

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Philemon Saunders: S31347

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia}

County of Franklin} Ss

On this 21st day of August 1832 personally appeared before me Benjamin Booth a justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Philemon Saunders Sr a resident of the County and state aforesaid aged sixty nine 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 viz. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Towit He was drafted as a militia man under Captain Joseph Headen [sic: Haden] in Fluvanna County where he then lived and marched from thence to Hillsborough in North Carolina at which place a desertion took place among the militia and he the applicant was transfered to the Company Commanded by Capt. Thomas Leftwich of Bedford County in order to complete his Company and marched from thence under his command to near Camden in South Carolina to the place where the battle in which [Gen. Horatio] Gates was defeated was fought commonly called the Battle of Gates's defeat [now usually called the Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780], and was engaged in the said battle the name of the place & county where it took place he does not now recollect. That he the applicant was marched from thence to Gilford [sic: Guilford] Courthouse in North Carolina at which place he the applicant having served his Tour of Six months for which he was drafted was honorably discharged and from thence he returned home to Fluvanna County in Virginia. where he had remained but a short time when he was again drafted under Captain Anthony Headen [sic: Haden] of Fluvanna County Va. and marched from thence to the City of Richmond in Virginia that place being the head Quarters at the time he was marched there. the names of the Commanding Officers more than above named he does not now recollect. from thence he was marched to near York Town in Va. the place he does not now recollect and was in the army at the Close of the Revolutionary War, at which time he was honorably discharged after having served a three months touer. and that he the said applicant is too old and infirm to travel to Court with any sort of Convenience to make his declaration and 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. And the said applicant further states that he has no documentary evidence of his services & that he does not know of any persons by whom he can prove them except Julius Saunders Sr & perhaps Genl Joel Leftwich

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid Philemon hisXmark Saunders

The said Philemon Saunders makes the following answers to the following interrogatories propounded to him as prescribed by the War department (Viz)

1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in fluvanna county Va.

2nd. Have you any record of your age & If so where is it?

Answer. I have not now nor ever did have that I now recollect

3rd. Where were you living when called into Service, where have you Lived since the revolutionary War & where do you now live? Answer. I lived in fluvanna county Virginia and have since lived in the county of Franklin & now live in the same—

4th. How were you called into Service? Were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute & if so for whom?

Answer. I was drafted.

5th. State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the troops where you served; such continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your Service.

Answer. to this question the applicant answers about the same in substance as is contained in the foregoing declaration.

6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service and if so by whom was it given and

what has become of it?

Answer. I [word illegible] discharges. the name of the officer who gave them I do not
[word illegible]

7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity & their Belief of your Services as a Soldier of the revolutionary war. Isaiah Green Sam'l Haggit[?] & [illegible]

The applicant further states that there is no clergyman that he with any kind of convenience can obtain

NOTE: On 4 March 1837 Philemon Saunders requested a transfer of his pension from Franklin County VA to Shelby County KY, where he had moved because "he has five children living in Kentucky, all married and settled except one & that he wishes to come to Kentucky that he might not only be near them, but also living with one of them."