

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Daniel Bryan S1172

fn45NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/12/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 35: veteran filed an initial application on February 18, 1833 in Jessamine County Kentucky but his subsequent application is much more thorough and detailed and is transcribed below.]

State of Kentucky Scott County: SS

On this 16th day of September in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared before the Justices of the peace for the County and State aforesaid in open court Daniel Bryan saith that he was born in North Carolina, Rowan County by the family register on the 10th day of February 1758 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 the 7th of June 1832.

First – That he was placed on the muster Roll at the usual age in the Company of Captain John Johnston and the Company was classed into four classes and he Daniel was numbered in the third class and that his father William Bryan was numbered in the first class. That in the summer 1776 the Cherokee Indians broke out in open War on the frontiers of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia at which time, Government ordered out the militia a Campaign against said Indians. My Father William Bryan was drafted to go under Griffith Rutherford then commanding General of the militia of Rowan County North Carolina to march and join the Troops of South Carolina and marched against the most southerly Towns of the Cherokee and the said Daniel Bryan was drafted to go under the command of Colonel Joseph Williams to march and join the Virginia Army under the command of Colonel Christian which joined at the Long Islands of Holston River and marched against the most northerly Towns of the Cherokee Indians; about the same time as the South Army was at the South Towns and the said Daniel Bryan further states that at the time of the Campaign there was no public arms to be obtained there was only hunters guns and a number of them in bad repair, and that a sufficient supply of arms in repair could not be obtained for the men called out either by borrowing or any other means and that his Father loaned his rifle and he said Daniel had none at that time. The said Daniel also states that his Father and himself were at the Gunsmith's Business at the time of being drafted and that General Rutherford ordered his Father William Bryan and himself to stay at home and work in their shot repairing and fixing of arms for others that were going on the campaign and for those that were expected to relieve them when called on. And said General Rutherford promised them the said William and Daniel, that they should be allowed the same as those that

went on the Campaign and that the said William and Daniel Bryan obeyed said orders of their General & faithfully worked at making and repairing of arms by day and some nights until midnight for which services we were credited a Tower [tour] of duty of three months the same as those that went on the Campaign. The said Daniel considered himself as much a soldier during the campaign repairing & making arms as if he had been with the Army so it was considered by his General & himself –

Secondly – That about the 1st of July 1777 the said Daniel Bryan entered himself a volunteer soldier and militia man in the service of the United States for six months under Captain William Baley Smith [William Bailey Smith] John Holder Lieutenant and was marched from Rowan County North Carolina to Kentucky to Boonsborough on the frontier of Virginia when he served the term of six months as above mentioned in guarding the Fort, scouting the Country around to prevent the depredations of the British and Indians and was legally discharged the winter following, which discharge I have lost it, but refers to the Affidavit of Samuel Bryan¹ who served in a similar service at the same time and we returned to Carolina the same winter; –

