

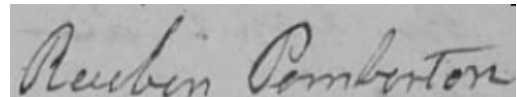
[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Reuben Pemberton R20183

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 30 Dec 2020.

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers" approved on the 15th of May 1828 I Reuben Pemberton of the County of Oldham and State of Kentucky do hereby declare that I served in the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution for and during the War and continued in its service until its termination (as follows to wit) in October 1779 I enlisted in Captain Thomas H Drews [Thomas H. Drew R13852] Company for during the war in the State Garrison Regiment commanded by Colonel Porterfield [Charles Porterfield BLWt1145-450] as this Regiment was not bound from its first engagement to go on the Continental Service but was Garrisoned at Williamsburg in Virginia When General [Horatio] Gates Army marched to the South the Regiment was consulted to know if they would join the Continental Service and join General Gates's Army. there was but two Companies that entered into this new agreement Captain Drews and Captain Elys [see endnote] and we joined Gates under the command of Colonel Porterfield in the Battle near Camden [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] Colonel Porterfield got wounded in the Leg. I remained taking care of him our Army being defeated the third day after the Battle owing to the state of Colonel Porterfields wound I was sent by him into the enemies lines for surgical aid which was the cause of our falling into the hands of the British The British took us into Camden where Doctor Johnson a Surgeon of the Pennsylvania line came in with a Flag to attend to the wounded Prisoners. Colonel Porterfield's Leg was cut off. we attended to get him on to Charleston but he died on the way about six months after my captivity I was exchanged and Returned to the American Army commanded by General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] the remains of the Troops with whom I had joined Gates was dispersed I remained with Doc't. Johnson in Greens Camp until a short time before the Battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] when he sent me into the neighbourhood of Richmond Va. with two Horses to be left at an acquaintances and to join again the Virginia Troops which I did and ended my services at the Siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and at the close of the War was Discharged which Papers I lost and meeting with Capt Drew in 1792 he gave me the Certificate which accompanys this Declaration. The original is in the Council office at Richmond Virginia I also declare that after my discharge I received a Certificate of eighty dollars to which I was entitled under a resolve of Congress passed the 15th of May 1778 and I further declare that I was not on the Pension list of the United States on the 15th of March 1826



I do Certify that Reubin Pemberton joined the State Garrison Regiment in October 1779 a Private in my Company enlisted for the War. he was taken a Prisoner at Camdon the 16th of August 1780 he was exchanged and served with credit as a soldier through the War he suffered himself to be taken a Prisoner as haveing charge of Colonel Porterfield who commanded the Regiment and was unfortunately wounded in the action Given under my hand this 15th day of December 1792 (a True Coppy)

Thomas H. Drew Late Captain S. G. Regim't

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I do certifie that Reuben Pemberton joind the State Garrison Regmt in October 1779 a private in my Company enlisted for the War – he was taken a prison at Camden the 16 of August 1780. he was exchanged & serv'd with Credit as a Soldier through the War. he suffer'd himself to be taken a Prisoner, as having care of Colo. Porterfield who Commanded the Regm't and was unfortunately wounded in the Action. Given under my hand this fifteenth of December 1792

Th. H. Drew late
Capt. S. G. Regmt

NOTE: Isaac Oldham, pension application R7785, stated that he served under a Captain "Thos. Hely" in Porterfield's regiment. Pemberton's Capt. Ely and Oldham's Capt. Hely may be the same person, possibly named Thomas Healy or Thomas Healey, although I could find no other record of an officer by that or a similar name.