Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Bailey S6577

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

I James Bailey of Surry County, and State of Virginia do certify, that I was a Soldier in the revolutionary War, unitll the Siege at little York was over, and Cornwallis taken prisoner, my services in the War were as follows, I was enroll'd under Capt. William Bailey (a Militia Capt) of Surry County State of Virginia sometime in the year 1779, and in Nov'r. the same years, was called out under Capt. Wm. Hart [William Hart], into actual service, and served a tour, of six weeks duty, and in the year 1780 I served two more tours of duty under Capt. John H Cocke, the Father of the present General John H Cocke, and in the year 1781, I went under Capt. Hart again, in the month of March or April, and was under him in the Battle at Petersburg Gen'l. Mulenburg being our commander [sic: Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr 1781, Gen. Peter Muhlenberg commanding], with some other field Officers, we retreated to the Coal pits [Midlothian Coal Pits in Chesterfield County]. I was there put under Capt. Vaughn, and was under him when Gen'l. Lafayette came from the North, and receiv'd us [29 Apr], which he did on Shockoe hill at Richmond and took command of all our Army, there I stay'd untill about the first of June, when I was called down in the lower Army, commanded by Col. Parker Colo. Wills and Colo. Blunt, which was to dog the enemy in that quarter and keep them from pillage and plunder, I served this tour of duty under Capt Willis Wilson, and was discharg'd some time in July, and about the last of August or first of September I was called out under Capt Lemuel Cocke but his Wife was taken very sick and he return'd I was then put under Capt. Wm. Bailey, Major William Boyce, (an Old Continental Officer) commanded, and carried us over the River, to Williamsburg, there we join'd the Army of General Lafayette again, and waited under his command for General Washington, at this time I was called on an expedition, on the head of York River where we had a sharp skirmish with a British Barge, of about 30 men, that was in chase after our lookout Boat. we had a Lieut and 17 men, we beat the Barge off, and saved our Boat. On our return back to the main Army, we found General Washington was come from the North [on 14 Sep] we immediately marched down to little York and after storming two of the enemy redoubts or off forts, and forming a semicircular intrenchment 'round the town, placing batteries at proper places, began the Siege, which lasted (as well as I recollect) while [until] the 17th of Octo, when Cornwallis Surrendered [signaled to begin surrender negotiations], and on the 19th they came out and gave up their Arms. I was in 60 or 70 yards of Gen'l. Washington, when the flag came out to him, for my duty assign'd me, was in the inner intrenchments, nearest the enemy I was discharged in a few Days after the Surrender and return'd home. My services in the revolutionary War was five tours of Six Weeks each, and one tour of two months at little York, which makes in all Nine Months within a few two or three days. And for my services have never received any thing

That he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present & he hereby declares that his name is not on the rool of the agency of any state or territory sworn to & subscribed this 24th of September 1832 [signed] James Bailey

[Certified by Rev. Beverly Booth and William E. Bailey.]