

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Bettisworth S36410
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky
Warren County & Circuit Sct

This day personally appeared before me Benjamin Shackelford sole judge of the Circuit court for the county & circuit afs'd. Richard Bettersworth and made the following statement of facts on oath, to wit "I Richard Bettersworth a citizen of the united states & of the County & State afs'd do declare that I served in the war of the Revolution between this country & Britain fighting against the common enemy two years. I enlisted in Hanover County Virginia in Capt Richard Cluff Anderson's [Richard Clough Anderson's] Company to which Company I continued to belong during my service. I belonged to Col. Josiah Parker's Regt. on continental establishment (the No. of which I do not remember) and to Genl Green's division. I do not remember with certainty what year I inlisted; but it was near the beginning of the war & I believe as early as the year 1776 we first march from Hanover County to Williamsburg – then to Hampton then to Portsmouth – then across to Norfolk which had been previously burnt [1 Jan 1776] we stayed there not very long 'till we were called back to Williamsburg again. Here we stayed 'till we had orders to march to join Gen'l Washington All that were able to go when the first orders came went by water I was among those that were sick. Officers were left to bring us on when we were able to march (one of whom was our lieutenant John Anderson) which they did some time afterwards. We then marched to Philidelphia where we stayed one night only & commenced our march next morning. The name of the place where we met Washington I do not remember – after which we were at various places. I was in two engagements those of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] & Germantown [4 Oct 1777], I was finally discharged at a place called the Valley forge. My original discharge I have lost many yeas since, not knowing that I should ever have use for it. But I was honorably discharged having served out the two years for which I inlisted. I was a private soldier & part of the time a corporal until after we joined Gen'l Washington, some time after which I was made orderly sergeant which office I held until I was made forage master, which office I held 'till I was discharged what length of time I was a private or held either of these offices I cannot say. I am now growing old & am in reduced circumstances & in need of the assistance of my country for a support and am desirous of obtaining the relief afforded by a late act of congress to officers & soldiers of the Revolution who are in need of support And I do hereby relinquish my claim to any pension heretofore allowed me by the government of the United States. In testimony of all which I hereunto set my hand this 5th day of September 1818 [signed] Richard Bettisworth

State of Kentucky Warren County Circuit Sct

On this 5 day of November 1821 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record for the County of Warren Richard Bettersworth in the seventieth year of his age, resident in the said County of Warren, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on His oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War, as follows. that he served in the 5th Virginia Regiment in Captain Richard C Andersons Company, commanded by Colo. Parker for the Term of two years as set forth in his original declaration, which bears date, he believes on the fifth day of September 1818 and that he has been placed on the pension list of the United States by certificate of Pension from the Secretary of War date 19th Dec'r. 1820 and Numbered 17,972.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the

United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed – Viz

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1 Cow & Calf for which owe[?]. | 10.00 |
| 1 Bed & furniture & bedstead,. | \$15.00 |
| 1 Writing desk 5\$. 1 Table \$3. | 8.00 |
| 1 Small Table 175 cts. 1 Cotton wheel 50 cts. | 2.25 |
| 1 Flax wheel 150 cts. 6 common chairs \$3. | 4.50 |
| 1 old trundle bedstead \$1. 1 handsaw 3\$. 1 old age 50 cts. | 4.50 |
| 2 fire[?]. 1 Jack & 1 smoothing plains. | 4.00 |
| 2 - Inch Chissells 50cts. Cubberd ware 3\$ 2 Bottles 50 cts. | 4.00 |
| 2 Small bottles 25 cts. 1 small trunk 25 cts. 1 Coffee Pott 1\$. | 1.50 |
| 1 pr Candle moulds & Tea Cannister 37 cts. 2 Water pails 75 cts. | 1.12 |
| 1 pewter dish & Tin pan 1.25. 1 butter pot 25 cts. | 1.50 |
| 1 old Tea kettle 1\$. 1 small pott 2\$. 1 Dutch oven \$2. 1 Skillett 50 cts. | 5.50 |
| 1 drawing knife & Hammer \$1.87. one case of knives & forks 1\$. | <u>2.87</u> |
| | \$64.65 cts [sic] |

no debts due or owing nor money

one Bed, stead & furniture not included considered as necessary

amounting in all in value to \$64.65 cs

[signed] Rich'd. Bettisworth

And I the said Richard Bettersworth do moreover state & swear that I am now in the 70th year of my age according to the best information I have. That I am by occupation a House Carpenter that from old age & infirmity I am unable to labor at my s'd. occupation. That my family consists of my wife & two children That my wife Elizabeth is now about 55 years old. she is weakly in constitution & very infirm, and measurably deaf and unable to do much labor. that the eldest child living with me is named Sally Betterworth, aged about 20 years – the other named Betsey Bettersworth aged about 13 years old. That these constitute the whole of my family. That my s'd two daughters are capable of doing common house business.

[signed] Rich'd Bettisworth

NOTE: A document in the file states that Bettisworth died 9 Nov 1825.