

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Bell S6598

Transcribed by Will Graves

f25NC

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. 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. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Robeson County

On this thirty first day of August in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred & thirty two personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of Robeson County now Sitting, Samuel Bell, a resident of the County & State aforesaid, Aged about Eighty three 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following Officers, and Served as herein Stated.

This declarant States that in the month of February 1782 he then resided in the County of Sampson in the State of North Carolina. That Lieutenant Hardy Holmes was then at the Court house of said County endeavoring to raise men to march to South Carolina to Join General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] army, that declarant went to the Court house voluntarily & had his name enrolled as a Soldier for twelve months. Soon after which time he marched to Wilmington No. Ca.; thence up the Cape Fear River to a place called McLean's Bluff, thence the nearest route on the road next the Sea Shore into South Carolina leaving George Town in said State on the South and Joined the army under the command of Genl. Greene at a place called Pon Pon [River—now South Edisto River]. The Company to which this declarant was attached, he thinks was commanded by Captain Coleman, and the above named Hardy Holmes acted as Lieutenant. The regiment was commanded by Major Griffith McRee & Col. Lytle [Archibald Lytle]. Declarant knew these officers & Genl. Greene. From Pon Pon, he marched to Bacon's Bridge and after a stay of some time there, thence to Ashley Hill also in So. Ca. and to near the City of Charleston; that the report of a cannon fired at that place could be distinctly heard at Camp. At his place declarant remained with the army until the British forces evacuated Charleston which was in the month of December 1782 as well as he can recollect. Some short time after this event, declarant received a furlough to return home with instructions to return when called into the Service which call was never yet been made upon him. He thinks he was in the service about eleven months. Is very certain that on his way home he was in George Town on old Christmas day in the year 1783. Declarant further states that he never was in any engagement, that he has no documentary evidence to support his claim. He received from Lieutenant Hardy Holmes after his return home & since the close of the War a certificate of his services which he lost. His furlough he has long since lost, believing it of no use. The number of his regiment he does not recollect if he ever knew. He further States that Hardy Holmes,¹ Joseph Hester, John Hester, Isaac Hammond² & Jesse Manuel³ who formerly resided in this State were in the service with him. He knows not what has become of them. He

¹ This MAY be the same man as [Hardy Holmes BLWt1099-200](#)

² The widow of a man by this man claimed a pension for his service. He MAY be the man to whom this veteran is referring. [Isaac Hammonds W7654](#)

³ This MAY be the same man as [Jesse Manuel S41808](#)

further states that there remained now living, to his knowledge not a single person by whom he can prove his service. This declarant further states that he proved his services before one of the State Judges some years ago, by the above named Joseph Hester with an view to make application to the Government for a pension, and that he gave the evidence to General James J. McKay, a practicing attorney at Law in the Courts of this County, who undertook to obtain the same pension and that he was informed the papers had been sent to Washington City. Nothing however has ever been heard of them since by this applicant.

Declarant makes the following statement in answer to the interrogatories propounded by the Court agreeably to the regulations of the War Department.

1st. That he was born in Surrey County in the State of Virginia in the year 1749.

2d. That he has a record of his age at his place of residence.

3d. That he resided in Sampson County in North Carolina when he enlisted: that after he returned home from the Service he continued there to reside until about the year Eighteen hundred and Seven when he removed to the County of Robeson North Carolina where he lives at this time.

4th. That he enlisted in the Services of the United States because he believed it to be his duty to assist his Countrymen in arms in the achievement of their Independence, he therefore went forward voluntarily.

5. As I before stated, I knew Genl. Greene, Col. Lytle & Major McKee these I now recollect and the general circumstances of my Service are already detailed unless I enter into a detail of my sufferings & privations which were common to all the soldiers.

6. I never was discharged regularly. I was furloughed & never after called upon.

7th. In the neighborhood where I at present reside I am known to many citizens among whom are Captain Jacob Blount, and Henry Hollingsworth, Esquire the latter of whom knew me while I resided in the County of Sampson.

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the Pension roll of this agency of any State.

S/ Samuel Bell, S his mark

Sworn to & subscribed the his day & year aforesaid.

