

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of William Byers S8130

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Ohio } Court of Common Pleas November Term AD 1833
Darke County }

On this 18th day of November AD 1833 Personally appeared in open court before the court of Common Pleas of said county now sitting William Byers a resident of Heave Township in said county of Darke and State of Ohio aged sixty nine (69) years the fifth day of July 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 served as herein stated. That in the year AD 1781 he was a resident of Botetourt County in the State of Virginia, and that in the spring of said year he volunteered and enlisted in the service of the United States, and in Captain David Mays [David May's] Company and which Company was in Colonel Cloyds [Joseph Cloyd's] Regiment, for the Term of three months. That they marched from said Botetourt County into what was then called Montgomery county in Virginia, to New river and Walkers Creek, and there they took a number of Tories among which was one verry noted by the name of Duncan Ogulien [sic: Duncan O'Gullion] and near the head waters of Walkers creek they took another verry conspicuous Tory by the name of John McDonal [sic: John McDonald] who commanded a Tory party. That they found said McDonal secreted in a mow of Hay or straw in a Barn. that he was one of the guards over said Tories who conducted them to Colonel Prestons who lived in what was then called Montgomery County near the line of said Botetourt county [see endnote] and that he was also one of the guard who took s'd Duncan Ogulien and McDonald to Fincastle in said Botetourt County and continued as one of such guard over said prisoners while they remained at that place – and that after that said prisoners were taken to Staunton Augusta county in Virginia where they had their trial as he was informed said applicant says that he had a written discharge from the proper officer at Fincastle in Virginia after serving said Term of three months for which he enlisted as aforesaid Said applicant Wm Byers states that he would not be positive but what he was discharged a few days before his said Term expired but he is positive that he served at least two months and a half under said enlistment and he thinks and verily believes that he served the full Term of three months for which he enlisted as aforesaid

Said Wm Byers further states that in the summer (and he believes the last of June or the first of July) of AD 1781 he volunteered for a second time in the service of the united States for a three months Tour in the company commanded by Captain Galway [sic: John Galloway] in Colonel [Samuel] Lewis Regiment and that Walter Stewart was adjutant and Patrick Lockart [sic: Patrick Lockhart] was Major of said Regiment which was raised at said Fincastle in said Botetourt county where he said applicant resided at the time of his said second enlistment and that they marched from thence to Augusta thence crossed the Allegany Mountains [sic: Blue Ridge Mountains] at Rockfish Gap. Thence through Richmond & crossed James River at James Town Thence to Williamsburg and encamped two or three miles below said Town and encamped with the rest of the American Army collected there at a place called Burrels Mill [Burwell's Mill] where we were stationed until General Washington arrived [15 Sep] and he viewed the army, after which they marched to the line of the Siege of York Town [28 Sep - 19 Oct]. That he was in the whole of the siege at Yorktown at the taking of Cornwallis and his army that he was one of the guard [illegible word] who took said prisoners who were of Cornwallis Army to Augusta at which place he was discharged about the last of November or the first of December said year making the last term of service five months which he says he served as aforesaid. For said applicant would now state that although he enlisted for only three months in his last Tour yet at the expiration of said Term the seige of york Town

was about to commence and he considered that his country needed his services there if ever and he therefore continued in the service of the United States through and after the siege of Yorktown as aforesaid making two months more than the time he enlisted for and making in all eight months which he served in the United States service as stated said applicant Wm Byers would state that he got written discharges from the proper officers for his terms of service but that he lost them many years ago and that he has now no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service – said applicant would state that he was born in the month of July in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred and sixty four according to his best knowledge and the dates give him by his parents but that he has no other Record of his age and that in his seventeenth year of his age he entered the service of the United States as aforesaid. That he lived in said Botetourt County about 2 years after his discharge that he then moved to Montgomery county said State & lived there about ten years from thence he moved to Powell Valley Virginia and lived there eight or nine years from thence to Gallia [sic: Gallia] County Ohio and lived there two years from thence to Ross county O and lived there two years from thence to Preble County O and lived there about twenty five years from thence to Darke county Ohio and has and continued to live there ever since and now resides there. That he has no documentary Evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service

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 [signed] William Byers

NOTE: Col. William Preston lived at Smithfield Plantation in present Blacksburg in Montgomery County VA.