Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

f13VA

11/7/11: rev'd 1/29/22

Pension application of William Tanner S40553 Transcribed by Will Graves

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 8]

District of Pennsylvania: SS

On this nineteenth day of April in the year of our Lord 1819 Before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Greene in the district aforesaid personally came William Tanner sixty seven years of age resident in the County of Greene in the District aforesaid, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following statement and declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and Naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" that he the said William Tanner enlisted for three years in the year 1777 to the best of his recollection – but is certain that he served in the flying camp five months and enlisted for the term of three years shortly after at Martinsburg in the State of Virginia in the company of Captain Mitchel in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Wood [James Wood] in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the service of the United States until his said term of three years expired in the year 1780, when on a contest with a certain Ensign Russell who attempted to retain him longer than his term of enlistment, this Deponent applied to the Court of Berkley [Berkeley] County in Virginia and on proving that his enlistment was for three years only was by the said Court discharged at Martinsburg in Berkeley County in the State of Virginia, that he was in the Battle at York Island [this may be a reference to the battle more commonly known as the Battle of Long Island, August 27, 1776], the battle of White Plains [October 28, 1776] while a soldier in the flying camp and during his service for three years was in the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], the battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777], in the battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for his support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of said service except parole evidence hereto annexed.

Sworn to and declared before me the day and year first of aforesaid S/ John Minor

The same day John Bartley¹ being by me previously sworn according to law, did say that he was in the United States Army during a part of the Revolutionary war and knows that the above named William Tanner was a soldier in the service of the United States.

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¹ John Bartley S39949

Sworn and declared before me the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Minor

[p 4: In his filing dated December 18, 1820 containing his schedule of property as required by the Act of May 1, 1820, the veteran states that he served in the company of Captain Joseph Mitchell who was succeeded by Captain Joseph Swearingen in the 12th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Wood; he also states

"I do also swear that to the best of my knowledge I am in the sixty eighth or sixty ninth year of my age, and am infirm and unable to labor almost deprived of the power of hearing, I was formerly a farmer by occupation but have lately attempted to keep a school, which occupation I am unable to succeed in. I have a wife between sixty and seventy years of age and very infirm and no other family. ...

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1 cow valued		\$10.00		
1 very poor bed		8.00		
A small piece of land of very inferio	or quality worthless			
useless except that there is a poor cabin on it				
may afford a home, if the possessor will				
support himself	valued at	43.25		
	G / TT T1111			

S/ William Tanner"

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 19, 1819, for 3 years service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]

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Addendum to William Tanner S40553

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 28 Jan 2022.

[From bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.]

I do impower Albert Russel [Albert Russell VAS84] to Apply & take out my land warrent due me for Services as Soldier in the 8th Virginia Reg't from the 24th of December 1776 till the last day of January 1780 at which time I Was discharged & left s'd Reg't. Given under my hand This 23^d of Feb. 1784.

William. Damie

William Tanner having Authorised me to take out his land warrent due him for Services as a Soldier in the 8th Virginia Regiment, you wou'd much Oblige me by doing it for me, and I do hereby impower you to so do. Given under my hand the 2^d of Feb. 1780 Albert Russell

Cert'd Henry Bedinger [S8059]



I do hereby Certify that William Tanner servd as a Soldier in the 8th Virg'a Reg't from the 24th Day of December 1776 till the last Day of Jany 1780 and quit it by legal Authority. Given under my hand this 2^d of March 1784 Albert Russell Lt 1st Virg'a Reg't

Henry Bedinger Capt

5 Virg'a Reg't

(Copy) Cha Jones Clk

NOTE: The 12th Virginia Regiment was renumbered the 8th Virginia Regiment on 14 Sep 1778.