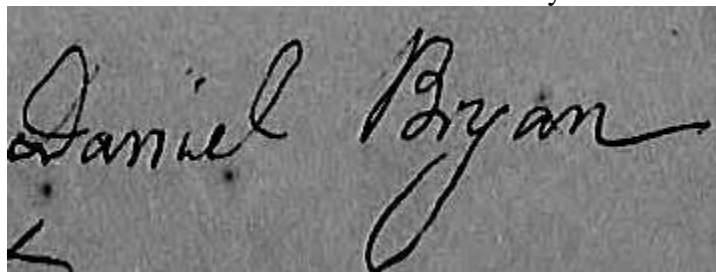
Thirdly – That in the spring of the year 1779 he with his Father his Brother Samuel Bryan and others came to Kentucky, erected a small Fort at Bryan's Station, where his brother remained with his Family and raised some Corn etc. – The said Daniel returned to North Carolina with his Father William Bryan to assist him to move his Family to Kentucky which he did in the fall following and settled at Bryan's Station where a number of others settled same fall 1779 and in a large the station at which time he said Daniel was enrolled in the Company of Captain William Hogan where he remained winter and summer following guarding the Fort, scouting over the Country in search of Indians at different times which times amounted to 42 days. Some of which services is mentioned as follows. That on the 10th day of March 1780 his brother William Bryan was killed by the Indians who surrounded Bryan's Station killing two men and wounded one; stole a number of horses and killed their cattle. That said Daniel with others pursued them 3 days and then returned home. That in May the Indians stole seven horses shot at some men and made off with the horses. The said Daniel with others took their trail pursued retook the horses the Indians he entered in the cane. That on the 23rd of same month, [indecipherable word] him and party 14 in number fell in with a party of Indians near the Great Crossings of Elkhorn Creek. We killed three of their party one of which fell by a ball from my rifle, the wounded of the Indians not known. The Indians killed and wounded five of our men. My Father William Bryan was one of the wounded who died of his wounds on the 8th day after. The said Daniel states that in [indecipherable word] following he with others were ordered to the Falls of the Ohio [River]. That the Indians came on our trail, pursued us to where Frankfurt now stands. Fired on us when in the River, wounded five and took one prisoner. We came out at the same place we went in at, made a rally at a short distance and returned. But the Indians crossed the River and made their escape with the prisoner. We then halted, extracted a ball from one of the wounded, dressed their wounds and then we returned back to the Fort with the wounded. The said Daniel further states that in the month of July the British with a number of Indians invaded Kentucky, took Ruddle's and Martin's station with all the Inhabitants prisoner and carried them off some to Canaday [sic, Canada] some to the different Indian Towns. That shortly after General George Rogers Clark commander of the regular troops then at the level ordered Colonel Benjamin Logan to call out the militia by a general draft or volunteering and meet said Clark at the mouth of Licking River to go a campaign against the Indians which said Logan did and appointed Commissaries and hunters to provide meat for the Families of men that was called out on the Campaign as meat was

¹ [Samuel Bryan W9366](#)

the only subsistence at that time and the said Daniel was drafted to go on the Campaign but being a good Hunter, was ordered by Colonel Logan to serve as a Hunter and did serve during the Time of the Campaign which was 16 days. This statement proven by the affidavit of Samuel Bryan. The said Daniel Bryan further states that after the return of the men from the Campaign that his mother, Brother Samuel Bryan and family and four sisters moved back to North Carolina to the same Farm from which we moved from; thus ending my services against the British and Indians and commences against the British and Tories of North Carolina. On our arrival in North Carolina we found the Country in a shocking situation. Whig and Tory nearly all in arms and the British advancing and marching through the Country. Shortly after our arrival the North Carolina in November 1780 my brother Samuel Bryan, and myself went to our former Captain John Johnston who then was Captain of the State minute men and entered ourselves into the minute service to serve at a minute's warning at any time when called on for the term of one year if wanted for the purpose of reconnoitering the settlements most suspected of being Tories. Taking and guarding them to prison whoever we found to be such, which services we performed whenever called on and at any time, which times of service during the year added together was 4 months which will appear by the affidavit of Samuel Bryan. Here I Samuel Bryan omit stating a Tower in which I hired a substitute to assist in guarding the prisoners taken by General Morgan at the Cowpens as I have been informed that I am not allowed the service performed by a substitute. And proceed to state that about the 1st of October 1781, He said Daniel was drafted and served as light Horseman in Captain James Stinson's Company under the command of Colonel Elisha Isaacs marching and scouring near the middle of North Carolina on the waters of Deep River in search of a noted Tory Colonel Fannon [sic, David Fanning] and party who then was catching, plundering and paroling of our soldiers on their return home from Wilmington in North Carolina. With the said Fannon and party we had several severe skirmishes. Took some Tories prisoners & horses, gun and sword] some wearing apparel etc. After serving a tower of duty for 3 months I was legally discharged by my Captain at Handley's Mill on the 3rd of January 1782 which discharge is on file in the Commissioners Office. The service of this Tour will also be confirmed by the affidavit of Samuel Bryan who served in the same Company at the same time.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ Daniel Bryan

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature reads "Daniel Bryan" and is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The signature is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

Sworn to in open court by Daniel Bryan September 11, 1833

S/ All Ben B Ford, Clk

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

Ans. In Rowan County and State of North Carolina on the 10th day of February 1758

Quest 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have a record of my age at home copied into my Bible taken from my Fathers family record. My brother Samuel who has seen the family records has testified the same

Quest 3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. In Rowan County North Carolina and lived part of my time in Rowan County North Carolina and the balance of my time in Fayette and Jessamine counties the latter where I now live on my present place of abode in Kentucky

Quest 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans. I was drafted twice and served my Country twice as a volunteer and I was never a Substitute for any man.

