

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Riley Vickers (Vickars) R10941 Mary fn15NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 4/9/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

[fn p. 4]

State of North Carolina Orange County: On this 31st day of August 1844 personally appeared before me William N. Pratt, one of the acting Magistrates in and for said County Mary Vickers a resident of the County & State aforesaid aged Seventy-Eight years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 7th 1838. "Entitled an Act granting half pay & Pensions to certain Widows." That she is the widow of Riley Vickers late deceased of the aforesaid County of Orange, who was a private Soldier (as she has always understood) in the War of the Revolution and as such he served the United States against the Common Enemy for the term of Eighteen months or more.

She also declared that she was married to the said Riley Vickers in Granville County, N. Carolina in Sept. in the year 1791, that her husband the aforesaid Riley Vickers died on the ___ day of 1835, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but that the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794, Viz: at the time above stated.

S/ Mary Vickers, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first above written before me,
S/ W. N. Pratt, JP

North Carolina Orange County : I do hereby certify that Mary Vickers who has this day sworn to and subscribed the foregoing declaration before me is a person to whose statements is due full faith & credit. I also certify that she is by reason of age and infirmity unable to attend court to make her declaration. And I do further certify that her husband the aforesaid Riley Vickers was known & reputed in his neighborhood to have been a Soldier in the Revolution and that I do concur in that belief.

Given under my hand this 31st August 1844.

W. N. Pratt, JP

[fn p. 5]

State of North Carolina Orange County: On this 31st day of August 1844, personally appeared before me W. N. Pratt one of the acting Justices of the Peace in & for said County Benjamin Carroll¹ a resident of the County and State aforesaid an United States Pensioner and made oath

¹ [Benjamin Carroll W10587](#)

in due form of law to the following statements (to wit) That he was intimately acquainted with Riley Vickers of said County of Orange in the days of the Revolution, that he lived in the same neighborhood of said Riley Vickers and knows of his own personal knowledge that the aforesaid Riley Vickers did Enlist into the Army of the United States at Hillsboro which was at the commencement of the Revolution and that he did leave the neighborhood with others that had Enlisted and was gone about twelve months, from home and that he return [returned] and said that he had been in [the] North with the Army. This deponent further stated on his oath that he well recollects that it was in the fall of the year that said Riley Vicks [sic] Enlisted into the Army, that on his way home the day of his Enlistment he Vickers called at the house of deponent and said that he had been on to Hillsboro and had Enlisted into the Army, and that he left home as above stated in the fall and did not return until the next fall; and then he came home sick, and it was a common remark to him by his acquaintances that he had paid the dear for his Enlistment.

This deponent also stated that the said Riley Vickers was married some years after the war to one Mary Ceezort [?] with whom he lived 'till his death, a few years since, and that his wife Mary is now a living with whom he deponent is well acquainted and is the identical person who has executed the foregoing declaration for a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ W. N. Pratt, JP

S/ Benjamin Carroll, X his mark

[fn p. 6]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this 21st day of March 1845 personally Appeared before me King Barber one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County Brittain Bowers² a resident of the County & State aforesaid an United States Pensioner and made oath in due form of law to the following Statements (to wit) that he was intimately acquainted with Riley Vickers of said County of Orange in the days of the Revolution that they were together in the Army in the North on the potomack [sic, Potomac] River to which place they marched with Smith's Camps that is the deponent states that Smith's Camps in the first place he remembers of seeing Riley Vickers in the service of the United States that they marched to potomack from thence to Horens [?] Bridge and there we stayed a few days and while there we were placed on the guard together to guard some few prisoners from thence we marched to Babs oald field [Babbs' old field?] and while there myself & Riley Vickers was appointed to stand Sentry together what is called double Sentry two hours on and four of [off] there at Babs oald field we were separated I saw know [sic, no] more of Riley Vickers until the war was over. The deponent further states that since the war of the Revolution that he was well acquainted with Riley Vickers for they frequently talk over the troublesome times the ups & downs they had together in the Revolutionary War and continued to be acquainted with him until the day of his death and Remembers well on divers occasions to have heard Riley Vickers say that he was opposed to the pension law and would not petition for a pension that he thought it was a mean law that they had been once paid and that was sufficient.

