

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

Pension Application of John Bryant W8390

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } sct

Garrard County }

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Garrard County Court now sitting, John Bryant a resident of Garrard County in the State of Kentucky, aged 72 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 act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States in the month of May 1780, under the command of Capt Robert Hughes. That he resided in Powhattan [sic: Powhatan] County in the State of Virginia when he entered the service. That he entered as a volunteer, and marched from Powhattan County to Williamsburg, where Genl Charles Scott assumed the command as Brigadier General. That he marched from Williamsburg to Yorktown, under the command of General Thomas Nelson. That he remained in the service about 3 months at this time.

That he again the service in the month of Feby 1781 under the command of Genl Robert Lawson, the Regiment being commanded by Col Beverly Randolph. That he marched from Powhattan County to the South and was at the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] during said tour. The Commander in Chief at the battle of Guilford was Genl Nathaniel Greene [sic: Nathanael Greene]. He continued in the service at this time for 6 months.

That he again entered the service in the summer of 1781, and marched near Petersburg, under the command of Col Robert Goode. From Petersburg the company to which this affiant was attached was ordered to take charge of all the boats from the Point of Fork [at present Columbia] to Westham on James River in which duty he was engaged. that he remained in the latter tour 6 months, during which time he acted as orderly Sergeant in Capt Isaac Porter's company.

He has no documentary evidence in his possession of his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. [signed] John Bryant

Interrogatories put to John Bryant, applicant for a pension, and the answers thereto

Where, and in what year were you born

Answer. I was born in Cumberland County in the State of Virginia, on the 1st of January 1760.

Have you any record of your age, & if so where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age, but have seen it in the church register where I was born.

Where were you living when called into the service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live?

Ans. I was living in Powhattan County, Virginia when called into the service; about the year 17[page torn] I removed to Kentucky, and have remained there ever since – and I now reside in Garrard County State of Kentucky.

How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or was you a substitute?

Ans. I volunteered the first Tour, & the second tour I was a substitute for James Bryant.

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the Troops where you served such continental & militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service?

And. Upon my first Tour, Genl Charles Scott was commander in Chief – after being detached to York Town, we were under the command of Genl Nelson. In the second Tour, I was under the command of Genl Nathaniel Green; and Genl Robert Lawson was the Major General.

Did you ever receive a discharge from the service?

Ans. I never received any written discharge, that I can recollect.

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution?

ans. I am known to Simeon H. Anderson & Benjamin Letcher the clerk of the Garrard Circuit Court.

[Anderson and Letcher stated that Bryant had been "high Sheriff of Garrard County, and several times a member of the Kentucky Legislature."

State of Kentucky } Sgt.

Garrard County }

On this 20th day of May 1833, personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the Garrard County Court, now sitting, John Bryant, a resident citizen of Garrard County in the State of Kentucky, aged 73 years, on the 1st January 1833, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration as a supplement to his former declaration made on the 20th day of August 1832, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of congress "passed June 7th 1832"

In explanation of part of said declaration he states, that in the first Tour mentioned in said declaration he was engaged 3 months as a volunteer, under the command of Capt Robert Hughes.

That in the second tour under the command of Genl Lawson, this affiant continued in the service 6 months, during which time he was at the battle of Guilford.

That in the 3rd tour under the command of Robert Goode, this affiant served 6 months, during which time he acted as "orderly sergeant" The company to which he was attached was commanded by Capt Isaac Porter – making the whole term of service 15 months.

This affiant further states, that he was born, on the first day of January 1760 in the county of Cumberland in the State of Virginia.

That he has no record of his age in possession, but has seen it recorded in the church register where he was born.

That he never received any discharge from the service – and consequently has none in possession.

[signed] John Bryant

[William Forsee [S31038] stated that he served several tours with John Bryant.]

NOTE: On 18 May 1840 Mary Bryant, 71, applied for a pension stating that she married John Bryant on 18 May 1786, and he died 4 July 1833. The file contains a copy of the marriage record in Lincoln County KY as follows: "I hereby certify that John Bryant & Mary Owsley was married by me May 25th 1786. Joseph Bledsoe."