

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Fry Ga4

3GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/19/09 rev'd 7/14/15

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[There is no application in this file. The file contains a letter dated July 16, 1935 from A. D. Hiller, Ex. Assistant to the Administrator stating in relevant part:

"Benjamin Fry was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum under the act of July 5, 1812, which pension began September 17, 1810. He was then of Jasper County, Georgia. He received his pension because of wound or injury in line of duty; the period of his service and the names of his officers are not shown.

He died in September 1823.

... the explanation in regard to the lack of information ... the papers in their applications were destroyed by fire in 1814. For this reason this office has no further data in regard to Benjamin Fry." ]

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The following materials were transcribed and provided by Beth Collins

11/21/09

Wilkes County, GA  
Deed Book KK, p. 110

Know all men by these presents that I Benjamin Fry late a Soldier in the 14<sup>th</sup> Virginia regiment Commanded by Colonel Charles Lewis do hereby make Constitute and appoint Frances Baldwin of the County of Wilkes and State of Georgia to ask demand and Receive all the depreciation of my pay due to me as a Soldier aforesaid and my Land also, from the United States or the State of Virginia hereby Ratifying and Confirming all that my said Attorney shall do in the premises & to give a Rect or Receipts for the same and to do all lawfull acts and things necessary for effecting the same as fully and absolutely to all intents and purposes as I might or could do were I personally present at the office or Else where and done the same In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this twentieth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Ninety-three

Signd Seald and Delivered  
in presence of -----  
J S Smith  
Judith Jordan

Benjamin Fry (Seal)

On the twentieth day of June in the year above Mentioned Before me Josiah Jordan one of the Justices of the peace for the County of Wilkes and State of Georgia Personally appeared Benjamin Fry and Acknowledged the above power of attorney to be his act and deed and Desire it to be Recorded as such

Josiah Jordan J P

Benjamin Fry

Registered the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 1793

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[Note: the following appears at <http://founders.archives.gov/documents/Jefferson/03-07-02-0193>]

William Cook to Thomas Jefferson, 31 March 1814

From William Cook

Monticello (Geo) 31<sup>st</sup> March 1814.

Sir

I have been induced through motives of humanity to investigate the claim of an old revolutionary soldier, who alledges that by the misfortune of losing his papers he has been deprived of a pension formerly allowed him by Government: for a number of years, He is by the name of Benjamin Fry, and informs me that he served in the 14<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment: commanded at that time by Col. Charles Lewis, and that after receiving the wound for which he was considered as entitled to a pension, you drew the pension for him and was the chief instrument in causing him to be provided for in that way, That you drew for him in the year 1778. 1 at which time he lived in Albemarle County, afterwards he removed into Amherst and John Gilmer drew for him the five years immediately subsequent; that if not forgotten he is known to you, his father having lived with yours, perhaps in the capacity of an Overseer or mechanic, I have been thus particular in order to refresh your memory of him—he is now an old man, has a large and needy family, and it will be indeed an Act of humanity and benevolence to assist the old gentleman in obtaining what he has been so unfortunately deprived of, and what he is So justly intitled to, I shall be very thankful if you will write me on this subject giving me all the information in your power, and particular any thing which may serve as a clue to obtain a reestablishment of the lost papers, In writing to a person of your standing Sir upon an Ordinary subject some apology from me would be proper, being wholly unknown to you. But when I am pleading the cause of humanity I know you will lend a willing ear, and give such aid as may be in your power, I am very respectfully

Y<sup>r</sup> Obt servant

William Cook

RC (MHi); between dateline and salutation: “The Hon. Thomas Jefferson”; endorsed by TJ as received

27 Apr. 1814 and so recorded in SJL.

William Cook, attorney, served as postmaster of Monticello, Georgia, from about the end of 1809 until at least 1819. He served in the Georgia legislature, 1819–21, and was still living in Monticello when he unsuccessfully applied to become a district attorney in the Florida Territory in 1822 (Robert J. Stets, *Postmasters & Postoffices of the United States 1782–1811* [1994], 111; *Table of Post-Offices in the United States, with the Names of the Post-Masters, the Counties and States in which they are situated* [Washington, 1819], 41; Georgia Department of Archives and History, *Georgia's Official Register, 1925*, comp. Ruth Blair [1925], 283; Cook to George R. Gilmer, 7 Dec. 1822 [DNA: RG 59, LAR, 1817–25]; Stephen F. Miller, *The Bench and Bar of Georgia: Memoirs and Sketches* [1858], 2:250; Tad Evans, *Georgia Newspaper Clippings, Jasper County Extracts* [1999– ], vol. 1).

Benjamin Fry received a [pension](#) from Virginia beginning in 1778 after losing the use of his arm due to a wound he received at the Battle of Brandywine. By 1813 he was receiving \$60 a year from the federal government. As an invalid pensioner Fry was receiving \$96 a year in 1818 ([JHD](#) [1778 sess.], 15 [19 May 1778]; *Letter from the Secretary of War communicating a Transcript of the Pension List of the United States* [Washington, 1813], 44; *Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a Report of the Secretary of War, in Compliance with a Resolution of the Senate, "To cause to be laid before them, a list of all the Pensioners of the United States"* [Washington, 1818], 160).

[1](#). Reworked from “1779.”

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<http://founders.archives.gov/documents/Jefferson/03-07-02-0193>

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