

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Abraham Philips R8184

f82NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/26/17

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 2]

The State of Alabama Russell County }

On this the 7th day of November 1853 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Probate now sitting Pleasant Philips and James Philips only surviving heirs of Abraham Philips deceased residence of the County and State above named – the former age 66 years and the latter 57 years who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on their oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That their father said Abraham Philips entered the service of the United States (according to his own Declaration¹) under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He left his home in now Rockingham County – then forming a portion of Guilford County North Carolina and entered the American Army as a Volunteer after the commencement of hostilities in the Revolutionary War in the capacity of sutler. The names of his officers at this time or unknown to deponents also the exact time when he entered the Army. Deceased, said A. Philips while in this Campaign lay sick some time in Wilmington in North Carolina. Afterwards, but the precise time not known to deponents, he went under the Command of General Gates [Horatio Gates], officers of his Regiment not known, into South Carolina, and was with him at and engaged in the battle at or near Camden commonly known as "Gate's Defeat"[sic, Gates' Defeat or the Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]. After the removal of Gates from the Command of the Southern Army, he (A. Philips) with his Company (for he was then a Captain) went under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene]. How long he remained with Greene these deponent know not – but at the time of the Battle of Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] he had been dispatched with his company by Greene to capture some Tories on Deep River in North Carolina. On the 25 September 1781 he again took the field (as appears by his Journal²) as Captain (from the Troublesome Iron Works District) under General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], Colonel Martin [probably James Martin] & Major Gillaspie [probably John Gillespie], and remained in service until the 2nd December next thereafter.

These deponent know of no Documentary evidence in relation to the matter more than has been transmitted to the Department and they know of no person whose testimony they can procure who can testify to the services of the deceased.

As the lawful heirs of the said Abraham Philips they now claim the pension due said Philips they hereby relinquish every Claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present

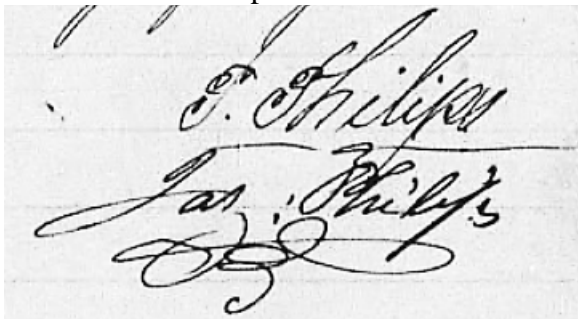
¹ The file contain no such declaration or evidence that such a document was removed from the file.

² The journal is not among the documents in this file.

and declare to the best of their knowledge the name of the said Abraham Philips is not now, and never has been on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.
Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ P. Philips

S/ Jas. Philips

A photograph of two handwritten signatures in cursive ink on a light-colored, possibly aged, paper. The top signature is 'P. Philips' and the bottom signature is 'Jas. Philips'. Both signatures are written in a fluid, connected style.

[p 4]

The State of Alabama Russell County }

I Thomas S Tate, Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County and State aforesaid do hereby Certify that it has been fully proved before me in open Court that the Family Bible from which the following transcript was made was the Bible of Captain Abraham Philips, and it is furthermore fully, fairly and comprehensively proved before me that the original entry was made at the request of Captain Abraham Philips and by his free sanction – the Affidavit in proof thereof accompanying these papers. That he transcript taken from the Bible of Captain Abraham Philips is as follows –

“Abraham Philips and Cynthia Lanier married 9 December 1784.”

I certify furthermore that the following transcripts are taken from the same Bible.

“Abram Philips died the 23 March 1836 on Wednesday evening”

“Cynthia Philips died the 3 February 1837 about 12 o’clock in the day.”

“Betsy Watt wife of Hugh Watt died 17 September 1822”

“Isaac Philips died 25th of October 1828 7:30 o’clock in the morning.”

I further Certify that the following transcripts are exact copies of the entry of Deaths taken from the family Bible of Pleasant Philips.

“Charles Philips died the 27 November 1836.”


“Polly Sharpe wife of James Sharpe died the 13th day of August 1837.”

Given under my hand & official Seal at office this 7th day of June A.D. 1853

S/ Thomas S Tate, Judge of Probate

[p 6: Power of attorney dated August 22, 1834 granted by Abraham Philips of Rockingham County North Carolina relating to the disposition of land in Haywood County Tennessee.

S/ A. Philips

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive ink, which appears to be 'A. Philips'. The signature is written on a light-colored background and is underlined.

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[pp 18-20: family letter dated March 24, 1831 written by veteran to ‘dear son.’—only family

news of health, weather and states of health.]

[p 22 certificate of NC Comptroller regarding payments made to Abraham Phillips [sic] of military service including payments made to Captain Abraham Phillips for Militia services of himself and his company:

State of North Carolina.
Comptroller's Office

I, William J. Clarke, Comptroller of public accounts in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears of record in my office, among the payments made by said State to sundry persons for Military services in the Revolutionary War, as follows, to wit:

Abraham Phillips
Book No. 31, page 31, £27⁰/₁₅ specie
" " " " £60 " "
" " " " £4 " "
" " " " 10 £80 " "
" C. 17 " " 61 £21 " "

Vol. A. entry 8364 Captain Abraham Phillips for Militia services of self & Company £186⁰/₁₇ specie
" " " " 8403 Ditto for ditto " £351⁰/₆ "
" " " " 8408 Ditto for ditto " £17⁰/₁₂ "

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal of Office this 20th day of May 1853.

Wm. J. Clarke, Comptroller

[pp 62-65: another letter from the veteran in his own handwriting. This one is dated June 16, 1828 from Rockingham County address to "Dear Son Pleasant and Isaac"]

[pp 67-70: another letter in the handwriting of the veteran address to his son Pleasant. This one is dated November 5, 1831. This letter contains mention of a rumored insurrection by the Negroes [slaves] which proved false but were based on events in Virginia, the veteran believes.]