

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Ballard: S37721

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia Augusta County Sct

On this fourth day of April in the year one thousand eight hundred & eighteen came before me John Brown Judge of the Superior Court of Chancery by law appointed to be holden at Staunton in the County of Augusta, John Ballard actually resident in the said Town and being duly sworn on the holy evangelist made the declaration following Viz that about the year 1779. he enlisted as a private soldier in the company of Adam Wallace which company comprised a part of Colo Bueforts [sic: Abraham Buford's] Regiment on continental establishment. That having remained in Petersburg Virginia (to which place he was marched from Loudon [sic: Loudoun] County where he inlisted) for about one year he marched with his Regiment to South Carolina to aid in raising the Siege of Charleston which was then besieged by the British; when he with his Regiment arrived within about thirty miles of Charleston some of the Cavalry under Colo [William] Washington met the troops & informed them that the city had surrendered [on 12 May 1780] in consequence of which the troops retreated to a place called the hanging rock in North Carolina [sic: present Lancaster County SC] when the British Cavalry & infantry mounted [the Legion of Col. Banastre Tarleton] when the Cavalry overtook the American troops & immediately attacked them [Battle of Waxhaws, 29 May] the Cavalry with their sabres & the infantry with bayonets. In the conflict he the said Ballard was hewn down by a horseman receiving three cuts (one very deep) in the head & having one of his middle fingers nearly cut off. Afterward one of the infantry pierced his side with the bayonet in consequence of which he was left for dead on the ground, but having recovered he was next day permitted to depart on his parole in consequence of which he returned to Virginia in the neighbourhood of Staunton The said Ballard further declares that he originally inlisted for three years, that he was in actual service from the time of his enlistment untill captured about eighteen months, that he was not exchanged after his capture in consequence of which he was unable consistent with his parole to perform actual duty & never received any discharge. The said Ballard further declares that he is now sixty years old unable to support himself by labour & in humble & reduced circumstances. That he has never received any pension or allowance from the government of the United States. In witness whereof the said John Ballard has hereunto set his hand the day & year above written.

John hisXmark Ballard

State of Virginia

Augusta County to wit

On this 26th day of June 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record for the said County, John Ballard aged about Sixty years resident in the said County, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows; he enlisted with Lieutenant Howard in Loudon County State of Virginia & was marched to Fredricksburg [sic: Fredericksburg] in said State where he was attached to Capt. Adam Wallaces company, & Col Blufords regiment from Fredricksburg he marched with said Regiment to Petersburg in said State and was encamped near that place during the Winter. The Spring following he marched with said Bluford to the neighbourhood of Charlestown in South Carolina & was afterwards taken prisoner at Blufords defeat at the hanging rock where he was badly wounded, he received three cuts on the head, a wound in the side with a bayonet & one of his fingers was nearly cut off. he suffered severely from exposure to the inclemencies of the weather whilst assembled near Petersburg. he is now entirely unable to do any kind of work, in consequence of the injuries which he sustained while in the service of his Country aforesaid, and is so perfectly helpless that he can not put on or take off his own clothes without assistance. he has already made a declaration under the act of Congress passed on the 18th March 1818. the date of which declaration he does not recollect. his pension certificate is dated the 8th January 1819. he has been some years in such indigent

circumstances that before he attained his pension from the United States he was a charge on the County; and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818. and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any other manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. the said declarant further deposes that the only members of his family are himself and his wife, that before he became a cripple his occupation was that of a farmer, but he is now unable to pursue & does not pursue any occupation whatever. his wife is aged about fifty six years. her time is occupied in attending to the household duties, and to this declarant, who from his helpless situation, and state of his wounds requires much attention. she is able to contribute very little if any thing to the support of this deponent. She expects to obtain some small dispensation for attending to cleaning the Episcopal Church in the Town of Staunton, but that will depend entirely upon the liberality of the members of the Church who may Choose to Contribute.

Schedule of the Estate of the said John Ballard, necessary clothing and bedding excepted --

1 Bureau	1 Coffee Pot	perhaps some other articles too trifling to mention
1 Chest	1 Tea Pot	
1 Candle stand	6 Cups & Saucers	
6 Chairs	6 plates	
1 bucket	3 Table spoons Iron	
2 small tables	3 pewter tea spoons	
1 Tub	1 small old looking glass	
1 Pot	1 Bible 1 prayer book	
1 Oven	2 [illegible word] Barley	
1 Skillet	a few religious pamphlets	
1 Tin Bucket	1 pair smoothing Irons	
1 old [illegible word]	1 Tin lanthorn	
6 Knives & forks	1 flour barrel	
	1 Copper Tea kettle	
	1 [two illegible words]	

John hisXmark Ballard

NOTE: The pension certificate states that John Ballard died 9 Nov 1821.