

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

Pension Application of Matthew Farrar R3448

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 29 July 2015.

State of Virginia }
Louisa County } SS

On this 11th day of May 1833 personally appeared before me Zachariah W Perkins a Justice of the peace and Judge of the court of the county aforesaid Mathew Farrar a resident of the said County and State aged seventy two years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7 1832 –

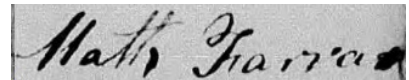
That, as well as he recollects, in the spring of the year 1777 [sic] he was drafted from the Militia of Louisa county – marched in a company from that county (the officers of which he cannot recollect) to the Barracks in the county of Albemarle – guarded the prisoners of War at that place [captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and kept at Albemarle Barracks from Jan 1779 through Feb 1781] – served half a month as private of infantry and was discharged – Said regular troops there under Colo [Francis] Taylor who commanded and Militia from Goochland County. that in the summer of the year 80 he was again drafted in the militia of the same county to go to the South – that having been afflicted with rheumatism he offered that as an excuse to the Court Martial. It required him to swear that the pain was then on him – this he refused to do and his excuse was decided to be rejected but that he was not sent to the south but was directed to serve the tour in the state that he was accordingly ordered by Colo [William] White who commanded in Louisa to report himself to Capt Elisha White at Richmond – he did so and was put under Lieut [Walter] Scott and employed in making cartridges – wrought in that occupation for some time at that place – there were arms and guards were placed regularly when [Gen. Benedict] Arnold came to Richmond [5 Jan 1781] he was employed a whole night in loading boats with cutlasses and other munitions of War, for the purpose of carrying them over the river out of the reach of the enemy – he was then with three others sent with a waggon of the stores into Chesterfield county, opposite to Westham, as a guard they had guns and were ordered to stand guard over the things, until they should be called for, which they did, and then joined the corps at Westham – he was then transferred to the Corps of Lieut. George Graham and continued at the later place in the same occupation till discharged and that he served eight months as private – that there were regular soldiers engaged in the same occupation at both places and at Richmond he thinks they were commanded by Colo Bates, at any rates that he applied to that officer for a discharge when the tour was over and was refused one – that there were many militia but he cannot recollect particulars. That he had not been at home more than a week or two, when he was again drafted from the Militia of the same county – marched under Capt James Watson to Richmond and thence into the lower Country, but cannot recollect the names of the places except a place called Mathews spring at which they were stationed some time. Holt Richardson [Holt Richeson] was Colo and Armstead [or Armistead] Major – on one occasion Major Armstead was arrested for some misbehavior to the inferior officers and Capt Baylor went in his place – there was only the one regiment of Militia and no regulars that he recollects. Was in no battle – served to the best of his belief two months as private of infantry and was discharged. That in the month of September in the same year he was again drafted from the same county – marched on the 15th of the month in the company of Militia from that county under Capt White, into the lower Country –crossed the Pamunkey [sic: Pamunkey River] at New Castle [now Old Church] – marched thence towards York and joined the army at Gloucester town [sic: Gloucester] – the Enemy were in York and Gloucester town and those in the later place frequently made predatory excursions – one night he was marched down towards the enemy's line with a regiment, the officers name not recollected – they were fired on, ordered to retreat, then halt, then retreat again several times till at length they were ordered to form – they did so – heard a few rounds fire by the French on the right not attacked, and retired. the night was very dark – heard a most rapid firing of small arms on the York side [of York River] and supposes it was the attack on the redouts [sic: redoubts] – heard constant

cannonading [beginning on 9 Oct 1781] and saw shells on the right – remained till the capitulation [19 Oct] – served one and a half months as private and was discharged – dont recollect the Colo. or Major – does not recollect any regular troops or officers. Saw the French and many Militias. That he can prove some part of his service, but to the tour under Watson he knows of no witness. That he is prevented by infirmities from attending the court. That he has no documentary evidence and that he refers to the Rev'd Uriah Higgason and Garland Anderson for his standing and the reputation of the neighbourhood as to his service.



He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or Territory.
He answers to Question 1st [He was born] In the County of Goochland Va. Feb[?] 29th 1760
To Question 2^d I send a slip from my family register containing the date of my birth [not in the file]
To Question 3^d When called into service I lived in Louisa County Va. and have since lived in several other Countries. I now live in Louisa [page torn]
To Question 4th I was drafted each time
To Question 5th This question was answered to the sat[page torn] the Judge
To Question 6th I never rec'd a written discharge
To Question 7th Uriah Higgason & Garland Anderson

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

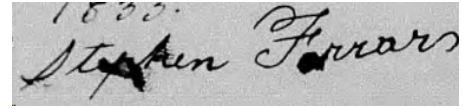


State of Virginia }
Louisa County } SS

Be it known that on this 16th day of November 1833 before me Benj B Duke a Justice of peace in and for the said county personally appeared George Perkins as appears to me a credible person, and being duly sworn, deposed and saith, that on or about the 15th day of September 1781 Mathew Farrar of the county aforesaid, marched from the said county of Louisa under the command of Capt. John White to the siege of York. that he joined the army at Ware Church in Glouster County, where he was attached to Col. James Baytops Reg't. and continued in service till the surrender of Cornwallis which was in or about six weeks. That he the said Perkins was in the same mess with said Farrar, which circumstance enables him to recollect facts more distinctly.

Having been called upon by Matthew Farrar of Louisa county to state what I know in relation to his having served in the war of the revolution, I do hereby certify that I know he served a tour of two weeks at the Barracks in Albemarle county Virginia guarding the prisoners taken under Gen'l. Burgoyne while stationed there. that in 1779 to the best of my recollection and belief he served a tour of seven months at Richmond under Lieu. Walter Scott & was engaged in making cartridges. that during his continuance in Richmond I was with him at several different times – spent several days with him at a time & saw him engaged in this business that he and myself were called into service in the spring of 1781 under Capt James Watson from Louisa County, Virginia, and served a tour of two months at & below Richmond while Cornwallis was ranging that section of the country. Maj. Armistead, Col. Charles Dabney & Gen'l. [Thomas] Nelson were our field officers. that in the fall of the same year I again went into service with him under Capt. John White from aforesaid county, & served two months in Gloucester County opposite Yorktown, and assisted in the capture of Cornwallis. Maj. Thogmorton, Col. Baytop, & Gen'l. Weeden [sic: George Weedon] were our field officers – that s'd Matthew Farrar & myself were raised at the same house. I knew of his going into & returning from service in every case & in the two last instances I served

with him in the same company. that I am at this time in the 72nd year of my age & that s'd Matthew Farrar is about two years older. Given under my hand this 22nd day of August 1833.
Stephen Farrar [pension application W7240]

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature reads "Stephen Farrar" and is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. Above the signature, the year "1833" is faintly visible.

NOTE: The claim for a pension was rejected because it was somehow concluded that Farrar's service was not in a military capacity.