

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

Pension Application of Reuben Bowen (Boin) W5852  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } SS.

Hawkins county } on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for said county Reuben Boin (it is sometimes spelled Boing) a resident of Hawkins county Tennessee though he has, until recently resided in Lee County State of Virginia, aged seventy six 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 provision made by the act of congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832

That he Enlisted in the Army of the united States in the year 1775 with Captain John Dewitt for three years in the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Virginia line under the following named officers. His Colonels name was John Marks, his captain John Dewitt, and he thinks Major McElhany also belonged to said Regiment, but he cannot distinctly recollect, the names of any more of the field or company officers his memory having failed him very much, that when enlisted he resided in the county of Albamarle [sic: Albemarle] State of Virginia and enlisted in the Town of Charlottesville [sic: Charlottesville] in said county, that after being enlisted he with his said captain remained in Charlottesville some ten or fifteen days, when the recruits were marched by said Capt. Dewitt to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] in Virginia, and from thence this Declarant was marched by his said capt. to the Town of Hampton the latter end of October of the same year he enlisted, where they arrived after marching all night, at which time [24<sup>th</sup>] the Enemy were firing upon the said Town from their shipping. This declarant was among the troops, who forced the Enemy to retire after receiving a brisk fire from our troops, the Enemy lost some men in the action, and a small vessel of theirs was captured by us. From the Town of Hampton this declarant was with other troops ordered to march to Norfolk to defend that place and he thinks he was under the immediate command of Col. Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] though a Col. [William] Woodford took the command, when the battle took place of the Great Bridge [9 Dec 1775], in which Battle Col. Fordyce [sic: Capt. Charles Fordyce] one of the Enemy was killed this declarant was in that battle. The American commander (Col. Woodford he thinks) raised some breastworks on the north side of Elizabeth River not far from the British fort, and after continuing there a few days, the British attempted to storm the works, on or about the 9<sup>th</sup> of December, and in marching up under a galling fire and while animating his men the said Fordyce was killed near the Breastworks raised by our troops Shortly after said battle the British left the Fort and our troops proceeded to Norfolk, after remaining some time in Norfolk, during which time the enemy burnt a great part of the Town [1 Jan 1776] and it becoming sickly this declarant was marched under the command of Col. Stephens to the city of Baltimore, and from thence to Philadelphia, where the troops remained some time, at which place the troops joined General Washington, and from thence this declarant was marched back to Baltimore, and from thence he was marched with the troops to Charlestown, and this declarant states that he was in the battle at Charleston when the British were repulsed at that place [Battle of Sullivan's Island, 28 Jun 1776], this declarant being on duty in Fort Moultrie at the time, which battle took place about the latter part of June 1776 this declarant was afterwards in the battle of Brandywine, when the Americans under Washington were defeated by the British in September [11<sup>th</sup>] 1777 – and shortly afterwards this declarant, at the instance of General Washington became one of his life guard, and continued as one of his life guard until his term for which he enlisted expired, which was sometime in the latter part of the Summer of 1778. he is not certain of the day & month, but he thinks in August when he received a written discharge from Gen'l Washington, having served three years.

This declarant also states that shortly after his term of three years expired & he was discharged by

Gen'l Washington he entered the militia by being drafted for eighteen months, under captain John Hudson in he thinks the 9<sup>th</sup> Regiment (he does not now recollect the names of the Field officers) in the county of Albamarle, and continued doing duty in virginia and also in Maryland till his term expired

That his said discharges were left by him with his father after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] and they were burnt up in his fathers House in Albamarle, in the year 1782. This declarant states that he was born in Lunenburgh [sic: Lunenburg County] in the State of virginia upon MeHerrin River & has resided in the States of Virginia & Tennessee since the revolutionary war

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state                      Reuben hisXmark Boin

NOTE: On 17 June 1844 Sarah Bowen, 81, applied for a pension stating that she married Reuben Bowen on 10 June 1787, and he died 17 May 1839. The file contains a copy of the following: "Return of marriage for the year seventeen hundred & eighty eight. Reuben Bowen to Sarah R Hicks. – married by me  
Wm Woods."