

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of William Beasley W9352

Transcribed by Will Graves

[Transcriber's note: This pension application was written by someone with marginal literacy and very poor handwriting. It is difficult to decipher. Consequently the following transcription should be used with caution. Corrections are welcomed.]

[Punctuation, grammar & spelling corrected for clarity]

State of Kentucky, County of Butler

On this 8th day of October, 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the County Court of said County, now sitting, William Beasley, a resident of the County of Butler & State of Kentucky, aged 70 years, who first being duly sworn according to law, doth, in this make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefits 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 he was drafted for 3 months, but can not recall the precise time, but recalls distinctly that he had served two months and 18 days at the time of General Gates' Defeat at Camden [Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden], South Carolina; that he resided in the State of North Carolina when he was drafted and served under Captain David Roach (who was killed at Camden), Lieut. Francis Laincy [?] (or Delancy) & Ensign William Becksley [?] in Col. Benjamin Ackson's [sic, Benjamin Exum's] regiment, Lieut. Col. Richard Caswell and Majors Griffin (or Griffer) & Nichols. That he rendezvoused at a ferry on Neuse River about forty miles from New Bern and marched to Deep River and remained there a short time and then marched across the Yadkin River, up Rocky River by Anson Court House and by the Cheraw Hills on PeeDee River to Camden and joined Genl. Gates about a week before the battle, and continued in the service thereafter, in all five months—having served two months & 18 days before he crossed on the line between North & South Carolina, and served thereafter 3 months including the 18 days.

That he afterwards volunteered in a Company of light horse under Captain John Stevenson and marched to near Wilmington and joined Col. Richard D. Spratt's [?] and continued until his thirty days for which he had volunteered expired, when he was discharged.

That in February 1781, he enlisted for twelve months under Captain Samuel Jones, Lieut. Stephen Slade [?] and Ensign Clarke—[the regiment was] commanded by Col. Benjamin Lytle [sic, Archibald Lytle?], Major John Griffin McCrier [?]<sup>1</sup>—which he believed was in the Continental Service and has always been under that impression, but he was young at the time. That he has resided in Craven County, North Carolina, when he entered the service and rendezvoused at Wilmington. From Wilmington he marched across the Black River and PeeDee River and crossed Santee River at Nelson's Ferry and marched across the head of Cooper River to Pon Pon [River]<sup>1</sup> in South Carolina. That he marched from thence to Ashley River on Bacon Bridge, then down the river to Ashley Hill, within seven miles of Charleston, where he continued until his service was out, when he marched back to Wilmington, and was discharged there. That at the Pon Pon

[River], he joined the army under Genl Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and marched with him as stated to the place he remained until his time expired.

That he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify as to his service but Joseph Taylor and Willis McCoy of Butler in this state know that he was in the service but were not with him. That he was born in Craven County, North Carolina, on the 25th day of April, 1762, but has no record of his age. That he continued to live in Craven County until about 35 years ago when he moved to Warren County, Kentucky, where he lived about twenty years and then moved to Butler County in said state, where he now lives.

That he is acquainted with Rev. Paul Avery and Jacob Smith of his present neighborhood, who can testify as to character for veracity and their belief as to his services as soldier of the Revolution.

He hereby relinquishes his 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.

Subscribed & Sworn this day and yare aforesaid.

S/ William Beasley, X his mark

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<sup>1</sup> The modern era name of Pon Pon River is the South Edisto River (thanks to John Robertson for this information)