S/ A. McEachin, CCC

By S/ Q. F. Barnes Dty

[Jacob Blount & Henry Hollingsworth gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina Secretary's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify, that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Samuel Bell a private Soldier in Captain Coleman's company of the 10th Regiment enlisted on the 7th day of February 1782 for the term of twelve months – nothing more is said of him on said rolls.

Given under my hand this 28th day of August 1832

S/ Wm Hill

State of North Carolina Robeson County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions August 1833 –

On this the 27th day of August A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before Charles Moore, James Storm and Thomas A. Norment Justices presiding in the Court of Pleas and Court Sessions Holden in and for the County of Robeson in the State of North Carolina Samuel Bell, a resident of said County aged now about 84 years who being duly sworn according to law the truth to tell relative to his service as a soldier in the war of the American Revolution doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832.

That he was born in Surry County in the State of Virginia as he believes in the month of May in

the year 1749. That in the year 1782 a requisition was made by the State of North Carolina of the County of Sampson (where he then resided). That in the month of February 1782 he (then about 33 years of age) volunteered in a company of North Carolina Militia under Captain Hardy Holmes in said County of Sampson, for twelve months, that immediately after he marched under said Holmes to Wilmington, then up the River Cape Fear to McLean's Bluff, then along on the seaboard to a place in the State of South Carolina called Pon Pon, where General Greene's Army were encamped, that on his arriving there, he was placed on the command of Captain Coleman that he thence marched to Bacons Bridge in South Carolina where he remained for some time, that thence he marched to Ashley Hill, a place so near Charleston that he could distinctly hear cannon which were fired at that City, that he remained at Ashley Hill until the British evacuated Charleston which according to the best of his recollection was sometime in the month of December A.D. 1782; that upon the occurrence of that event the Company to which he was attached, were marched homewards and that he particularly recollects having been in Georgetown in South Carolina on his return, on old Christmas Day in the year 1782, that he on his arrival at Wilmington in the State received a furlough to return home with instructions to hold himself in readiness to serve at a moments warning. That he returned home, and was not required to serve anymore. That the whole time he served he believes he had been fully eleven months, the time he was discharged or furloughed having been some time in January 1783 –

The Declarant states that he never was in any Battle – that he has no documentary evidence – that his furlough is lost – that he did not some years ago received from the aforementioned Captain Holmes, a certificate of Service, but has lost it, and that the said Holmes is now dead. He further states that there is no person now living of him he has any knowledge whose testimony he can procure to prove the fact of his having served as a soldier in the Revolution.

This Declarant further states that he served under the following field officers to with General Green – Colonel William Lytle – and Major Griffith McRae the particular number or designation of the Regiment to which he was attached he does not know and that he served at least for 11 months as a private soldier in the infantry militia as above stated – That since the war of the Revolution he lived in Sampson County aforesaid until about 33 years ago since when he has lived in this County – That there is no clergyman living in his neighborhood at this time. That he can prove his character by John Brown and Jacob Blount to whose testimony he begs to referred you. 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 in open court
S/ A. McEachin, Clk

S Samuel Bell. S his mark

[John Brown and Jacob Blount gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

In Answers made by Samuel Bell the Declarant to the questions propounded by the Court as prescribed by the war Department

Answer to question 1st "I was born in Surry County in the State of Virginia in the year 1749."

Answer to question 2nd. "I have, at my residence ["]

Answer to Question 3rd "I was living in Sampson County in this State, and after the Revolution continued to live there until 33 years ago, when I moved into this County where I now reside."

Answer to question 4th. "I volunteered in the Infantry militia of North Carolina for 12 months."

Answer to Question 5th. I served under General Greene, Colonel Lytle and Major McRee – there were some other field officers whose names I cannot now recollect – the particulars of my service are stated in my declaration.

Answer to question 6th. I never received a final discharge – I received a written furlough, about a month before the expiration of my term of service & my time expired before I was called upon –

Answer to question 7th. I am known to John Brown & Jacob Blount who reside in my neighborhood and who can testify as to my reputation as a Soldier of the Revolution and as to my character for veracity.

S/ Samuel Bell, S his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 11 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]