

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of John Randall R21892

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected]

State of Ohio } Court of Common Pleas of Nov Term 1824

Lawrence County } Nov. 11 2^d day of Term

Be it remembered that John Randall produced in open court a declaration in the words & figures following - to wit -

“The State of Ohio Lawrence county SS: On this 11th day of Nov. 1824 personally appeared in open court, being a court of Record, for the said county of Lawrence, to wit, the court of common Pleas for said county, John Randall, aged eighty seven years, resident in Lawrence county in said state, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows — he enlisted at Philadelphia in Nov. 1778 under Col. Armory or Oomery, for during the war. The spring following he marched to Charleston under the command of Gen’l Price[?] In the year following he fought in a Battle at Eutaw Springs [sic: see note below] - then he marched to Guilford where he was engaged in the battle called Gates defeat, from thence he went to Halifax, where he was engaged in a battle at Ramsauers Mills - gained the battle, he personally killed several men of the enemy - he ran in & struck one of Tarltons men down, then came one of the enemy & gave him three strokes with his sword, the marks of which are now apparent (this man was killed by a sergeant Riddle) he then (being weak in consequence of his wound), obtained leave from his captain whose name was Baird to go after some sugar, in going after which, with one of his companions, they met with three British Rangers - one of which this deponant shot - & killed one with his bayonet. From thence he marched to Little York, when Cornwallis was taken. From thence he was sent with three others after a deserter (at which time he was appointed 4th sergeant) On his return he marched toward Newbern [New Bern NC], then back to Little York, where he laid down his arms — he obtained no discharge as their officers were all gone — I will give the name of the officers - sergeants & messmates - Maj’r Tallon - Capts Sherman & Baird - Sergeants Riddle, Bloombarger, Green & Snyder - Drummer & privates - Hose, Walter, Hawk, Lundy &c — Further he deposeth that he served faithfully in the time of his duty for the term of four years & three months. He further deposeth that he was a citizen of the United States on the 18 day of March 1818, & that he has not since that time, by gift, sale, or in any manner disposed of any property with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself within the provisions of the act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War - passed 18 March 1818. And that he has not, nor has any person in trust for him any property securities - contracts or debts due, nor any income, except the charity of his children. He is old & infirm & needs the bounties of the above mentioned act for his support
signed John hisXmark Randall

The State of Ohio } Court of Common Pleas, November Term

Lawrence County SS. } Nov. 22^d 1827 being the 4th day of Term.

Be it remembered that John Randall, by Colo. Berkley his attorney, produced in open court, a Declaration in the words & figures following, towit -

“Original Claim

Declaration in order to be placed on the Pension list under the act of the 18 March 1818-

State of Ohio Lawrence county SS:

On the 19th day of November 1827 personally appeared before the subscriber, one of the Judges of the court of Common Pleas, (being a court of Record) in & for the county aforesaid, John Randall, aged about ninety five years, resident in said county, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 & the 1st May 1820, That he the said John Randall enlisted as Drummer for the term, & during the continuance of the war, on the ___ day of ___ 1777 or about that year, at Philadelphia, in the company commanded by Capt.

Beard (he believes) in the Regiment commanded by (forgotten the name of com'r, thinks it was Oomry or Urray, in the line of the State of Virginia, on the continental establishment; that he continued to serve in that company most of the time, but served occasionally as drummer in other companies (which he cannot now describe) until the close of the war. he served about five years when he was discharged at Richmond (he thinks) in the state of Virginia; that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension except the present; and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a Pension - that he was informed he could not obtain it without proof of service which he had not, that about 1824 or 1825 he was informed he could obtain a pension on his own deposition, he then applied, which application was not granted for want of proof; that the proof he now has to offer was discovered in the course of the present season, & not before. And in pursuance of the act of the 1st May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818, & that I have not since that time by gift, sale, or in any manner disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it, as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war, passed on the 18th March, 1818, And that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts, or debts due to me, nor have I any income whatsoever, and that he is unable to any business, & now is & long has been dependent on the charity of his children for support. As to the property he had on the 18 March 1818, & the changes since made, he cannot now state, his memory being much impaired, (As to this point the depositions of his son in law Thomas Hyatt, and J. R. Thamis & H. Jeffords respectable & disinterested & credible witnesses & neighbours of said John Randall are hereunto annexed) This deponant further says that by reason of age & bodily infirmity & disability he is unable to attend personally in court at this term.

