Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Bush S1176 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky, Clarke [sic: Clark] County, Sct.

On this 22^d day of July 1833 personally appeared before the Justices of the Clarke County Court James Bush (in open Court, now sitting) a resident of the County aforesaid, aged seventy four years on the 26th day of September last, 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.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and serve as herein stated.

I was born in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County State of Virginia on the 26th day of September 1759 I have no record of my age – and since the Revolutionary War I lived in Orange County Virginia about three years and thence removed to Augusta County in said State where I lived eight months and thence I removed to Holsten [probably Holston River], in Virginia where I lived two years and thence removed to Kentucky and settled in that part of Fayette County which is now Clarke County where I I have resided ever since and now continue to live.

1st In the month of July 1780 I was drafted in said Orange County as a militia man to guard the Albermarle [sic: Albemarle] Barracks, to which place I was immediately marched and on said tour I served forty days and was then discharged at said Barracks - but my discharge was not in writing. Col. John Taylor [sic: Francis Taylor] commanded us at said Barracks. I do not know any person now living by whom I can prove my service. I don't remember the name of any Major is said command, nor of any Captain or other Commissioned officer except said Taylor. We did not march under any Captain or other Commissioned officer from said Orange County to said Barracks, but as detailed we marched in small detachments to said Barracks where we served under different officers of the day whose names I have forgotten, except that of Captain Davis. I believe that he and the other officers were regular officers and my place of residence was about eighteen miles distant from said Barracks. I don't now recollect the day of the month or the month when I was discharged as aforesaid, but I well remember that I served forty days on said tour and I have no written or documentary evidence of my said service 2^d. On the first day of April 1781 I was drafted as a militia man in Orange County Virginia and marched from said County in Capt George Waughs Company of Virginia Militia. James Stevens was the Lieutenant of said company and I have forgotten the name of the Ensign of the Company. We were marched from Orange County to Richmond in Virginia and thence to Williamsberg [sic: Williamsburg] where we remained a few days - and thence up the Country, traversing it in different directions as duty called. In this tour I served ninty days [half a page has been lined through and is illegible] We were in the regiment of Colonel George Matthews [sic: George Mathews] and Thomas Barbour was one of the Majors and I was discharged, but not in writing by said Waugh, near Richmond and about eighty miles from my place of residence. On this tour I was not engaged in any battle I was discharged on or about the first day of July 1781. I remember that one Nailer a regular officer acted as adjutant - but the names of other regular officers, if any were with us on any part of said tour, I have forgotten, and I believe from my best recollection that the highest officer in command of said detachment was Col Matthews and I have no written or documentary evidence of my services on said last mentioned tour 3^d. On the first of August 1781 I was again drafted in Orange County aforesaid and thence marched in the Company of Capt George Waugh (James Stevens Lieutenant, but the name of the Ensign is forgotten) to West Point through different counties. We were attached to the Regiment of Col [James] Innes and one Casey was one of the majors and the name of the other Major I have forgotten. At West Point we met with the British Troops, they being on one side of the River and we on the other side. We marched up the

[Pamunkey] River about forty miles to Ruffin's ferry [near Sweet Hall] where we crossed a the river – and then we turned down the river, going through different counties and were marched to the Town of Gloucester. On this march we went through King William & King & Queen [King and Queen] & King George Counties, through the Draggon Swamp and Chickahominy swamp into Essex County where we stayed a few days - and then we marched within nine miles of Gloucester and were there stationed - and were there joined by the French troops – and thence we marched to Sewen's fields [possibly Seawell's Old Field] near Gloucester within a half mile of said Town and there we found the British and were engaged in a skirmish in Sewen's field with the British, at the lower end of the field next to the Town - Gen'l. Fayette [Lafayette] was there in the command. I remeber that Col [Alexander] Dick was also an officer – and then the siege of York commenced [28 Sep 1781] and I continued in said service during said siege until the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct] and after the siege was over we were marched back to Gloucester Court house, having the charge of the British Prisiners, and there I received a written discharge from Capt George Waugh which I since lost in James River together with all my other papers on my way to Kentucky. I was dicharged at the end of ninty days service and I was retained in the service a few days after the expiration of the period for which I was drafted. I have no written or documentary evidence of my said service - on said tour I saw Gen'l Washington, Fayette &c and when called into service on said tours I lived in Orange County and I claim a pension for two hundred and twenty days service as aforesaid

I am known in my present neighbourhood to Col Francis T. Jackson, David Hampton Esqr, Chilten Allan, James Clark, Samuel M. Taylor and Samuel Hanson, who can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution – and I know no person now living by whom I can prove my said services or any part thereof

And 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid James hisXmark Bush