Quest 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. General Griffith Rutherford General George Rogers Clark and Colonels Christian, Joseph Williams, Elijah Isaacs and Logan Captains John Johnston, William Bailey Smith and William Hogan and John Holder Lieutenant and Captain James Stinson and Colonels Isaacs and Christian and Williams' Regiments. My service as well as I can recollect which is before herein stated was working at the Gunsmith's Business the first Tower. My second Tower of duty was marching from North Carolina to Kentucky, the then frontier of Virginia and scouting the Country stationed as a guard around those are often times after the British and Indians. My third tower of duty in Kentucky I served as a Hunter and in assisting the other man in pursuing the Indians and British and in killing an Indian with my own rifle and in many other skirmishes and in taking care of the wounded as I never left a wounded man on the battle ground and in retaking stolen property such as horses etc. from the Indians. The services of my fourth tower of duty was marching and scouring the Country of North Carolina on Deep River in search of a noted Tory Colonel Fannon and his party we had several skirmishes. Took some prisoners three horses gun and sword some wearing apparel etc.

Quest 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans. To the 4th Question I received a discharge from Captain William Bailey Smith which discharge I have lost.

Ans. The said Daniel Ryan has 2 receipts or discharges both for substitutes from Captain John Johnston for 2 towers of duty marked No. 1st and No. 3rd and one discharge marked No. 2 from Captain James Stinson we chart in the War Office and in the hands of James L Edwards as a Commissioner of Pensions at Washington City. And the following all the copies subjoined. –

January 25th 1781

This is to certify that Daniel Bryan a drafted Soldier for this present Tower of my Company is hereby discharged by sending a substitute in his place. Certified by me

S/ John Johnston Captain²

Camp at Handley's Mills January 3rd day 1782

This is to certify that Daniel Bryan has served a tower of duty in public service as light horse none in my Company under the command of Colonel Isaacs and is now discharged by me

S/ James Stinson, Captain³

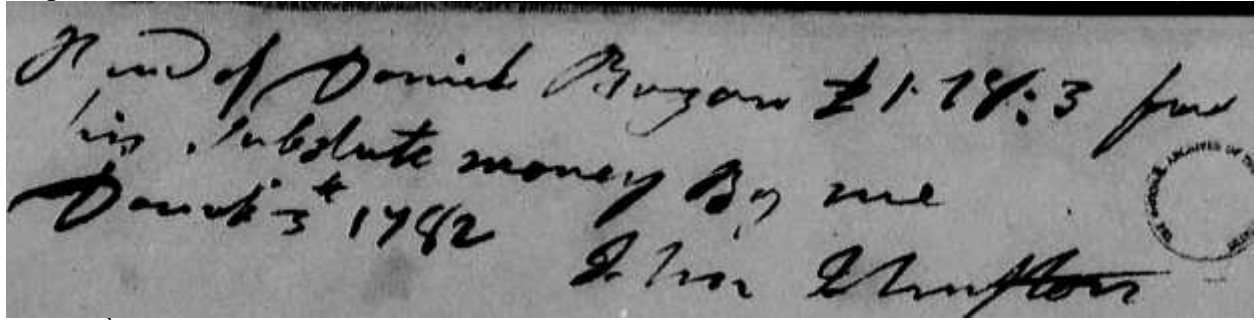
[illegible] of Daniel Bryan £1.18s.3d No his Substitute Money by me December the 3rd 1782

S/ John Johnston Captain

² I did not find the digital image of the original of this document in this file

³ I did not find the digital image of the original of this document in the file

[fn p. 30]



I recd of Daniel Bryan £1.28:3 for
his absolute money by me
Daniel's 1782
I recd I Johnston