The deponent further states that he is well acquainted with Mary Vickers the widow of Riley Rickers [sic] who has executed the foregoing declaration for a Pension that he lives in a few miles of her and has for many years.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ [illegible signature which I assume to be "King Barber"], JP

² FNA S6674 filed by John Brittain Bowers claiming service in Virginia, but lived in Orange County, NC at the time he filed his application for a pension.

S/ Brittain Bowers, X his mark

[fn p. 7]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On the 22nd day of May 1845, personally appeared before me William N. Pratt one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County George Carrington³ [sic] a resident of the County and State aforesaid and United States pensioner and made oath in due form of law to the following Statements (to wit) that he was well acquainted with Riley Vickers since the days of the Revolution and believes he was in the war of the Revolution as a soldier against the common enemy of the Country for he remembered that he heard the name of Riley Vickers called while at Wilmington or near that place and the doct [sic, doctor] made answer that they might as well take his name of [off] for he considered him a did [dead] man but he the said Vickers recovered and came home for I remember well of conversing with said Vickers on the subject of his having been called out at my own Store Since the days of the Revolution how long he served I know not but he was in the service in the tour part of the aforesaid State the deponent further states that he has frequently heard the said Riley Vickers state that he was opposed to the pension law and he thought that when the soldiers was once paid that was sufficient we marched from Wilmington and left the said Riley Vickers there sick I saw know [no] more of him nor heard now [no] more about him until the war was Ended.

Sworn and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid before me

S/ W. N. Pratt, JP

S/ George Carrington

[fn p. 9: On May 24, 1845, in Orange County, NC, Tabithey Christian gave testimony in support of the application of Mary Vickers saying, among other things, "that she was present at the marriage of Mary Crezort to Riley Vickers—in the County of Granville some fifty two or three years since this I well know from the age of my oaldes [sic, oldest] Child Nancy which was Borned the Same year that sd. Mary Vickers secon [second] Child was borned say Hiram who was borned 1794 as will more fully appear by Reference the family Bible the deponent⁴ ..."]

[fn p. 12]

State of North Carolina Office of Secretary of State

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that the name of Riley Vickers does not appear on the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, in this office. Given under my hand this 27th March 1845

S/ Wm Hill, Secy of State

[fn p. 2]

State of North Carolina Orange County: July 26, 1856

Rachel Clinton one of the Heirs of Riley vickars [sic] and Mary vickars of Orange County, North Carolina do hereby constitute and appoint William H. Whitson my true and lawful attorney to examine my said fathers and Mothers Papers and Collect whatever may be due now on file in Washington City in the Pension Office.

S/ Rachel Clinton, X her mark {seal}

Witness:

³ George Carrington FPA S8185

⁴ Unfortunately, Mrs. Christian's family record is not included in the file documents.

S/ Thomas Proctown [?]

S/ James Riggs

Sworn to and subscribed before me and of the Justice of the Peace in and for said County of Orange and State of North Carolina.

S/ Wm. J. Leake, JP [?]

[Note: Notwithstanding the denial of Mary Vickers' application for a pension, there is fairly strong evidence (in addition to the testimony of his fellow soldiers as set out above) that he did serve. Riley Vickers gave the following affidavit in support of the application filed by **Moses Leathers R6230:**]

[fn p. 26 of the file relating to Moses Leathers' claim]

State of North Carolina Orange County: Came personally before me Fredderick Mize one of the Justices of the peace for the County of orange aforesaid, Riley Vicers [sic] & maketh oath that Moses Leathers of the County & State aforesaid, Enlisted in the Continental Army of the United States as a private Soldier in the year 1776 or thereabouts & that he enlisted for the term of two years & six months & the said Riley Vicers further saith that the said Moses Leathers did serve out his time of service faithfully as he believes & he the said Riley further saith that he was in the Army of the United States about the same time as a Continental Soldier and was with the said Moses Leathers in the United States Army twelve months or thereabouts. This 16th of September 1818 Riley Vicers maketh oath in due form for that the above is just to the best of his knowledge & believe.

Attest

S/ Riley Vickers

S/ Frederic Moize, JP