

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Bray W4145

Elizabeth Bray

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 Nov 2017.

The state of Indiana, Switzerland county Sset

Be it remembered that on the twentieth day of June one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, before me William Cotton one of the judges of the Circuit court in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared John Bray, of the county aforesaid, who after being duly sworn, according to law, (in order to obtain the provisions of the act of Congress entitled “An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and Naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war”) doth and did depose declare and say that he entered in the army of the United Colonies, raised to obtain and defend American Liberty, by enlisting in the year 1777, at the town of Romley [sic: Romney] in Hampshire Co’y Virginia, under captain William Voss [sic: William Vause] of the 12th regiment of Virg’a the regiment was commanded by colonel James Woods [sic: James Wood]; and the brigade by general Charles Scott – that he served three years & that he was honorably discharged at York town in Pennsylvania, by colonel [Daniel] Morgan

That he was in the battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], Del’a [possibly a battle near Delaware River], Monmouth, in N.J. [28 Jun 1778] and at the taking of Stoney Point [sic: Stony Point NY, 16 Jul 1779] & in several small skirmishes.

That he has never received a pension or been allowed on to his knowledge by the United States and if any should exist he hereby relinquishes the same to the United States. That he has no further testimony, in his power to produce – that he is fifty six years of age and finally that from his reduced circumstances he needs the assistance of his Country for support & further saith not

John hisXmark Bray

The state of Indiana, Switzerland county Ss

Personally appeared before me William C. Keen a justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid, this 12th day of July, A.D. 1819, Michael Wilson [pension application S36849], who after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that John Bray, enlisted in captain William Voss’ company in Hampshire co’y Virg’a. in A.D. 1777 for three years; that this deponent saw him doing duty at the battle of Brandywine, in which he was wounded; and served with him until the year 1780 and left him in service at the White Plains, and further saith not.

Michael hisXmark Wilson

The state of Indiana, Switzerland county Ss

Personally appeared before me William C. Keen a justice of the peace in and for said county this 12th day of July A.D. 1819, Andrew Stepleton [S36799], who after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that John Bray enlisted in 1777 in Captain William Voss’s Company of the 12th Virginia regiment, which regiment was then commanded by colonel James Woods, – that John Bray enlisted for three years and saw John Bray doing duty at the battle of Brandywine where he was wounded and this deponent last saw John Bray in service at Germantown and verily believes that said John Bray served the three years for which he enlisted, and further saith not.

Andrew hisAmark Stepleton

District of Indiana } SS
Switzerland County }

In the Switzerland Circuit Court/ June Term 1821

On this Eleventh day of June A.D. 1821 Personally appeared, in open court in the Switzerland circuit court being a court of record with powers to proceed according to the course of common law with a jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount, keeping a record of its proceedings, John Bray aged fifty nine years resident in Craig township Switzerland county in said district of Indiana, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war, as follows – that he enlisted in Hampshire County on the [blank] day of September AD. 1777 in the company commanded by captain William Voss of the 12th Virginia regiment of the Virginia line and served three years that he originally applied for a pension on the 20th day of June 1818 and that his pension certificate is numbered (14041) and filed the following affidavit “And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed to wit: one mare and colt of the value of sixty dollars. One cow of the value of Sixteen dollars one yearling heifer of the value of four dollars One two year old heifer of the value of seven dollars nine head of sheeps of the Value of fifteen dollars – above seventeen head of hogs large and small and of the value of twelve dollars – household furniture of the value of twenty five dollars and owns no land – my occupation is that of a farmer that I am very frail and much troubled with rheumatic pains – have four in my family myself aged 59 years – my wife Betsey Bray aged 24 years my daughter Carolina aged 2 years and my daughter Amelia aged 3 months and that I am in indigent circumstances unable to support myself without the aid of public or private charity

John hisBmark Bray

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I Doe Assign my Solders write Unto Joseph Vanmeter [S16010] for Value Received of him as a Witness I have Set my hand this 16th Day June 1783 John hisXmark Bray

[The file contains a copy of a certificate signed by Capt. William Vause, but it is too faint to be transcribed. On the same paper is the following:]

The above man belonged to the Reg. commanded by me – [several undeciphered words]

Copy J. Pendleton

James Wood late B.G. [Brigadier General]

NOTE: On 3 Oct 1853 Elizabeth Bray, 55, applied for a pension stating that she married John Bray on 15 April 1820, and he died on 10 June 1832. The file contains a copy of the record of marriage in Gallatin County KY between John Bray and Elizabeth Coonies, widow. On 18 Nov 1856 her age was said to be 57. On 21 July 1859 she applied for bounty land. On 27 Nov 1868 she was said to be 70 years old and living in Mount Sterling in Switzerland County. On 22 Dec

1873 Elizabeth Bray was said to be 78 and living in Jefferson Township in Switzerland County when she stated that her pension as the widow of John Bray had been suspended since Mar 1870 because she had been subsequently married to Robert Bakes, even though Bakes had died before she applied for the pension. Documents in the file state that Robert Bakes married Elizabeth Bray on 4 Oct 1834, and he died on 19 Mar 1847. The file contains a statement dated 23 Feb 1824 by Daniel Bray, son of John Bray, in which one Samuel Bray is also mentioned.