

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension Application of John Bain, Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll 113, Application #S22110

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Chester County, Penn. February 11, 1825, personally came William Stapleton, who says: "That he was personally acquainted with John Bain from the year 1777 to the year 1782 and knew him to be a soldier in the Revolutionary War all that time, and further states that he came by such knowledge by personal observation. That in the year 1776, he, William Stapleton, was out in the militia of Pennsylvania at Perth Amboy under the command of Colonel Richard Thomas. And in the year 1777, he was also out in the militia of Pennsylvania at Redbanks under Colonel John Hannum. And in February 1778, he Stapleton, enlisted under Captain Christopher Shafer for one year, in Colonel Isaac Milkie's regiment, who had the com. of all the barracks of Pennsylvania; and was often in company of John Bain while he was a soldier in Captain Sharp's company, Colonel Maben's regiment of the North Carolina line. While laying at the Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778, he was often in company with him and understood that the most of Colonel Maben's men died that winter, and that John Bain was transferred to Captain John Davis' company, Colonel. Caleb North's regiment in the Pennsylvania line, where he knew him to continue to the end of the war..."

"To the Honorable the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met:

The humble petition of John Bain, a Revolutionary soldier begs leave to show:

That your humble petitioner transmitted to the Honorable, the Secretary at War, the papers and vouchers with the depositions taken in the case as well as his own, certified before the Honorable Walter Franklin, presently Judge of the District of York and Lancaster and countersigned by magistrates of Chester and Lancaster as well as the Prothonotaries of both said counties, which papers the Honorable Secretary at War thought insufficient to place me on the pension list owing to a mistake inadvertently made by one of the witnesses in which he said your petitioner was a waggoner.

"Your petitioner implores your honorable bodies to take his case into consideration and grant to him a little of that bounty which you have so liberally bestowed on others of his fellow soldiers;"

"Your petitioner further begs leave to state that he enlisted in Guilford County in the state of North Carolina in Captain Sharp's company of infantry. He was afterwards sent as a guard with two prisoners to Halifax in Virginia. After surrendering the prisoners, he was attached to the 10th Continental regiment under the command of Colonel Mebane of North Carolina. From there marched into Alexandria and from thence to White Marsh. The regiment was there placed under the command of General Washington and in a skirmish while at that place, your petitioner received a very severe wound on his right hand by an English trooper, which wound has been, and is to this day, a very great detriment to him, incapacitating him in a great measure from work. At White Marsh, your petitioner on account of his wounds and as a competent and trustworthy person, was placed by his officers to take charge of a wagon (as wagoner). These officers had previously sustained a great loss by the negligence of the former one. From thence, your [*petitioner*] was taken to Valley Forge where he stayed during the remainder of the winter, and on account of his wounds was put in the General Hospital at Yellow Springs. After he was able to do duty again, he was put in the quartermasters department where he continued until peace was proclaimed."

“Your petitioner served and was enlisted during the war, and with sentiments of honest pride, says he was honorably discharged by General Ashe. He and General Washington publicly thanked him as a brave soldier...”

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 17, 1832, John Bain, aged 94 years:

“That he was born in the year 1738 in the state of Delaware; that he subsequently removed to Guilford County, North Carolina, where in the year 1776, he was drafted as a militia man to proceed against the Cherokee Nation for six months, which he served under Colonel Shepard and Captain Tate.”

“On his return in 1777, he enlisted in Captain Sharp’s company in a regiment commanded by Colonel Maben of the 9th North Carolina regiment, and marched to join the American army at White Marsh, where he continued during the winter and part of summer 1778. After several hot skirmishes, the American army went into winter quarters at the Valley Forge, where all the regiment he was attached to, died, except Colonel Maben, Captain Sharp and himself, who was so extremely ill, that he was sent to the General Hospital at the Yellow Springs, where he recovered and was transferred to the 9th Pennsylvania Regiment commanded by Colonel Davis, Captain Davis’ company, where he continued till finally discharged after peace at Trenton in New Jersey.”

Monroe County, Ohio, June 17th, 1832, personally appeared John Dailey, who saith that in the last of June or first of July, and he thinks in the year 1791, that to his certain knowledge that John Bain and myself was in the service of Captain **Paisland** [*probably Paisley*], the said John Bain was wounded in both thighs in the left thigh badly, and right slightly, and by particular circumstances, positive that it was Indians. The circumstances was he (John Dailey) was at work tending corn at the mouth of Captina Creek near Baker’s station on the Ohio River on the Ohio side, and hired Joseph Baker to assist him in hoeing corn.”

“We went over the river in a canoe early in the morning and the said Bain came over to explore round to see if any danger could be apprehended, and about ten or eleven o’clock, he came to where we was at work and said he wished to go over to the station. We told him to go and take our canoe and he said he would and started away and in a few minutes we heard three guns go off, and then almost instantly, two or three more. We made preparations to cross the river over to the station and just as we commenced crossing over, a man by the name of Honseley Baker hallowed to us and said “Hurry over, the Indians had killed or shot John Bain” and we hurried over as fast as possible and went to the station about half mile distance and there was the said John Bain wounded in both thighs and the next day we raised some men and went to the place they fired on him and followed them some distance and were positive it was Indians and that the said Bain was in the service of the said Brock until discharge and further this deponent saith not.”

Lancaster County, August 15, 1849-Personally appeared, John Bain, who saith “That he enlisted under Captain Sharp in the North Carolina line for three years or the duration of the war, and that Captain Sharp put him under Colonel Davis on the Pennsylvania line, 9th regiment,. That Bain was transferred at White Marsh from Captain Sharp to Davis in consequence of being sick, as said captain was called off to join the Battle of Charleston, and he, said Bain was left in consequence of said sickness with which he was afflicted at the time.”

“He finally recovered and served under General Washington until the close of the Revolutionary War. He was engaged in five battles, the one at Germantown, one at the Paoli, Battle of Brandywine, and at which place (Brandywine) he was wounded. The cap of his left elbow shot off,

received a ball in the groin below the hip, which ball was extracted. Also a wound in the right hand from a sword, hand split from the end of the finger to the wrist, and at the close of the war, was honorably discharged on the Pennsylvania and Maryland line., but the certificate was lost. Said Bain further states that he served under Colonel Shepherd against the Cherokees for the term of six months, for which he was supposed to receive 75 cents per day, but has never received any pay whatever for said services rendered. Served under Colonel Shepherd before he was under General Washington...”