

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John High R4985

f32VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/27/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Indiana Warren County SS

On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1850 personally appeared in open Court before the Probate Court now sitting, John High of the County of Warren and State of Indiana aged ninety-four years who being 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<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he was drafted in the month of June 1780 at Romney in the County seat of Hampshire County in the State of Virginia and mustered in Captain Parsons Company and marched from there to Morristown, to join the Army, where he was placed under command of Colonel Lawson in what was called the second line or second division composed of Virginia militia that he remained there, with the exception of a few marches, six months or more, that from thence he went to the Carolinas and joined General Greene's Army near the Catawba River, news being received of the approach of Cornwallis' Army, a retreat was ordered by General Greene, and they crossed the Catawba River, which soon became so swelled by rain as to prevent the crossing of Cornwallis' Army for some time, that Greene continued to retreat and soon crossed the Yadkin, which was swelled by the rain this deponent was placed with some 4 or 500 militia at the break of day to annoy the crossing of Cornwallis but on the arrival of Cornwallis, they fled immediately, Greene continued his retreat, but being joined by General Morgan, a battle ensued at Guilford [March 15, 1781], the troops were drawn up in three lines, the division that this deponent was in composed the second line, there was a brisk cannonade in front by the English, and through some mistake a division quitted the field of battle, the second division maintained their fire until they were ordered to retreat, a retreat of the whole Army soon followed, this battle was fought some time in March 1781, the retreat continued, when they received reinforcements and were informed that Cornwallis had retreated, they then were ordered back to Morristown which we reached after a long March, remained at Morristown some 4 or 5 months with a few marches, when we were taken by General Washington to the South where news was received of the arrival of a French Army, we arrived at the head of Elk River, then in marked and soon arrived at York Town. Here an attack was commenced on Cornwallis' fortifications with artillery by French and Americans, we were principally occupied in building fortifications and defending batteries, this was in October 1781. Two ships were consumed in the night and one in the morning, they were set on fire by bombshells. Our Regiment were engaged in storming a redoubt on the left of the works, and captured the troop that held it. The English made an attack and captured two batteries, their whole Army soon after marched out, as prisoners of war. This deponent was discharged in

November 1781 and had a written discharge which he kept until 1788 when he volunteered under Captain Parker to check the Indians on the Ohio River who had been committing depredations, he continued in this service about the year and when he returned home to Hampshire County, Virginia his discharge and all his other papers which he had when he came home from the Revolutionary war were lost, and he has no documentary evidence by which he can establish his claim and knows of no person at this late day who can testify to his service, he had forgotten the names of his Colonel, but thinks it was Colonel Campbell, he knew some of the Regular Officers particularly Captain Kirkwood of the Delaware line, who he says was very nearsighted and had to hold papers up hi to read them, his brother Jacob High<sup>1</sup> served in the same Regiment with him and obtained a pension, he<sup>2</sup> was one of the witnesses testifying to his services, Jacob lived for some time in Indiana, and finally died in Arkansas. He also recollects Generals Stevens who commanded some Virginia militia in the same division at the Battle of Guilford. He hereby relinquishes every claim 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.

S/John High, X his mark

Interrogatories propounded by the Court to the Deponent

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born

Answer I was born on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 1756 on the Schuylkill in the State of Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia.

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it

Answer. My age was recorded in a book and I have written to Virginia for it, but it is lost.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live.

Answer. I was living when called into service in Hampshire County in the State of Virginia, and was then twenty-four years old. After the Revolutionary War, I settled down in Hampshire County Virginia and lived there more than thirty years and raised a family I then moved to the State of Ohio where I resided about 6 or 8 years, I then removed to the State of Indiana and have lived in the State of Indiana twenty-two or twenty-three years, and I now reside in the County of Warren and State of Indiana.

4<sup>th</sup>. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute; and if a substitute for whom

Answer. I was drafted as a militia man, I was no substitute I waited until my turn came.

5<sup>th</sup>. State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. I recollect there was a Virginia Regiment at Guilford commanded I believe by Colonel Hawes. I recollect Kirkwood as I have said before, I recollect General Stevens, and I recollect that there was some Maryland regiments at Guilford. I was in the service as a militia man, from the time I was drafted in June 1780 until I was discharged at York Town in November 1781.

6<sup>th</sup>. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

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<sup>1</sup> Presumably the same man as FPA S32322, whose application was transcribed and posted in this database on the same date.

<sup>2</sup> I found no evidence of John High having testified on behalf of his brother. If so, John's affidavit failed to make it into Jacob's pension file.

Answer, I have as I have stated in my declaration been regularly discharged in writing from the service, but my discharge was lost with other papers in Hampshire County Virginia. I do not recollect what officer signed my discharge.

7<sup>th</sup>. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution

Answer. Judge Fork, James Musgrave, Sidney Cronkite, and any of my neighbors can testify to my character, Musgrave's father knew me in the Revolution, and lived in the same County with me, and could prove my services if he was living.

S/ John High, X his mark

[Isaiah Tharp and James Musgrave gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 6: By letter dated February 19, 1855 sent to the Commissioner of Pensions by Amaziah High of West Lebanon, Warren County Ohio, the correspondent states that he and his sister (Julian) are the only children of his father by his 2<sup>nd</sup> family and that he supposes that is the reason his father willed his claim to a pension to the 2 of them.

*Amaziah High*

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