

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Petition relating to Henry Graves VAS1896

6

Transcribed by Will Graves

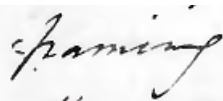
4/20/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] New Kent County Legislative Petitions

To the General Assembly of Virginia, the petition of Richard C Graves Sheweth That during the war carried through this Country by the British Army in the year 1781, Henry Graves son of the petitioner, then under the age of 21 years, was engaged in the service of the Commissary of the State (then John Brown) during the space of one hundred & two days finding himself a horse with the approbation of the petitioner his father, which service appears to have been done by the certificate of the said Brown hereto annexed. It also appears by the said certificate that Henry Graves received while in the service of the Commissary the sum of £4110 paper currency only about different times which scaled at the time of [several words indecipherable] amount is about £31 or 32 – specie. That the service of a man in such business at that time was worth two dollars specie & their expenses equal to 1 ½ dollars in those extravagant times. That the petitioner is well assured that the paper money advanced by the Commissary was expended by the said Henry Graves in supporting droves of cattle which he attended to for the public, & more, but the loss of his papers disables the petitioner from spaming [?]¹ a the said Henry Graves was employed by one Mark Garrett an assistant Commissary to the Continental Army then here for the space of 101 days for which he was entitled to two dollars specie day, in which service he died of the small pox in the month of October 1781 as appears by Mark Garrett's certificate hereto annexed. Your petitioner has delayed prosecuting his claim from not understanding the manner of demand & recovery in such cases & from information that the vouchers annexed would not be sufficient to establish the Claim; but as it is certain somebody ought to receive & the public ought to pay for the services of the said Henry Graves, he has thought proper now to present this petition with the certificates annexed to the Assembly for their consideration & decision. They will say whether he shall not receive the amount of his son's claim. That the petitioner is correct in his statements, he will prove in a great part by Mr. John [name too faint to discern] of the Assembly, from James City [County], who was personally acquainted with the said Henry Graves & witness in a great measure to his services –

[Reverse]

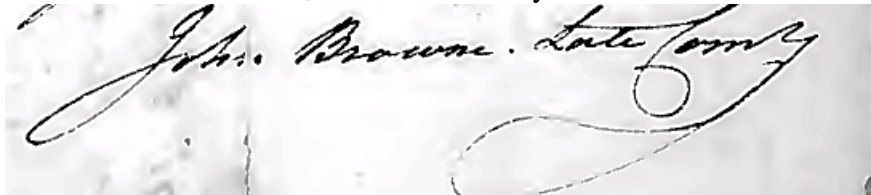
¹ 

Richard C Graves
November 23, 1796
Claims
Reasonable
Report

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 1781 Henry Graves of New Kent County | Dr |
| February 7 to Cash for public use | £300 |
| April 4 ditto | 1350 |
| 16 ditto | 195 |
| 18 ditto | 300 |
| May 6 ditto | 420 |
| 10 ditto | 600 |
| 18 ditto | 225 |
| Augt. 6 ditto | <u>720</u> |
| | £4110 |

When Henry Graves assisted in the Commissary department under my direction one hundred and two days and found himself a horse he was chiefly employed in collecting cattle from the different Commissioners & driving them to Camp he received the above four thousand one hundred ten pounds – but he died of the Small Pox, before he settled his accounts & am informed by his father his Vouchers got lost. I have reason to believe if his accounts could be justly settled there would be a considerable balance due him. Given under my hand this 18th of July 1785

S/ John Browne, Late Commissary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Browne. Late Commissary". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Reverse]

This account was offered by Mr. Graves to the Court of New Kent the 22nd of July 1785 but for reasons appearing to the Court which are set forth in the Court's Order the said account was not passed or gone into

S/ Will. Clayton, C. N. K. C.