

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Bush W4626 (Susannah Alexander, former widow) fn75NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 10/19/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Georgia Talbot County

On this the 22nd day of October 1846, personally appeared in open court David B Bush a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged fifty years past who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statements. That he is the reputed son of John Bush and Susannah his wife, that his said Father John Bush resided from the best of his recollection in the time of the War of the Revolution in the County of Jones State of North Carolina and went into the service of his Country from said County and State, and deponent has always understood that his said Father John Bush was in the service of his Country prior to his marriage with his said wife Susannah, but of the length and character of said service deponent has no knowledge: that he has often heard his mother Susannah say, that at the time she was married to the said John Bush, he was acting as Recruiting Officer, and continued in the Service for a considerable time after they were married, but the length and grade of said service not recollected. That in the year 1823 [last digit unclear could be "8"], deponent was passing through the County of Walton State of Georgia where he met with a Revolutionary Soldier by the name of Braziel,¹ who told him that he knew his said Father John Bush well in the time of the War of the Revolution that the said Braziel was in service with the said John Bush in the State of North Carolina, and that they were stationed for a while during the war at Smithfield Johnston County North Carolina, and that the said Braziel had drawn rations from the said John Bush for a considerable time while in the Army, which Statement together with what his said Mother has always told him and from what those who knew him in the time of the War, induced deponent to believe that his said Father John Bush entered the service as an enlisted soldier and was afterwards appointed commissary. That his said Father and Mother John and Susannah Bush were legally married in the County of Johnston North Carolina, as he has always understood and verily believes, and as appears in the family Registry on the 16th day of March in the year 1779, that the said John Bush died in the month of April in the year 1805; in the County of Wilkes State of Georgia, leaving his said wife Susannah Bush his widow, and that she remained a widow till the year 1818, when she again married in the month of August or near that time, to Samuel Alexander, he died on the 18th day of September in the year 1820, leaving his said wife

¹ This MAY be a reference to [Byrd Brazil S31571](#)

Susannah Alexander his widow, and that she remained a widow till the period of her death, that she died on the 27th day of June in the year 1841, in the County of Talbot State of Georgia, without ever making application for or receiving the pension to which she was entitled; under the third Section of the act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836, and of the first Section of the Act of 3rd March 1837, entitled and "Act Granting half pay and Pensions to certain widows,["] on account of her husband's the aforesaid John Bush's Services in the War of the Revolution; that the said Susannah Alexander left for surviving children (viz.) David B Bush who now resides in the County of Talbot State of Georgia, Zilpha Baker wife of Morel Baker who now resides in the County of Harris State of Georgia, Elizabeth Luke wife of James Luke who now resides in Union County State of Arkansas, and William H Bush who now resides in the County of Wilkes in State of Georgia. That the Family Registries hereto annexed is the original and only one ever owned by deponent's said Father John Bush, and has been in deponent's possession ever since the death of the aforesaid John Bush and has undergone no alteration whatever since that period, and has always been referred to by the family as being a true and genuine Registry that the entries thereon are all in the handwriting of his said father John Bush down to the births of Susan Frances and Pheraby Hinton Bush which entries are in the handwriting of the aforesaid Samuel Alexander and the death of Jane Smith Bush was recorded by his said mother Susannah Alexander. That he has no documentary evidence in support of his Statements other than the Family Registry which is hereto annexed, unless Mr. Braziel who resides in Walton County State of Georgia is yet living he knows of no person by whom he could make any proof.

S/ D. B. Bush

[fn p. 23]

Pension office April 19th, 1851

I certify that, the name of John Bush, is not returned on the list of Revolutionary Officers, on file in this Office, among those of either the North, or South Carolina Continental lines. It appears however, that a United States land warrant for 200 acres issued July third, 1797 to the heirs of John Bush, deceased, who was a Lieutenant in the South Carolina Line. No warrant or bounty land has ever been granted by the United States to any Officer of the North Carolina line, named John Bush.

S/ Wm Gordon

[fn p. 48]

State of Georgia Taliaferro County: Be it known that on the 13th day of September in the year 1847 personally appeared before may Joseph R Parker an acting Magistrate in and for the County aforesaid, Richard Parker² a resident of said County and State aged eighty-five years past after being legally qualified saith that he was a resident of Chatham County State of North Carolina in the time of [and] during the Revolutionary War and that he went into the Service of his Country from said County and State ~~and that after the close of under~~ Captain Mark Patterson and Colonel Thomas Taylor, that after the close of the War he moved from North Carolina to the State of Georgia Wilkes County, about the year 1790 when he first became acquainted with John Bush that he was intimately acquainted with him before his death about the year 1805; that he did not serve in the same Company with the said John Bush but [indecipherable word or words] has every reason but that of [one or more indecipherable words] believe and knew that the said

² I could not find a pensioner by this name who was pensioned for services rendered in the North Carolina Continental line as stated by this affiant.

