

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of James Bland W5837 Amy Bland VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 17 Sep 2017.

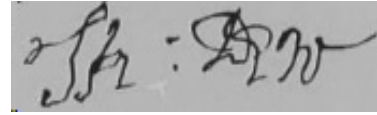
State of Virginia } S.S.
Chesterfield County }

On this 14th day of August 1843, personally appeared before the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for said County and State aforesaid, Mrs. Amy Bland, aged eighty three years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th 1838, entitled “An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows” – That she is the widow of James Bland, who was a Soldier in the Virginia line of the Revolution, and served a large portion of the war, as she has been informed and always believed. That she cannot speak confidently as to the Company and Regiment he belonged to, but she has often heard him say, he served under Captain Waller. As well as her memory now serves her, she thinks her deceased husband enlisted under the said Captain Waller, and served three years, or more. For further particulars of his services, she would beg to refer to the public records, and to the evidence accompanying this application. She further declares that she was married to the said James Bland in the year 1782 or 1783, which was about one year after he left the service. The precise date of marriage is not now recollected, but she feels confident that the said marriage took place at the time stated, and that she was married by Parson Jesse Carter, in the county of King and Queen, State of Virginia. That her husband, the aforesaid James Bland died on the eighth day of January 1803 in the County of Essex. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January seventeen hundred and ninety four: at the time above stated. Amy herXmark Bland

The affidavit of Thomas Dew [pension application R2909] of the County of King and Queen in the state of Virginia taken at his House on the 16th day of Septem’r 1843 before John Lumpkin, a Justice of the peace for said County & state.

This affiant being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath, state that he was well acquainted with James Bland deceased, late of the County of King & Queen aforesaid. that the said Bland enlisted as a Regular Soldier some time in the early period of the Revolutionary War either for two or three years this affiant does not now recollect which – but is strongly under the impression that it was for three years – this affiant further states, that after the said Bland had served out the period of his enlistment that he returned to the County of King & Queen, that he the affiant saw him after he returned from service, & that he the said Bland had on his uniform which he had worn whilst in the Army. This affiant further states that there were several others of his, this affiant’s, acquaintances who enlisted at the same time & from the same neighbourhood with the said Bland – namely, Sapkin Philips, John Kelly, John Hines & one of the Graftons, whose name the affiant cannot now recollect, but he well recollects, that all these persons enlisted about the same time, and went to the North, and after they came back out of the army, they were, all, always called, by the name of Regular Soldiers – and ever so considered by every person to the day of their deaths, and although this affiant cannot speak positively as to the length of time that the said James Bland served, yet he verily believes that he was a three years man, in other words that he enlisted for three years and served his time out. This affiant further states that he himself was not on the muster roll at that time, not being quite old enough, but that he was a stout Lad & saw & heard of a good deal that happened during the early period of the war, and he well remembers to have heard it stated that these men, had enlisted for three years – and that some time after their return, he, himself, had become old enough and was put upon the muster list, a short time after which, he became the substitute of a man that had been drafted & had to perform a tour of duty himself of above six months. This affiant does not recollect, tho he has often heard, what Regiment the said Bland & others were in, nor does he recollect under whom they enlisted, or served. This affiant further states that after the close of the war the said Bland married, as

well as he now recollects, a Lady by the name of Amy Samuel, and further this affiant saith not.



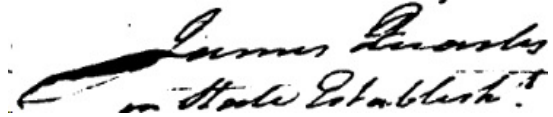
[The following is from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I do here Certafie that James Bland has served in the 2^d Virginia State Regt. as a Soldier from 12th January 1777 until 24th Jan'y. 1780 which is upwards of three years

Given from under my hand this 21st Feb'y. 1783

James Quarles [R17254] Maj'r

on State Establish't.



NOTES: On 18 July 1843, Henry Samuel, Sr., about 75, of Caroline County, stated that his aunt, Amy Samuel, married James Bland five or six years before he, himself, married. On 23 Dec 1843 John Samuel, "going on sixty five," of Caroline County, stated that the fifth child of James and Amy Bland, if still living, "is not more than four or five years younger than myself." On 24 Nov 1843 Thomas Dew, 80, stated that James Bland married Amy Samuel of King and Queen County several years before he, himself, was married on 7 Jan 1794. At the same time his wife, Lucy Dew, 67, added that in 1795 James and Amy Bland had a daughter named Elizabeth who was about 13 years old. On 4 Dec 1843 Elizabeth Taylor, "upwards of one hundred years of age," stated that she had been a neighbor of James and Amy Bland in Newtown in King and Queen County soon after they were married. On 9 Dec 1843 Barbara Taylor, about 82 or 83, of Essex County, stated that Amy Bland was married a short time before she was, and they both had children over 50. She also stated that after the death of her husband, Amy Bland moved to Chesterfield County to live with a daughter who married James Taylor, her husband's nephew. On 27 July 1848 Amy Bland was said to be about 89 years old.