Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Berryman Green VAS2006 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection/ Halifax County – Land/ Real Estate]

To the General Assembly of Virginia

The Petition of Berryman Green of the County of Halifax humbly sheweth.

That about the month of June 1776 he enlisted as a Private in Colo. Theodorick Blands Regiment of Cavalry in this State, on Continental Establishment, in which capacity he continued until late in the winter of the same year, about which time he was promoted to the rank of Quarter Master to the said Regiment, and some time after that he was appointed Paymaster, in which capacity he continued until the month of May 1779: – that the laws authorizing a bounty in lands to the Officers and soldiers on Continental Establishment, having [undeciphered word] the grant to such only as remained in the service three years successively, your Petitioner considered an application for such bounty wou'd be unavailing and has hitherto remained silent upon the subject – but having now discovered that the legislature (just to all her Citizens) have in many instances extended to such of her Officers & Soldiers, whose time of service was not exactly marked by three years, that bounty which the existing laws wou'd seem to exclude them from – and because your Petitioner hopes to make it satisfactorily appear that he was during the time aforesaid amounting to two years and eleven months, faithful to all the trusts committed to his charge, and discharged his duty with propriety – and also because he again entered voluntarily as a private in a Regiment of Riflemen raised by Colo. Charles Lynch, and was again promoted by him to the ran of Quartermaster, in which service he continued about two months – after which he was appointed Assistant deputy Quarter master General for the United States in Virginia and served as such about eighteen months, in all which services your Petitioner equited his duty with integrity and in such manner as cannot be excepted to, amounting in the whole to a service of four years and seven months

Your Petitioner humbly prays that he may be allowed so much land as has generally been granted to those of like rank in the service of the United States, or so much as the Legislature in their Wisdom shall think proper & right having respect to the time he has served and the various capacitys in which he acted and that an act may pass authorizing the proper officer to grant to your Petitioner a Warrant to survey the same & your Petitioner will pray &c

I do Certify that in the Spring of the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy six, Berryman Green enlisted with me as a private in the first Regiment of light Dragoons on Continental Establishment commanded by Col Theodorick Bland – that in a short time after he was appointed Quarter master to said Regiment, and afterwards Paymaster – that e continued with the Regiment in the Capacity last mentioned until the Spring of the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy nine, at which time he obtained permission from the Commander in Chief to resign his appointment – having honourably discharged all the Offices in which he acted during the time aforesaid. John Va

John Watts [BLWt2431-300] Capt of the 1st Regt &c

If necessary the Committee will please call upon Colo. Benj'a. Temple [Benjamin Temple BLWt2214-450] of the Senate, & Maj'r Eggleston [Joseph Eggleston W8687] of the House of Delegates for information.

Also General [Henry] Lee

Nov'r. 22 96/ Dec'r 5 1796 Rejected/ Reported

To the Honourable, The Speaker and Members of the General Assembly of Virginia. The Petition of Berryman Green sheweth. That your Petitioner early in the year 1777; entered into the Army of the United States in defence of American Liberty, as a private in Colo. Blands Regiment of Light Dragoons; in which Capacity he continued until early the next Spring with small degrees of promotion. That in March 1777 he received a Commission from the President of Congress appointing him Quarter master to the said Regiment; the duties of which office he faithfully executed until the first of November following – when he received an appointment from the Commander in Chief as Paymaster: in which Capacity he continued until the 9th day of April 1779 nearly compleating a term of three years. And your Petitioner further States that during the said term he was in continual service, and chiefly with the main Army having never received or applyed for permission to see his friends and relatives – but continued at his post with unremitting assiduity After his resignation and return home he again performed a tour of several months duty as quarter master to Colo. Lynches Regiment of Volunteer's; and about eighteen months service as Assistant Deputy quarter master for the Continent in the State of Virginia – the whole of his service amounting to a term of nearly five years, the Chiefest part of which he was entitled to the Pay, Rations & Rank of a Captain. And your Petitioner begs leave to shew that he being a lame man, incapable of performing service on foot – and exempted from military service; was induced only from motives of rendering his injured Country service, in entering into her Armies and in this your honourable House will perceive the cause of his continually acting in the Staff department. Your Petitioner has documents which he has entrusted to the members from his County shewing the correctness of the foregoing Statement – and he believes that several gentlemen of both house of Assembly who served with him can and will do him the Justice to support what he has advanced.

Your Petitioner therefore Solicits the General Assembly that they may take into their consideration the facts aforesaid. And trusting that a long span of time which has elapsed without application, purely from circumstances of which our Petitioner was unapprized, will not affect his claim, & call upon his Countrymen for equal Justice – that altho he has never served at one time the exact term of three years yet as he has served nearly that at one time and considerably longer in all – that he has sacrificed what little he had to begin the world with by entering into the Army & continuing there – that the Chief cause of his resignation was for want of means to support upon in a suitable State, altho' ever careful and committing no excesses – that in the whole of his Services he acquired nothing but a good name & Poverty, which he avers is the case – Humbly Prays that they would grant him such compensation in lands, unappropriated and within their disposal, as to them shall seem just and equitable – or in case lands are to be found – a just equivalent thereto in any other manner which to your honourable Body shall seem reasonable.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound prays &c Berryman Green Dec'r. 9th 1797

December [date illegible] 1797 Claims/ Reasonable/ reported

[The following are from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia. Some of the online images are illegible.]

I do hereby certify that I was well acquainted [with] Mr. Berryman Green (now of the County of Hallifax during the [illegible word] 1777 1778 & part of 1779, throughout that time he served in the capacity of Quarter master or Paymaster to Bland's Regiment of Light Dragoons on Continental establishment [illegible word] to pay or emoluments of both Quarter Master & Pay Master equal to a Captains pay being [undeciphered word] Dollars a month.

The said Berryman Green was much esteemed by those who knew him, & considered as fitted to fill those offices [one or two illegible words] discharge their duties with great diligence & propriety.

given under my hand this 17^{th} day of October 1808.

Jos. Eggleston