John Bush was a Soldier and did service in the North Carolina Continental line and he believes as Lieutenant; that he has often conversed with the said John Bush during his lifetime about the War and their Services in the same, but deponent does not recollect the Officers under whom the said John Bush Served. That the said John Bush died about the time above stated leaving his wife Susannah a widow and that she afterwards married Samuel Alexander. [Several lines of this affidavit are illegible including the signature line of the affiant.]

[fn p. 50]

C

State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State

I, William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, I have not given any information or certificate in the case of John Bush a Lieutenant in the revolutionary war, previous to that given on receiving the Declaration of David the Bush made on the 22nd of October 1846, and have no recollection of any application having been made for information on the subject previous to that time.

Given under my hand this 11th day of January 1848

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[fn p. 51]

D

State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State, that Bird Brazle a private Soldier in the 10th Regiment entered the service on the fifth day of May 1776 for 2 1/2 years, and was discharged on the ___day of October 1778.

Given under my hand this 11th day of January 1848.

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[fn p. 52]

E

State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from a Book of Settlements of the accounts of the Officers and Soldiers of the Continental line of this State in the Revolutionary War, that John Bush a Lieutenant in said line, was allowed for services performed therein, the sum of three hundred and thirty-eight pounds seven shillings (£338.7) by a Board of Commissioners which sat at Halifax in the year 1783 & 1784, which some was drawn by William Bush.

Given under my hand this 11th day of April 1848.

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[fn p. 58]

State of North Carolina Jones County March 23rd 1848 then was the following deposition taken before may Nathan Foscue one of the Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid

Polly Simmons of the County & State aforesaid after being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposeth and saith that she is now about eighty-four years of age, that she was born in the part of Craven County that now constitutes Jones [County] and have remained in it as her home till now. She says she had more than, and chance of being acquainted with a good many persons, that her father lived in Trenton – the County seat when it was erected

in a separate County (Jones) that her father kept a public house in Trenton in the time of the Revolution and it was a great place of resort for those troublesome times, – She says she was very well acquainted with both John and William Bush. That they were Brothers and cousins to the Miss Bryan who were half-sisters, and lived in the same house with this deponent: that said John and William Bush had been to her father's house on various occasions and times out of number, – She, the above Deponent, knows that John Bush was an officer of the Revolutionary Army but does not know his grade. That after the war was over he left this section moved away she knows not where that William Bush remained and died in this County and the last of his children Nathan B Bush left this County for Marengo County Alabama some 12 or 14 years since. This deponent further says she was acquainted with Blackshiers who were half Brothers (to John and William Bush) said Blackshiers word named James, Edward, David, Elijah and Joseph: that the Tories took James out of his Father's house and shot him the others moved away she knows not where.

Test: S/ N. Foscue, JP

S/ Polly Simmons, X her mark

[fn p. 61]

State of North Carolina, Office of Secretary of State.

I, William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the muster-rolls of the Continental line of this State, in the Revolutionary War, that John Bush, a Lieutenant in Captain Walsh's Company of the eighth Regiment, entered the service on the 8th day of February 1777, that he was and adjutant second of August 1777, and omitted in January 1778; from which it appears he served five or six months, as adjutant.

Given under my hand this 30th of July 1849

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[fn pp. 4-9: this is the 'family register' to which the applicant refers in his application. Most of the pages are very faint and some are illegibly faint. Unfortunately, the War Department never made a transcript of them so I do not have any transcript to help me decipher the entries. What follows is my attempt to decipher what I can of those records:

Polly Brian Bush was born the 11th day of June, 1788

Zilpha Bush was born the 26th of Novr. 1790

[illegible]dy Bush was born [illegible] 3rd 1793 and died the 12th Oct. following

Polly Bush Daughter of Jo[torn] Bush & Susanna his Wife was born Feby 26th 1780 and Died the 31st of Octr. following

William Bush was born December 21st 1781 and Died the 16th of April following

John Bush Junr was born April the 1st 1783

[illegible] Bush was [illegible]

Jane Smith Bush was born the 14 of August [illegible] and died the 6 Sept. 1839

David Blackshear Bush was born June 2nd 1796

William Hardy Bush was Born August 19 [illegible]

Susan frans Bush was born Novmb 30 1800

Pherby hinton Bush was Born 20 of [illegible interlineation] 1805

John Bush and Susannah his wife was Married the 16th of March 1779 he was born June 21st 1752 and she was born November 20, 1762]

[Veteran's former widow was pensioned at the rate of \$353.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, and ending June 27, 1841, for her previous husband's two years service in the North Carolina Continental line as a Lieutenant & Adjutant.]