

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Bell S30855

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky Barren Count Sect

On this [blank] day of March 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the honorable Benjamin Monroe Judge of the Barren Circuit Court now sitting William Bell a resident of the County of Barren & State of Kentucky aged 78 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following decliration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832 That he entered the Servis of the united states on the 10 day of June 1777 under Captain James Lyon [of the Henry County Militia] and served und him as a private Malitia man three months against the Indians in guarding the frontier settlements on New River and that he marched in that tower of duty from Franklin County [sic: formed in 1786 from Henry and Bedford counties] in the state of Virginia where he intered the sevars of the united states & where he then resided to the frontiers and that he received no written discharge for that term of servis although he was honourably discharged by his captain. He again entered the servis of the united states as a private malitia man for three months under Captain John Renfroe [see endnote] in Franklin County state of Virginia and was attatched to the Regiment Commanded by [blank] not recollected by me and marched through Virginia to the Seige of york and was there when Corn Wallace was taken [sic: Cornwallis, 19 Oct 1781] Served at least six weeks in that tower & until he was discharged and when he was discharged he recieved no written discharge for his servis, he again entered the servis of the united states in Franklin County Virginia on the [blank] day of 1782 as an Indian Spy under Captain John Mauhan and served three months on the watters Nolichuckey & French Braud Rivers [sic: Nolichucky and French Broad rivers] in watching the movements of the Indians & guarding the frontier settlements in that Country, and that he has no documentary evidence by which he can prove any of his sevises by and that there is now no person living that is known to him by whome he can prove his servis by and that he never recieved any written discharge for any of his servises. That he was born in orange County Virginia in May 1754 and has the record of his age in his Bible as given him by his farther he entered the servis as a Drafted malitia man except when he served as an Indian spy, when he volunteered and that owing to his great age he dos not recollect the names of the officers or any of the Col Majors &c either regular or malitia except as before stated that he is known to Sherrod Bybee Joseph Nevill Richard Bailey Samuel Doughlass and a number of others who can testify to his being a man of verasity and of there belief of his servises as a soldier of the revolution, and that he continued to reside in Franklin County & State of Virginia untill he removed to this state in the year [blank] where he has ever since resided say something like 38 year, and now resides and that there is no Clergyman residing in his neighbourhood he hereby relinquishes every Claim what ever to an anuity or pention except the present and declairs that his name is not on any pention role of the agency of any state or Teretory Subscribed & sworn to this day & year aforesaid

[signed] William Bell

NOTE: "Captain John Renfroe" appears to have been John Renfro, who made pension application W9250 while also living in Barren County at the same time as Bell. Renfro was not at the Siege of Yorktown, however. Although Renfro did not claim to have been a Captain, John Huff (pension application S5590) stated that he was, and records of Henry County show that a "John Rentfro" was appointed Captain in July 1780.