

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Ray R8612 Margaret Ray MD [VA]
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky } Ss
County of Union }

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Daniel McKinny Lewis Greenwell John L Deckey Joseph Kerry George Johnson & John G Fennie – Justices of the County Court for the County of Union now sitting John Ray a resident in the said County of Union and State of Kentucky aged seventy six 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 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated

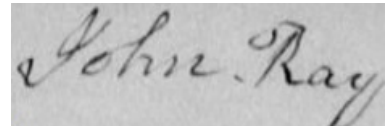
In the spring 1776 he was a resident of Anne Arundel County Maryland and enlisted for six months in the Company of Capt Edward Burgess, Thomas Edmonson [Thomas Edmondston] first Lieutenant Alexander Estep [Alexander Estop] 2nd Lieutenant Jeremiah Bell Ensign, and belonged to that class of troops called “the Flying Camp” of Maryland – he was marched to Anapolis [sic: Annapolis], were shipped to the head of Elk [now Elkton MD], crossed by land to New Castle on the Delaware, went on board vessels to Philadelphia then marched to German Town [Germantown PA], Princeton, New Castle & Elizabeth, crossed the North river at New York and there joined the army under Gen’l Washington before Long Island was taken [27 Aug 1776]. Marched up to Fort Washington near which they had an engagement with the Hessians – then marched to the white plains, where there were some skirmishes – crossed into New Jersey to Hackensack, marched to fort Lee opposite fort Washington then back to Hackensack then to Brunswick then back to Philadelphia where he was discharged in December 1776 being sick at the time he was sent on to Baltimore – he moved to Kentucky in 1779

In 1780 he resided in Bullitt County Kentucky [then part of Virginia] and volunteered in Capt Parmenas Briscoes company and in June or July rendezvoused at Louisville where Gen’l George Rodgers Clark [sic: George Rogers Clark] took command of the troops – marched to where Cincinnatti [sic: Cincinnati] now stands, where they erected a block house, then marched took & destroyed Chilacothé [Old Chillicothe on Little Miami River near present Xenia OH] then took and destroyed the Piqueway Towns [Piqua Towns, 8 Aug 1780] where they had a battle with the Indians and returned home the last of September having been absent about three months in the service having been regularly discharged

In 1782 he again volunteered in Capt. Jacob Vanmeters [Jacob Vanmeter, pension application W8798] company again met at Louisville in August where Gen’l Clark again took the command, pursued the same route as in 1780 to the old Chilacothé Town on the Big Miami took and destroyed the Town [New Chillicothe, 10 Nov 1782], destroyed two other Indian Towns and some stores returned to Kentucky and was regularly discharged having been in the service then near three months. He has neither of his discharges – he has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify 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 rool of the agency of any state

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid



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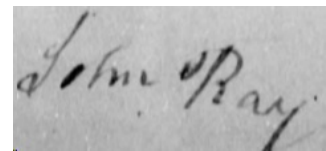
On this 21st day of January 1833 Personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of the County of Union aforesaid now sitting John Ray a resident of said County who being first duly sworn

according to law, doth on his oath make the following amendment to his declaration made on the 20th of August 1832 for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832

That he was born on the 3rd day of September 1756 in Annarundel County Maryland – he has a record of his age in his Bible at home taken from the record kept by his father. At the time he first entered the service of the United States he lived in Ann Arundel County. When in 1780 & in 1782 he entered the service, he lived in Bullitt County Kentucky. Since the close of the Revolution, he has lived in Bullitt County Washington County, Henderson County and Union County Kentucky – and in the last County has lived fourteen years & yet lives in the same – he always voluntarily entered the service as a private – in his original declaration he has named his officers

And he doth further depose and say 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 Eight months I served as a private in the year 1776 – And in the year 1780 under Gen'l Clark, he served two and a half months and in 1782 he also served two and a half months, under Gen'l Clark – he doth verily believe he was three months absent on each of those expeditions, but for greater certainty and to be within less than his service he has put them two at two a half months each And for such service he claims a pension

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Ray". The ink is dark and the background is a light, slightly textured paper.

NOTE: The file contains a letter to the Pension Office dated 13 Jan 1845 stating that Mrs. John Ray was applying for a pension, but no application was found. A paper in the file reads in part: "Printed list of 1852 gives as cause of suspension of the claim of Margaret the widow of John Ray 'Service must be proved by the records at Annapolis'."