy of the will of Elizabeth Bush's father, Henry Wood, probated on 24 Feb 1812, with the following provisions:

To his wife Mary Wood "Two negro boys named James and Charles," and also the use of "a young negro woman named Rose," 400 acres of land, \$400 in bonds and the rest of his personal estate except for his smallest gun previously given to grandson Alsa Hyatt.

Reserved for the benefit of his daughter Anky Bridwell one-sixth of the corn and fodder from his lower plantation "as the negroes I intended to give her have worked to make the same."

To his friend James Smith in trust for the use of his daughter Anaka Bridwell "my negro man named Bristor his wife Jude and their child Edey."

As a loan to his son-in-law John Blackwell for the use of his daughter, Frances Wood, "the three following negroes (to wit) Amy and two of her children named Dudley and Pat in consideration of his supporting and taking care of her and at her death."

To John Blackwell "my negro woman named Violet but as she is not to be considered as any part of my estate. It being my wish that at my death she should be a free woman."

To grandson Henry Bush "a negro boy named James."

To grandson Ambrose Bush "my negro boy named Daniel."

To grandson Leland Blackwell "my negro lad named Harry."

To grandson-in-law John Dickson "my negro girl named Sukey."

The will also refers to his daughters, Salley Scott, Mary Hyatt, Elizabeth Bush, Frances Wood, and Catharine Blackwell.

A letter dated 15 May 1851 states that Elizabeth Bush had died and that the family of Levi Bush, being poor, wished to receive the amount of pension still due to her.