Quest 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. Giles Hawkins Senior and Henry Overstreet

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

[John Rogers, a clergyman, and Richard M Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 32]

State of Indiana Marion County: SS

Be it remembered that on the 21st day of August in the year of our Lord 1833, Personally came before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, Samuel Bryan of said County, aged seventy-seven years, who being by me duly sworn deposed and saith. That Daniel Bryan now of Jessamine County and State of Kentucky is a natural born brother of his: that the said Daniel was born in Rowan County in the State of North Carolina on the 10th day of February 1758 according to the family Record kept by our father – That the said Daniel Bryan did in the month of July or August 1777 enter himself a soldier in Captain William Bailey Smith's Company, John Holder being Lieutenant for the time of six months and was marched to Kentucky where he assisted in keeping Garrison, scouting and ranging the Country to defend it against the depredations of the British and Indians who were invading and destroying it, and that he was legally discharged the winter following: That this deponent thinks it was early in the month of July 1780 the British with a number of Indians invaded Kentucky and took Ruddle and Martin's Stations with all the inhabitants prisoners, and carried off with them a number of horses from other Stations, and returned to Detroit, at which time General George Rogers Clark commanded the regular troops at Louisville, who ordered Colonel Benjamin Logan to call a general draft of the militia, and meet him said Clark at the mouth of Licking River, to go a campaign against the Indians etc. which said Logan did, and ordered every able-bodied man on duty also appointed Commissaries and hunters to provide meat for the families of those who marched on the campaign; and that said Daniel Bryan was appointed one of the hunters during the term of the campaign which was about sixteen days, and that this deponent served as a volunteer during said campaign under the officers above named, that after he this deponent returned to his family he was pressed by his mother and sisters to return with his family to North Carolina, which he did, and arrived there in the month of October, that when he arrived there with his family he found the Country in a dreadful situation; the Army under General Gates being defeated, and Georgia, South Carolina and a great part of North Carolina over run with the British and Tories, that immediately after his return to his former place of residence, himself with his brother Daniel Bryan went to their former Captain John Johnston and entered themselves into the State minute Service which was on or about the last of November 1780 for the term of twelve

months if wanted where they held themselves in readiness at a minute's warning to serve night or day for the purpose of hunting Tories caging and guarding them to prison, and preventing them from destroying the Whig party and from joining the British etc. which service they performed at every call and at different times, which time was added together in the course of the year, was about four months.

This deponent further saith that the said Daniel Bryan was drafted and served as a soldier, a tour as Light horsemen in Captain James Stinson's Company under the command of Colonel Isaacs, and was legally discharged at Handley's Mill on the 3rd day of January 1782, that this deponent served in the same company during said tour last aforesaid. And further this deponent saith not.

S/ Saml Bryan senr

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Saml Bryan senr".

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 21st day of August A.D. 1833

S/ Henry Bradley, JP

[fn p. 41]

State of Indiana Marion County: Be it known that on August 21, 1833 before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally came Samuel Bryan aged 77 who being by me duly sworn deposed and saith that in the year 1776 the Cherokee Indians broke out in a war on the frontiers of South Carolina North Carolina and Virginia and that his father William Bryan his Brother Daniel Bryan & himself all were enrolled in the Company of Captain John Johnston and under the command of General Griffith Rutherford who ordered a draft to be made and that William Bryan his father was drafted to go a campaign against the Cherokee Indians at which time arms could not be obtained in good Repair sufficient for the men called out and that my father William Bryan & my Brother Daniel Bryan were gunsmiths and work at that business and that General Rutherford then commander of the troop ordered that they should stay at home and repair & make fire arms which they did for the use of the Army drafted under General Rutherford as above stated and Colonel Joseph Williams and joined the Virginia troops and for which service General Rutherford agreed to allow them a tour of duty – and further this deponent saith not.

S/ Saml Bryan senr

[fn p. 43: power of attorney dated March 11, 1853 filed by Thomas Bryan son and one of the heirs of Daniel Bryan. Thomas Bryan states that his father died in Fayette County Kentucky on the 9th of February 1845 leaving no widow.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$59.76 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 17 months and 28 days service in the North Carolina militia.]