

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

Pension Application of William Bussell W337

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } SS.

Hawkins county } on this fourth day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Circuit Court for Hawkins county now sitting

William Bussell a resident of Hawkins county in the state aforesaid aged seventy four 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.

That he was born in the county of Prince William in the State of Virginia in the year 1759 in September of that year. That about the first day of May 1780 he entered the service of the united states under Captain Ewell by being drafted, and was marched, with other drafted men under said Captain Ewell from Prince William (declarant residing at the time at the upper end of the county near the line which seperated Faquier [sic: Fauquier] from Prince William) to a little Town by the name of Dumfries on the water of the Potomack [sic: Potomac River] or a creek called he thinks (Quantico Creek) in order to defend the Town & neighborhood from the Brittish, who were then in the Potomack with several vessells of war – and after being stationed there about ten days the Brittish retired & this declarant, with his company, was marched back to Prince William – and permitted to go to his family – but still subject to be called out, when there was any call for his services. He served two weeks however from the time he left home until he returned

Again in the month of october he was notified by Captain Love to hold himself in readiness to march to Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] or Falmouth in Virginia and accordingly about the last of october in the year 1780 he marched, with others, under the command of said Captain Samuel Love to Fredericksburgh, and after remaining there a few days, it was discovered the Enemy had abandoned the idea of approaching Fredericksburgh, and this declarant with his company was again marched home to Prince William having been, on that tour, absent from home and in the service of his country fully one month. Again in the latter part of Janurary in the year 1781 – He was placed under the command of Capt Valentine Peyton and was marched by said Peyton, with other drafted men to Williamsburgh, between the River Pomonky & James River [sic: Williamsburg, between York, not Pamunkey, and James River], and after remaining in the barracks at Williamsburgh about two months, he with his company under capt Peyton, was marched on through York Town down to a place called the halfway House [halfway between Yorktown and Hampton], where the Brittish had been, a short time before – and after remaining there about four weeks then marched back to Williamsburgh – which place this declarant with his company reached about the first of may – at which time Captain Robert Warren arrived at Williamsburgh with a small company of drafted men – when this declarant was attached to Captain Warrens company in order to complete his compliment of men and after remaining with Warrens company at Williamsburgh about four weeks, declarant was marched to York Town and was stationed in the fort about six weeks, this declarant states that at Williamsburgh there was a call made for men to go to York to strengthen the fort there and he with some more militia were sent to York under the command of a Sergeant, and when declarant was stationed in the Fort he came under the command of a Captain Edens a regular officer who commanded the fort. After remaining at the Fort at York about six weeks, this declarant was permitted to go and join his company at Richmond with some other militia from his own neighborhood in Prince William, but upon arriving at New Kent Court House, about thirty miles from York as well as he can now remember they met with General [Edward] Stevens, who informed them that Captain Warrens company had been discharged about a month before that, and had went home and observed that as this declarant

and those who was with him had served out their times he would discharge them, and accordingly they surrendered their musquets and cartridge boxes, and returned home, this declarant did not receive any other than a verbal discharge from General Stevens at New Kent Court House, which was about the 15th of June 1781 – having served, that tour, fully four months & one half – besides the time it took him to go home from New Kent Court House to his home in Prince William, making on the whole six months which this declarant served – that the last tour he performed he was under the command of General Weedon [sic: George Weedon] a part of the time at Fredericksburgh and he believes also a part of the time at Williamsburgh. Besides the regular captain under whom he served in the fort at York there was Lieutenant Hood of the continentals. He has no record of his age. He has been living in Prince William & Louden [sic: Loudoun] Counties in virginia, and also in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] & Madison counties in said state & the rest of the time in Hawkins County Tennessee since the revolutionary war He did not receive a written discharge that he recollects of now. – There is no clergyman residing in his neighborhood – and he has no documentary Evidence, and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State – and that he is acquainted with Lazarus Spears a Justice of the peace for Hawkins county and Major James Bradley high Sheriff thereof, his neighbors
Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid Wm. Bussell

NOTE: On 1 March 1841 Sarah Bussell, 70, applied for a pension stating that she married William Bussell in Jan 1790, and he died 13 Oct 1840. She stated that the record of their marriage and birth of their children “was burnt up in his coopers shop, which was burnt down by accident many years ago.” Rosamond Leavell, 66, of Gallatin County IL stated that her sister, Sarah, was married to William Bussell, at the home of their father, James Wiatt, in Prince William County, by Rev. Dr. Thompson, an Episcopalian clergyman. On 17 June 1843 Sarah Bussell was said to be about 72, on 30 April 1844 she was said to be 74, and on 6 Dec 1848 she was said to be 80 or 81. In an application for bounty land dated 10 April 1855 Sarah Bussell was said to be 87, and her maiden name was given as Sarah Wyatt. The file contains a copy of a bond signed in Prince William County on 21 Jan 1790 by William Bussell and James Wyatt for the marriage of Bussell to Sarah Wyatt.