

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Foley R3624

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 14 Feb 2014.

State of New York } Oneida: Common Pleas
Oneida County } Court of Record by Statute

On this 13th day of June 1826 personally appeared in open court being a court of record by statute, for the said County of Oneida, John Foley aged sixty seven years, a resident in Rome in said County, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath declare in order to obtain the provisions of the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818, and the 1st of May 1820, that he the said John Foley enlisted for the term of one year and six months, on or about the 10th day of April 1779 or 1780, in the County of Prince William State of Virginia, in the company commanded by Captain Wales, afterwards Captain Wallis commanded the Company in the Regiment commanded by Col Charles (I believe) Bluford who deserted at Charleston, and went to the British, as this deponent has been informed [see endnote], that he continued to serve until the month of October in 1780 or 1781 he having received a furlough, and was discharged by Col Charles Newell in Prince William County Virginia, the above Regiment, on the Continental establishment, in the line of the State of Virginia – A year after the discharge in September I enlisted for the Term of nine months in the Company commanded by Captain Charles Attwood in the Regiment commanded by Col. Morris, under the command of General Greene, in the line of the state of Virginia, on the Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said corps, until May before Cornwallis was taken [on 19 Oct 1781], when he was discharged by order of General Greene, at Williamsburg Virginia [see endnote].

In July before Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781] he enlisted for the term of one year, in the company commanded by Captain Attwood, in the regiment commanded by Col. McCarty, Daniel Olcott Lt. Colonel, Levi Pease Major, and General Wadsworths brigade, at Williamsburgh Virginia on the Continental establishment, Virginia line, as he supposed and continued to serve for one year, when he was discharged at Sheffield, Massachusetts, by Levi Pease Major of said Regiment; that he went with the baggage of the French army to Boston, in December, and then went into the country with the horses belonging to the army and remained until discharged as above stated, his discharges have been lost or mislaid, they being written or printed ones. That he was in several different places with the horses, among others at Asa Douglas's at Hancock, Mass, before he went to Sheffield and was discharged.

And in pursuance of the act of 1st May 1820, I do solemnly swear, that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818, and 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 and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, ~~any property or securities~~ nor have I any income, other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

Inventory of property.

None except one cow worth	}	\$15.00
and my wearing apparel	}	

A wife aged 57 years and one girl, 15 years of age

And household furniture worth not more than	<u>25.00</u>	\$40.00
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John hisXmark Foley.

State of New York

Oneida County } On this 12th day of June 1832 personally appeared before me, John Foley of Rome in said county, aged 69 years and upwards, who being first duly sworn, in order to obtain the provision of an act of Congress, passed in May 1832— does declare and say – that he enlisted in the year

1779 for the Term of eighteen months in Capt Wales Company—and two weeks or about that time afterwards Capt Adam Wallis [possible Adam Wallace] took command of the Company, in the 3d Virginia Regiment, commanded by Col. Charles Bluford, who deserted to the British – The Regiment was then commanded by one Andrew Wallis [see endnote] – he enlisted in Prince William Co. Virginia—was taken prisoner at Charleston [12 May 1780] —and after he escaped from the British he was discharged at the expiration of the eighteen months by Colonel Charles Newell — Gen [Benjamin] Lincoln was at Charleston had command

That in the month of April 1781– he was drafted in Capt Peter Evans Co, Virginia Militia, Col. Charles Paton, and served three months at Petersburg [sic: Petersburg] and about there in Virginia. — That in the fall of the same year, September he believes, 1781 he enlisted for nine months in Capt Charles Attwoods Co, Col Morrison’s Regt Continental establishment– and served the nine months in said company and Regiment and was present at the Surrender of Cornwallis— In the Spring after 1782 when nine months service expired–He enlisted again under Capt Attwood for one year to go to Boston with the French baggage of their army and went from Williamsburgh in Virginia to Alexandria, then to Crumhorn[?] – then to New Hartford Con. then to Providence and then to Boston,—and the horses belonging to the army were then sent into the country to forage— The troops were under General Wadsworth, and Colonel Daniel McCarty, and Col Daniel Olcott – and Major Levi Pease — and the horses men were billeted out in different Towns – Hancock, Berkshire Co. at one Douglas’s – Some at Stephentown Rens Co [Rensselaer County NY] & some at New Lebanon [in Columbia County NY] — and in the Spring of 1783 the horses were brought together at Sheffield Mass, by Major Levi Pease, when they were sold and this deponent discharged having served his term of one year and a few days over.

