

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

Pension Application of Ephraim Bates S2051

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Ohio } SS

County of Monroe }

On this 26th day of March A.D. 1833 personally appeared before John Linn an Associate Judge of the said County of Monroe Ephraim Bates, a Resident of Union Township in the said County of Monroe and State of Ohio, aged eighty nine years and ten months, who was unable by reason of age and bodily infirmities consequent on the breaking of one of his thighs about ten years ago to appear in open Court, who being first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated towit that in April 1777 He volunteered in Captain Henry Enocks [sic: Henry Enoch's or Henry Enochs's] company of Virginia Militia as a Private. Robert Benham being Lieutenant of said Company. That he marched from the Neighborhood of Catfish camp (now Washington PA) where he then resided, to the head of Wheeling creek where he joined the said Captain Enocks who marched his company to Grave creek fort [in present Moundsville WV] (where Major David Rogers commanded) that after they had garrisoned Grave creek fort about two months Captain Enocks's company was ordered to march to wheeling fort which they accordingly did, that after the evacuation of Grave creek fort while this Declarant was stationed in Wheeling a party of Men under Captain Foreman [William Foreman, 26 Sep 1777] were surprized & almost cut off by the Indians at Grave creek narrows. whilst Declarant was stationed in Wheeling fort, he was dispatched with an express to Colonel [John] Evans on the Monongahela near where Geneva now stands, to obtain reinforcements as he believes, that he started in the night & only two or three men could be permitted to accompany him & they but a few miles. That upon Declarant's return he was informed that the indians had invested the fort in great numbers during his absence. that before the Garrison were aware of this strength of the Enemy, a party of men under Captain Mason [Samuel Mason (1739 - 1803) later river pirate] went out to oppose them & fell into an ambuscade & were almost all killed, Mason himself lay wounded & concealed in a patch of briars, until the siege was over. (The same Capt. Mason became a robber afterwards & infested the canebreaks on the Mississippi & the roads from Natches [sic: Natchez] to Nashville). Declarant recollects that the appearance of things about Wheeling was entirely changed upon his return the indians having killed nearly all the horned cattle & smaller stock & carried off the horses. Declarant remembers seeing cows that had been wounded by indian arrows, which had pierced through to their entrails, yet they recovered. Declarant remembers Col. [Ebenezer] Zane. Col. Vanswearingen [Van Swearingen]. Colonel [David] Shepherd and Major McCullough [Samuel McCulloch] who were militia officers no regular troops being in the country then. Catfish camp & wheeling were then in the District west of Augusta [Western District of Augusta County] in Virginia. That he continued in the service six months & received a discharge from Capt. Enocks which he has lost, he has therefore no documentary evidence and knows no person who can testify to this term of service

That on or about the first of June 1778 His place of Residence being the same as formerly towit near Catfish camp (Now Washington P.A.) He was drafted and entered the service as a Searjeant in Captain Cross's Company of Virginia Militia. Said Company marched to the Ohio River about one day's march above the mouth of Bigbeaver [sic: Beaver River] and joined Colonel Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] who commanded five hundred Regulars. Colonel Broadhead immediately crossed his forces over the River & marched down to the mouth of big beaver and joined General MacKintosh [sic: Lachlan McIntosh] Declarant was then detailed into the artificer's company as a butcher & in which capacity he

