

he was soon after discharged. This he thinks occurred but a short time before the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781].

The duty of the militia was so arduous at that period, and varied so constantly, shifting from one service to another and from one set of officers to another in rapid succession and constantly moving their positions. Renders it at this remote day to a man who can neither read or write and who consequently has preserved no memorandum of those events, impossible for him to give a detailed, connected, or satisfactory account of what then transpired relative to his service as a Revolutionary soldier. But this he the deponent well recollects, that he served with but short intervals of a few days each in the line of militia and in a troop of cavalry four different times and that the whole time he served when put together amounts to more than six months. He was in no actions but the duty to which he was assigned was very harassing as the force he was attached to was often in hearing and almost in sight of the enemy. The whole time of its stay at Edmund's Hill and some of our men had frequent skirmishes with their out guard.

As to his age, the certificate of the minister who christened him is annexed, who states that he the deponent was born the 20th July 1762. He well recollects that he was in service just before and after the Battle at Petersburg and also to within a few days of the surrender of Cornwallis. This is the only answer he can make as to the printed question of the war department as to the day month & year of entering into service, and the time of leaving it.

[p5]

The above named certificate will prove that he was born, raised, and lived in the county of Sussex aforesaid and State of Virginia at the time of the Revolution. He has resided in said county & state from that time to the present. He went into the service as a drafted militiaman. That is he went whenever his company number was ordered out. The privates in the companies of Virginia militia being all numbered from one to ten. On the first enrollment of a militiaman draws for his number which he ever after retains. This number fixes his rotation of service. And whenever his number was ordered out he went. On some occasions he went on orders for the militia en masse. As he was chiefly on detached duty except at Edmund's Hill he was with but few officers. And when he was with larger bodies of troops his stay was so short amongst them from being kept chiefly on detached duty that he has forgotten the names of their officers. He has stated above that he has no documentary evidence whatever of his being in the service in the Revolution. And there is no person now alive except Abd Flowers¹ of this county who was a fellow soldier with him and in his mess: And James Baines. This latter is now too infirm to attend court to give testimony. Those two are the only men now alive as far as he knows or believes who were in service with him or who are personally acquainted with the fact that he served in the Revolution.

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 and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Frederick Felts x his mark

[p6] Routine county supporting statements and certification

Eli Coker, clergy

Absolom Flowers, neighbor

Littleton Lanier, clerk

George Blow JP

Samuel B Hines, neighbor

¹ [Absalom Flowers S8494](#)

J Y Mason, member of congress