

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

Pension Application of Samuel Earle W7065

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Capitalization partly corrected.]

State of Kentucky Trigg Circuit Court/ May term 23, 1821

This day Samuel Earle a Citizen of the County of Washington and State of Alabama Came and Declared to The Following Circumstances upon Oath Respecting his Inlistment And service in the Revolutionary war of the united States and made proof of the same by the oath of Samuel Orr who served with him in the same Ridg't. That in the month of March on the 19 day in the year of our lord 1781 he inlisted and entered into the American service as first Sergeant in Capt. Reuben Field's [sic: Reuben Fields's] company of infantry in the Second Virginia Ridgement on the Continental Establishment commanded by Colo. Thomas Gaston [sic: Thomas Gaskins] and that he continued in the service as Sergeant against the common enemy untill the conclusion of the Revolution. He states that he faught through the whole of the balance of the Revolutionary War, and at the end of the war he recv'd. an honourable discharge from Gen'rl. Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] on the 19 day September in the year of our lord 1782 certified by said Capt. Fields which discharge is now lost or mislaid, and that he has not recv'd his land or wages which the soldiers of the Revolutionary War are intitled to agreeable to an act of Congress made & provided for granting land to the officers and soldiers of the United States in the Revolutionary War, upon Continental Establishment and hereby makes application for said land.

[signed] S. Earle

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an Act of Congress, entitled "an act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution", approved on the 19th of May, 1828, I, Samuel Earle of the County of Washington, in the State of Alabama, do hereby declare, that I enlisted as a Soldier in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, and served as such to the end of the War, and until I was regularly discharged, and in fact until the arrangement of the army provided by the Resolves of Congress of the 2^d and 21st of October, 1780, were carried into effect, at which period I was a Sergeant in the 2^d Regiment of the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment, commanded by Thomas Gaskins.

And I do further declare that my discharge in the long lapse of time, since the close of the War of the Revolution, has been lost or mislaid, or been destroyed by time or accident, so that it cannot now be produced.

And I do further declare that if I ever received a Certificate for the reward of Eighty dollars to which I was entitled under a Resolve of Congress passed 15th day of May, 1778, it has entirely escaped my recollection, but if I ever did receive one it has shared the same fate with my above mentioned discharge.

And I do further declare that I was not on the fifteenth day of March 1828, on the pension List, nor ever have been.

[signed] S. Earle

Washington Court House Alabama August 17, 1829

Sir I was much Surprised yesterday when I recv'd. a letter from you, stating That my Affidavit Certified that I was Discharged from the Army of the Untied States on the 19 of September 1782. It is an Intire mistake of the Justice, for I was Discharged In 1783 at the End of the War, when the whole army was Discharged [by proclamation on 23 Nov], and was I able to ride, to Virginia I Could find men who Served in the Rig't. with me, but I am scarsely able To Ride to a neibours house, as I am Three score and Ten years old, & very Infirm, and cannot continue long on Stage of Action, from the day I Inlisted Unitill the Day I was Discharged I never Recv'd. one Cent from the United States. When I Inlisted I was

promised \$12 a month as a Serjeant, pay, and bounty of Land I Continued In that Office the whole time. I took two Hundred Dollars bounty, which I have at this time, Gen'l. Lafayette who was Personally Acquainted with me the Campain of 1781 Paticularly at Siege of Little York in Virginia, when Lord Cornwallis was Captured. When he was at mobile [i.e. during Lafayette's tour of America in 1825] Insisted on me to go Washington and I should be paid For my Sevisees, and Shou'd get a land warrent For the land I was promised. I had previous to That, I had Entered two Quarter Sections In this County, but being Unable to pay any more than First Instalment I was obldige to relinquish it, And is now without, and if you think I am Not Intitled to land or money, as I shall not want Either long, you Can do Just as think Is right, and this shall be my last applicati[on]

I am very respectfully/ your most Obd't & H'ble Serv't.
S. Earle

P.S. Pleas Excuse my bad Writing as }
I can Scarcely see the Ink on the Paper }
S. E

State of Alabama }
Washington County } On this 8th day of August 1832 Personally appeared before me Josiah D Lister Judge of the County Court of said County Samuel Earle a resident of Washington County in the State aforesaid aged Seventy three years; who after being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following decleration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he Enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1781 with Col. Joseph Holmes and joined the Second Virginia Regiment of Infantry under the command of Col Thomas Gaskins, John Poulson Maj'r, Reuben Field Capt; and that he was born in Fauquer [sic: Fauquier] County In Virginia and was raised in Fredrick [sic: Frederick] County in said State. That he Enlisted in Winchester the County town of Fredrick and received Two hundred dollars bounty and was promised twelve dollars per month, And a bounty of land which he has never received either. That he was marched from Winchester and joined head quarters at Albermarl [sic: Albemarle County] old Courthouse under the command of Brigadier Gen'l. Stuben [sic: Baron von Steuben], from thence to the point, a fork on James River [sic: Point of Fork on James River at the confluence with Rivanna River, 28 May 1781], from thence to Richmond on the James River there met with Maj'r General Lafayette & Gen'l [Anthony] Wayne and from thence to old Jamestown, from thence to Williamsburg and from thence to little york there met Lord Cornwallis with the British troops on the 30th day of September 1781 and began the siege on the first day of October which continued seventeen days and nights and on the 22nd the British prisoners to the Barracks in Frederick near Winchester the County in which he was raised That he served during the time he was in service as an orderly Sargeant and when peace was made he received a very Honorable discharge from Gen'l. [Daniel] Morgan, and that he never received on dollar of pay nor has ever been on any pension list on this or any other State. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.
[signed] S. Earle

NOTES:

A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates taken at Chesterfield Courthouse VA includes the following: Samuel Earle, age 21, height 6 feet, brown hair, blue eyes, fair complexion, farmer, born in Fauquier County, residing in Frederick County, drafted for 18 months, entered service in Frederick County on 20 May, sized on 28 May.

On 27 Sep 1835 in Greenville District SC Samuel Earle appointed his "trusty and worthy friend General John B. Earle of the District of Pendleton in the State of South Carolina" as his attorney to apply for any money or land due for his services.

On 26 Mar 1841 Samuel Earle applied to have his pension transferred, having moved from the City of Mobile to Tuscaloosa County "because he had a daughter living at the last mention county, who was a widow and who desires that he should live with her."

On 1 July 1851 Tabitha Earle, born 20 Feb 1766 in Virginia and resident of Washington County AL, applied for a pension stating that she was married to Samuel Earle in Frederick County by a Baptist minister named James Ireland on 28 Oct 1783, that she and her husband moved to South Carolina in 1789, then to Tennessee, then to Kentucky, then in 1816 to Alabama. She stated that at the time of her husband's death in Washington County on 12 Sep 1845 they had four living children, the youngest being more than 40 years old.

On 12 Mar 1852 George Williams of Nelson County VA, brother of Tabitha Earle, stated that they were children of George and Catharine Williams of Frederick County, and that "he well recollects that [Samuel Earle's] mother died in the year seventeen hundred and ninety two, and at that date the said Samuel Earle was living in the State of South Carolina, having removed to that state after his marriage; and... they had two children born at least before their removal to South Carolina... that his sister visited their mother in Virginia after said Earle's removal to South Carolina; and it is his impression that Mr Earle came to Virginia in the year after his said mother's death and received his porten of their father's estate."