continued to serve until the end of the campaign. General MacKintosh's forces erected Fort MacKintosh at the Mouth of Big beaver [sic: Fort McIntosh at present Beaver PA, Sep 1778] and garrisoned it a short time. They then took up the line of march from said fort to the Tuscarawas River leaving a garrison in Fort MacKintosh. On the second day of their march they found the dead body of Lieutenant Parks [James Parks, killed 6 Nov 1778] of the Regular forces he having been shot about a mile further they found the dead body of David Ross (he having been shot) together with about forty pounds of beef which the Declarant had been ordered to issue to some friendly indians before leaving fort MacKintosh, suspicion attached to said Indians. that after six days march they arrived at a point on the Tuscarawas River where they built Fort Lawrence [sic: Fort Laurens near present Bolivar OH]. The Declarant remembers a misunderstanding which took place between General MacKintosh & his son Major MacKintosh, while they remained at Fort Lawrence which terminated very whimsically. Whilst the Army remained at Fort Lawrence a difficulty arose in procuring hogs heads in which to salt beef. Declarant told Colonel [William] Crawford, that he could save the beef by salting it in a log cabin lined with three or four thicknesses of beef hides. the Officers concurred in the plan which was executed by him accordingly, and Declarant believes the meat was well preserved. Also during their stay at Fort Lawrence a militia company mutinied & marched out of the fort to return home Gen. MacKintosh despatched Capt. Ferrel with his Company to compel them to return, which he effect after the mutineers had marched about a mile. In the month of December (same year. Gen. MacKintosh left a Garrison in Fort Lawrence under the command of Major Gibson and marched his army back to Fort MacKintosh, where the Applicant was discharged in the last of December having served six months. The army on this return march suffered so much for the want of provisions that the men were compelled to eat the hides of cattle which had been butchered as they went out. The Declarant has lost his discharge, has no documentary evidence but can produce witnesses of his service. To the questions directed to be propounded by the War department, the Declarant made the following answers

1st Where and in what year were you born

I was born in Morris Town [Morristown], Morris County New Jersey on the 24th day of May A.D. 1743

2 Have you any record of your age & if so where is it

I have a record of my age in a book at home here

3 Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live

At each time when called into service I was living near Catfish camp (Now Washington P'a) then in the limits of Virginia. I lived there until 1797 I then removed to the flats of Grave creek Ohio Co. Va. staid six months, then removed to Belmont County Ohio a few miles above the mouth of Captina creek. I staid there about 12 years. I then removed to my present residence then in Guernsey County Ohio now in Union Township Monroe County in s'd. state

4 How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute

The first Tour I volunteered, the last I was drafted

5. State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such continental & militia Regiments as you can recollect and the General circumstances of your service

I remember Col. Broadhead, General MacKintosh & his son a Major and Captain Ferrel. Colonel Broadhead commanded 500 Regulars in the Tuscarawas campaign. The general circumstances were as before stated.

6 Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom was it given & what has become of it

I received a discharge from Capt. Enocks at the end of the first tour. at the end of the second I received one but can not remember the officer who signed it. Both are long since lost

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

Andrew Millslagel. Daniel Petty Dr. McGeary. Elisha Enocks & Job Gorbey

He hereby relinquishes every claim 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] Ephraim Bates

Also appeared before me John Linn Associate Judge as aforesaid on the day & year aforesaid, James Foreakers aged seventy four years, who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that he was a private in Captain Liles [probably Lyle's] company of V'a Militia that he marched from fort MacKintosh to Fort Lawrence as the Declarant has stated. that he personally knew the Declarant, and knew that he acted as a butcher, that Deponent frequently went to the slaughter pen & saw the Declarant, who wore a straw hat, engaged in killing beeves; that upon hearing the declaration read he well remembered the principal facts and circumstances mentioned therein relative to the MacKintosh campaign. that he still was able to recognize & remember the countenance of Ephraim Bates the Declarant, who was then in his presence and further this Deponent saith not

James hisXmark Foreakers

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid towit 26th March 1833

Also appeared before me on the day and year aforesaid Isaac Bates aged sixty three years the son of the Declarant, who being duly sworn according to Law deposeth and saith that in June 1778 his Father Ephraim Bates was drafted into the service of the United States and was absent until the last of December of the same year. this Deponent then being between eight & nine years of age & further this Deponent saith not.

[signed] Isaac Bates

NOTE: On 2 July 1834 in Morgan County OH Susanna Bates assigned power of attorney to obtain the final pension payment of her husband, Ephraim Bates, up to the date of his death on 3 Jan 1834.