That he has never been placed on the pension roll of any state or territory – and that he is not entitled to any benefit under the act passed 15th May 1828 for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the army of the Revolution.

And further the deponent says not

John hisXmark Foley

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
Oneida County, }

On this 11th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court in the court of Common Pleas, Oneida Cy now sitting, John Foley a resident of said county and state, aged sixty nine 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 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated: That he was born in Dumfries, Prince Wm Co. Virginia in 1763. There is a record of his age in Town where he was born. Lived at Dumfries when he entered service. Since has lived at Stephentown NY Winchester N.H. Guilford VT. Leyden Mass. Lenox Ms. Stephentown N.Y. then and now Rome Oneida Co NY. That he enlisted and served as stated in the annexed affidavit by him proven before B. P. Johnson comes – and he refers to annexed affidavits and also to his papers & proof on file at the war office Washington – being all the proof he has
Gen Lincoln, Gen Lafayette, Gen Washington, Gen Greene contl officers whom he recollects.

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. John hisXmark Foley

State of New York [2 May 1833]

Oneida County Ss Samuel Collins [pension application S29098 for service from New York] of Verona Oneida and State of New York being duly sworn deposes and says that he is a Revolutionary pensioner of the United States, and that he knows John Foley who is here present, and recollects that the said John Foley was in the service of the United States at the time of the Capture of Cornwallis, and that the said Foley was then in Capt Atwoods Co. Col Morrisons Regt 6th Virginia Regt – and that said Foley served as much as nine months & further says not Samuel hisXmark Collins

State of New York [2 May 1838]
Oneida County Ss Josiah Littlefield [pension application S42863 for service from New York] of
Verona in said County being duly sworn deposes and says, that he knows John Foley here present and
that during the Revolutionary War and when the French Army crossed the North River after the capture
of Cornwallis at Kings Town [Kingston NY] the said Littlefield then in the service of the United States,
and among other teams with the Baggage was a six horse dark coloured team, which this deponent is
entirely satisfied was driven by the said John Foley now here present who was then in the service of the
United States. [signed] Josiah Littlefield

[20 May 1833] Oneida County Ss Joel Pease [pension application R8046 for service from MA and CT]
of said County in the 69th year of his age, being duly sworn deposes and says that he is acquainted with
John Foley named in the annexed paper, and knew him as a Soldier in the Revolutionary War. That this
deponent saw the said Foley in the service as a Soldier in the year 1782 as this deponent believes and in
the month of July of that year. He was then under the command of Major Levi Pease and was on the way
with the French army to Boston from Virginia. How long the [illegible word] Foley served this deponent
does not know – but he is certain that he was a Soldier in the Service under the Command of Major Levi
Peale.

This deponent further says that previous to this he was the said Foley at the South and he was
then a private Soldier in Capt Wallis company – but how long the said Foley served this deponent does
not know. [signed] Joel Pease

NOTE:

I could find no record of a Col. Charles Bluford (or Charles Buford) or any American colonel
who went over to the British at Charleston. It is possible that Foley meant Col. Abraham Buford,
although he was not at Charleston. If Abraham Buford was intended, then “Capt. Wallis” was probably
Adam Wallace, who was killed at Buford’s defeat at the Battle of Waxhaws SC on 29 May 1780.
Andrew Wallace, possibly the “Andrew Wallis” mentioned in the 1832 declaration, was also at the Battle
of Waxhaws, but being a Captain he never commanded a regiment.

I found no records of any of the other officers in Foley’s first declaration, except Gen. Nathanael
Greene. Greene was in South Carolina in 1781, however, and he could not have had anything to do with
Foley’s discharge at Williamsburg. There was a Gen. Peleg Wadsworth of the Massachusetts Militia.

John Foley made another application on 20 May 1833 without adding new information.

On 29 Mar 1826 and 12 June 1832 Daniel Greene (pension application W13326 for service from
NY) stated that he knew Foley when he served under Maj. Levi Pease in the fall of 1782 and winter of
1783.