

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Neves R7604

MD VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Georgia } Ss.

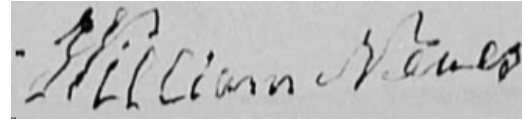
Early County } }

On this the seventeenth day of October, eighteen hundred and thirty seven, personally came before the Honourable the Superior Court for said county, William Neves, a resident of the county of Early and state of Georgia, aged seventy two years, (being born on the 9th December 1764) who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the pension made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he volunteered under Captain Nathaniel Fox [bounty-land claim VAS1423], of King William County, Virginia, in the month of May, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty one, with John Hill, James Johnson, Anderson Johnson, and about thirty others, for the purpose of guarding Williams's Ferry on Pamunky river [sic: Pamunkey River], in King William county Virginia, to prevent the negroes from crossing over to the British who were then lying in New Kent county, as well as to prevent the British from crossing over to the east side of the river, it being the only crossing place for some distance above and below. That he continued in that service under Captain Fox, as a private, as near as he can now recollect for the space of three weeks, and while in that service was drafted as a Militia man under the proper authorities of Virginia, and ordered to rendezvous at Ruffins Ferry [near Sweet Hall] on Pamunky river, in King William county Virginia, under Captain William Terry, whose Lieutenant was John or Thomas Waller, but the christian name not recollected. Three or four other companies rendezvoused at Ruffins Ferry, all under the command of Colonel Holt Richardson [Holt Richeson], of King William county, Virginia. They remained at Ruffins Ferry, four or five weeks, and marched to Morbon Hills [sic: Malvern Hill, 15 mi SE of Richmond] on James River, and there joined the continental army under the command of the Marquis de la Fayette [Lafayette]. They remained there four or five weeks, until the army concentrated from various quarters. Generals [Robert] Lawson & Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] had the command of the Militia. They marched from Morbin Hills under the command of the Marquis de la Fayette to New Castle [now Old Church, 4 Aug 1781] in Hanover county Virginia – Remained there two or three days, marched from thence to New Kent, Court House, and from thence to the Brick House at the confluence of the Mattaponi and Pamunky rivers. From thence they were detached under the command of Colonel Taylor, and Major Campbell (or Schamwell) and crossed over York river near the dividing line between King and Queen & Gloucester counties. They remained on the east side of York river, (having frequent skirmishes with the British stationed in Gloucester Fort) until relieved by Captain Taliaferros company from King William county. While declarant was stationed at Ruffins Ferry, he was transferred by order of Colonel Holt Richardson, from the Militia to the Maryland Troop of Horse, commanded by Captain Noland, whose Lieutenant was one Murphy who afterwards deserted to the British, and as this declarant is informed, was taken prisoner at the capture of Cornwallis at Little York [19 Oct 1781]. While on the march from Ruffins Ferry to Morbon Hill, under the command of Captain Terry, this declarant was present and assisted in the surprise and capture of a party of British, consisting of fifty two, officers and men, and even women, who were conducted to Morbon Hills, and delivered over to the American army. This declarant was drafted for three months, but served over his time, and until relieved by the arrival of Genl. Wayne from the South [sic: Anthony Wayne from Pennsylvania]. In a few days after Genl. Wayne arrived on York river, Capt. Taliaferro's company was stationed there to relieve Captain Terrys, which was then finally discharged. This was near the dividing line between King and Queen and Gloucester counties, in the lower edge of King and Queen, and as near as declarant can recollect, but a few days before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. He received a regular discharge, but in the lapse of so many years it has been lost. He also received a certificate for the amount of his pay but for which he has never received a dollar. They were both given and dated but a short time before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis

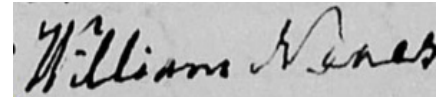
at little York.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.



Georgia, }
Early County }

Personally came before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace, in and for said county, William Neves, who, being duly sworn, deposes and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but, according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades— For three weeks I served as a private volunteer under Captain Nathaniel Fox. For three months I served as a private in the Militia of the state of Virginia, under Captain William Terry, and the officers named in the foregoing application. For two weeks I served as a private in the Maryland Troop of horse under the command of Captain Noland; and for such service I claim a pension. Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 17th Oct. 1837



NOTE: The minimum service to qualify for a pension under the act of 1832 was six months. On 2 Jan 1855, John Neves assigned power of attorney to apply for a pension for his father's services.