

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Zachariah Butler W341

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee }

Maury County }

On this the 22 day of September 1832 personally appeared before Robert Worthom James Hughes & Peter William the Justices of the Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions, now sitting, in open Court Zachariah Butler, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth, on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of of the provisions passed by Congress on the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That about the first of February 1781 he entered the militia service in the state of Virginia, as a substitute for one John Foster of Amelia county, under the command of Captain Robert Hudson; soon after he was enrolled & had marched from the place of rendezvous the company fell under the command of Maj'r Cunningham & Col. [Henry] Skipwith when it was marched by them to the head Quarters of Genl Nat Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] under whom he continued until after the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] in which battle this applicant was engaged. After the battle of Guilford he was marched to Ramseys Mills thence to Hillsborough N.C. where he was discharged. Then he returned to Amelia County Virginia. In June 1781 on the first of the month he was drafted in the Militia under Captain Roland Ward [Rowland Ward, Jr.], and he was stationed at Amelia Court House for about one month, then he was marched on below Petersburg Virginia, after the British had left it. This his company was marched to York Town & was under the command of General Washington. Whilst at Yorktown he was detached as a guard under Captain Ward to the mouth of Queens Creek [sic: Queen Creek in York County] at which place he was stationed when Cornwallace surrendered [sic: Cornwallis, 19 Oct]. In the first Tour of duty this applicant was in service about two months & in the last tour about five months.

This applicant states that he was born in Amelia County Virginia on the 15th day of November 1764 as stated by a registry kept by his father, which he was often seen, but which is now, he believes in the state of Virginia. That he continued to reside in Virginia untill December 1810 when he emigrated to the State of Tennessee, & he settled in Maury County on the 5th of March 1811 where he now resides. That he has no documents by which to prove the statements herein made, nor does he know of any person living by whom he can establish the facts above set forth. That he is known to William Jennings and Richard B. Passmore who reside in his present neighbourhood, who can testify as to his character for veracity and also their opinion and belief as to his revolutionary services

And the said Zachariah Butler does hereby relinquish every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State
Zachariah Butler

State of Tennessee

Maury County

On this the 17th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open court before James S. Crawford, John Mack & William A. Johnson the Justices of the court of pleas & quarter sessions now sitting being a court of record for said county of Maury in the state aforesaid, Zachariah Butler who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her Oath make the following Amended declaration in Order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of an act passed by Congress on the 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated That about the first of

February 1781 he entered the militia service in the state of Virginia as a substitute for one John Foster of Amelia County Virginia under the command of Captain Robert Hudson; soon after he was enrolled & had marched in s'd Company from the place of rendezvous the command of the company was assumed by Major Cunningham & Col. Skipwith & thence marched to the head quarters of Genl Green under whom this applicant continued until after the battle of Guilford in which battle this applicant was engaged. After the battle of Guilford he was marched to Ramsays Mills from thence to Hillsboro North Carolina where he was discharged by his officers in writing but what was the day of the month he cannot now recollect but what has become of said discharge this applicant does not know – he has lost it long since, during the service above mentioned applicant was a private & served two months from the time he entered the service until he was discharged, he held no office.

On or about the first of June 1781 he was drafted in the militia of Amelia County Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Roland Ward this applicant & the said company was stationed at Amelia Courthouse, for about one month when in the same company he was marched below Petersburg Virginia – they were then marched to York Town & was under the command of General Washington. Whilst at Yorktown he was detached as a guard under Capt. Ward to the mouth of Queens Creek at which place he was stationed when Corn Wallis surrendered – he was then marched to Williamsburg remained some two or three weeks at which place & time he was discharged by Capt John Towers to whom the command of the company had been transferred This discharge was also in writing but has long since been lost & what was the precise day of the month he cannot now recollect – applicant was in service during this tour five months – he was a private & served as such – he held no office in the ranks.

This applicant cannot state with greater precision than he has done – he served only the tours above mentioned the first service being two months & the last five months in each of which he served as a private This applicant states that he was born in Amelia County Virginia on the 15th day of November 1764 as stated by a register kept by his father which he has often seen but which is now he believes in Virginia. That he continued to reside in Virginia until December 1810 when he removed to Maury County in the state of Tennessee on the 5 March 1811 at which place he now resides & has ever since resided. That he has no documents by which to prove the statements herein made, nor does he know of any person living by whom he can prove the facts herein set forth. That he is known to Gerard Vanburen – a minister of the Gospel and William Jenings who each reside in his present neighbourhood & can testify as to his character for veracity & also their opinion & belief as to his revolutionary services And the said Zachariah Butler does hereby relinquish every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State

Zachariah hisXmark Butler

NOTE: On 4 Oct 1850 Elizabeth Butler, about 88, applied for a pension stating that she was married to Zachariah Butler in Amelia County by Rev. John Pollard on 8 Dec 1787, and her husband died on 8 April 1842. On an application for bounty land dated 7 May 1855 Elizabeth Butler was said to be 91. Sarah Pillow stated that she was present at the marriage of Zachariah Butler and Elizabeth Noble, and that their oldest child was born on 23 Sep 1788.