

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathaniel Bell S32113

fn26SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/22/10

[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.]

State of Illinois and County of St. Clair

On this 5th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Circuit Court of the County of St. Clair and State aforesaid Nathaniel Bell aged 76 years on the 15th of March 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 -- That he enlisted in the Army of the United States on or about the 1st April and in the year 1776 with Captain Potts and served in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Huger. That he enlisted for fourteen months and continued in service during the whole time and was discharged in June of the year 1777; that when he entered the service he resided in Montgomery County North Carolina; that he marched through South Carolina and Georgia and was at Charleston when Clinton & Sir Peter Parker attacked the Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island -- That he served in the company commanded by Captain Thomas Potts, that Benjamin Huger was his Major and Isaac Huger his Colonel.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Hay, CCCSCC

S/ Nathaniel Bell, X his mark

State of Illinois St. Clair County

On this the 5th day of September personally appeared in open Court before Theophilus W. Smith Judge of the Circuit Court of St. Clair Circuit and the State of Illinois, now sitting, Nathaniel Bell resident of St. Clair County and State aforesaid aged 76 years, 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 7, 1832. That in addition to the Tour which he performed in the regular Army in 1776 -- 77 that on or about the 1st of September 1781 he was again called into service. That he was drafted and belonged to Captain West Harris Company and in Colonel William Loften's Regiment and under General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. That he was born in Warren County North Carolina and has a record of his age made by his father and has lived since the revolution 35 years in Georgia and from thence moved to Illinois that the time he was drafted he resided in Montgomery County North Carolina, and marched by to

Wilmington, where he staid until the British evacuated Wilmington, and having heard of Cornwallis' surrender, he was discharged after having served about two months that he has lost his discharge he knows of no person whose evidence he can procure to testify to his service nor has he any documentary evidence of the fact.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Hay, CCCSCC

S/ Nathaniel Bell, X his mark

[William Kinney, a clergyman, and William Bridges gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 8]

State of North Carolina Montgomery County: On the this day 9th day of November 1833 personally appeared before me Edmond T. Lilly of the justices of the peace in and for said County Benjamin Bell who being duly sworn deposes to the following facts respecting the services of Nathaniel Bell¹ in the War of the revolution. He states that according to a record made by his father which is now in the possession of this affiant, Nathanael Bell was born on the 15th day of March A.D. 1755 which would make him 78 years of age the 15th of March last. This affiant, who is now a resident of the County aforesaid, states that himself and his brother Nathaniel lived with his father in this County which was then Anson County, having been since divided and as well as he recollects: that his brother Nathaniel was the oldest son that his father had and in the year 1776 or 1777 as to the particular year he does not recollect but knows that it was in the early part of the revolution, and early in the spring in March or April, his brother Nathaniel enlisted as a soldier of the revolution under one Captain Potts who had sent Arthur [?] a Sergeant under him into the County of Montgomery, then Anson, in order to raise troops. That after his brother Nathaniel had enlisted he together with 4 or 5 other persons dug them a canoe and launched it on the Uwharrie River and departed for the purpose of joining Captain Potts somewhere on the River Pee Dee [sic, Pedee] into which the Uwharrie soon emptied. As to the time for which his brother Nathaniel enlisted he is not enabled to state but that he was absent on duty as a soldier as he believes until June in the following year which would make 14 or 15 months and that when he returned he was dressed in the uniform of an American soldier and uniformly stated that he again under Captain Potts his Captain to Charleston in South Carolina and Savannah in Georgia. That this affiant does not now recollect the names of any other officers of a higher Grade under whom his brother stated he served. This affiant states that in the year 1781 in the month of September his brother Nathaniel and himself were drafted for a term of three months under one Captain Harris who was under the command of Colonel William Loftin who commanded the Regiment raised in this County: That Loftin joined General Rutherford somewhere near Little River in said County. That Rutherford's Army marched on towards Wilmington crossing the Cape Fear [River] at Elizabeth City [sic, Elizabeth Town, now called Elizabethtown] now in the County of Bladen. They marched home till they came to Black River between Fayetteville and Wilmington and remained there until they received intelligence that Cornwallis had surrendered and that the British stationed at Wilmington had evacuated that place: That after receiving this intelligence they returned home under Captain Harris & Colonel Loftin and were discharged verbally on the River Uwharrie. The affiant states that they returned home a few days before Christmas their term of service having expired a short time previous as well as he recollects.

¹ [Benjamin Bell W3925](#)

Further this affiant saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the ninth day of November 1833
E. F. Lilly, JP S/ Benjamin Bell

State of North Carolina Montgomery County: On this 9th Day of November 1833 personally appeared before me Edmond F. Lilly a Justice of the peace as aforesaid Richard Bell² who being duly sworn on the subject of Nathaniel Bell's services Deposeth and saith that he lived with his father at the time stated by Benjamin Bell who is his brother and that the statement made by the said Benjamin Bell with respect to Nathaniel Bell's services is substantially correct Nathanael Bell was the oldest son and about the time above stated viz. in the early part of the war he enlisted under Captain Potts who had sent Sergeant Harris in this County to raise men. That his brother Nathaniel, went down with Harris & others three in number making five in all in a canoe dug for the purpose, which was launched in the Uwharrie River. That they were to meet Captain Potts in Georgetown, which was the place of rendezvous. That Nathaniel Bell was absent until June of the following year having been absent 14 or 15 months. That on his return he was dressed in the uniform of an American soldier. He states that his brother Nathaniel received his bounty money at his father's at the time he enlisted: He further states that his brother Nathaniel always stated that he had been in actual service during the whole time of his absence -- that he was at Charleston on Sullivan's Island and at Savannah that Nathaniel Bell & rest who went from Montgomery from the heat of the southern climate were so sun burnt, that the affiant scarcely knew them. Further this affiant saith not -- only that he knows nothing of the three months tour mentioned by Benjamin Bell.

Sworn to and subscribed the day aforesaid
S/ E. F. Lilly, JP

S/ Richard Bell, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$53.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831.]

² [Richard Bell W25231](#)