John hisXmark Randall

State of Kentucky

Lawrence County Sct

The following is the deposition of Thomas Chandler aged sixty five years who is a credible and disinterested witness and is to be relyed on taken before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the said county of Lawrence who being duely sworn according to law deposeth and sayeth that some time about the year 1777 or 1778 he enlisted as a private soldier in the service of the United States in Capt Lytles Company he enlisted at Wilks [sic: Wilkes] court house North Carolina then Marched to Hillsborough in North Carolina from thence marched under Gen'l. Stephens to Camden South Carolina or near this when an action was fought in which Gen'l. Gates was defeated

He further states that he served during said war three years - that at the time he enlisted John Randall of Lawrence County Ohio was the drumer in said company he further states that during most of the time of his said service he was associated with said John Randall - was with him in the battle of Guilford Court house and Eatew Springs and that the said John Randall was honourably discharged. He further states that he has resently seen said John Randall in Lawrence County Ohio and is sure that he is the same man with whom he served as aforesaid. That he well remembers of his haveing received a wound in his cheek which made a scare which is yet distrinctly visible, and further this deponant sayeth not Sworn to & Subscribed before me this 20th day of October 1827

Thomas hisXmark Chandler [see also his pension application S39314]

The deposition of David Adkinson aged about seventy three years who is a respectable and disinterested witness and to be relyed on taken before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for the county of Lawrence & State of Kentucky who being duly sworn deposeth and sayeth that he was a private soldier in service of the united states in the Revolutionary war under Gen'l Stephens. That he was well acquainted with one John Randles who was in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war at Hilsborough north carolina and was a drummer, and he served with him for some time. he has lately been acquainted with John Randall of Lawrence County Ohio and has every reason to believe and know him to be the same man.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 20th day of Oct 1827

David hisXmark Adkinson [see also pension application S35762]

The deposition of Micajah Frasier aged about seventy two years who is a respectable and disinterested witness and to be relyed on taken before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for Lawrence County State of Kentucky who being duly sworn according to law deposeth and sayeth that, he enlisted as a private soldier in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war in 1777 or 1778 for the term of eighteen months that at the time of entering the sevice he became acquainted with one John Randall who was a Drummer in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war, and frequently saw him during the time of his service, and when his time of service was out and he was discharged he left said Randall in the service. he has lately seen John Randall of Lawrence County Ohio and knows him to be the same man with whom he served in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war, and further this deponant sayeth not

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 20th day of October 1827

Micajah hisXmark Frasier

NOTES:

The correct chronology of the engagements mentioned by Randall is as follows:

20 Jun 1780	Battle of Ramsour's Mill in present Lincoln County NC; Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion not present
16 Aug 1780	Gen. Horatio Gates defeated at Battle of Camden SC
15 Mar 1781	Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC
8 Sep 1781	Battle of Eutaw Springs SC
19 Oct 1781	Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown VA ("Little York")

Thomas Hyatt deposed as follows:

State of Ohio } Court of Com Pleas Nov. Term 1827
Lawrence County SS. }

Personally appeared in open court (being a court of Record) Thomas Hyatt, of lawful age, who being duly sworn, upon his oath deposeth & saith, That in the year 1817, he married a Daughter of John Randall of sd County, an applicant for a Pension, that since that time he has been personally acquainted with said John & with the situation & amount of his property, That on the 18 March 1818 said John owned no real estate, he lived on a tract of land which he rented from year to year. He was then possessed of one mare & colt, two cows - 5 or 6 sheep - a few articles of husbandry or farming utensils & household furniture - all of which Deponent believes did not exceed ninety Dollars in value. That in 1819, sd Deponent & Randall entered qr section of land in their joint names - said Randall paid only twenty Dollars towards his part, nothing was ever paid afterward - 1^o qr section is in R17.T2.S — the 8 years otery[?] was taken & will expire next mont[?]. This deponent & Randall resided on it till 1825 when Deponent by consent of Randall disposed of it. In 1823[?] said mare of Randall died & one cow died also - all the sheep were killed except 2 & what became of them deponent cannot say. They were sold to some bod[?] as he believes. At some time 1823 a suit of slander was brought by one John Bayley agst said Randall & wife for words spoken by his wife, the counsel fee &c attending said suit (which abated by death of wife) & the funeral expenses & [two illegible words] consumed all his property. This was in 1824 as deponent believes - from this time till 1825 sd Randall resided with his son Peter on said place who supported him. Since 1825 this Deponent hath taken & supported him in his family, by private charity. Said Randall from age & natural bodily infirmity has been unable to do any business for about five years past - he is now unable to go out of the house without assistance - his memory is much impaired - he remembers events of his youth much better - has seven children - all married & all poor - none of them able to render him those comforts which he needs without injury to their own families & further this deponent saith not

Thomas hisXmark Hyatt