

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Readen (Reading) R8632 & S21439 f8VA & f31VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/11/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Alabama Lauderdale County

On the __ day of February 1831 Personally appeared in Open Court William Reading aged seventy-four years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the first of May 1820 that he the said William Reading enlisted for the term of eighteen months on the __ day of __ in the year __ in the State of Virginia Charlotte County in the company Commanded by Captain Thomas Davenport and Lieutenant __ Overstreet in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Philip Halcolm [perhaps Philip Holcombe] and Major Overstreet – in the line commanded by General Lawson [Robert Lawson] on the Continental establishment that I continued to serve in the said Corps until Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Little York [October 19, 1781] when I was discharged from the said service in the State aforesaid. That I was at the siege of Little York and that I have no other evidence now in my power of my said services excepting my own oath.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of 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 whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision 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, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

Schedule of the applicant's property

1 blind mare worth about	\$10
1 cow and calf worth	\$10
4 head of small hogs	\$4
	\$24

I am a farmer by profession and occupation unable to labor hard – from my extreme age being about 74 years as aforesaid stated I have no family but my wife who is between 60 and 70 years of age and very infirm and unable to do but little labor.

Sworn to and declared on the 16th day of February 1830

S/ Wm Reador [sic]



S21439

The State of Alabama Lauderdale County: SS

On this ___ day of December 1833 personally appeared before the County Court of said County William Reading a resident Citizen of said County aged about seventy-six years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the month of February in the year ___ being the year which Cornwallis surrendered. That he entered in the State of Virginia Charlotte County and at Charlotte Courthouse as above stated under Captain Thomas Threat for the Term of eighteen months in the Regiment commanded as well as he recollects by Colonel Walter Cole but of the Regiment or its number he is not certain that was mustered into service at Charlotte Courthouse in February as aforesaid – was marched to Bluford near Petersburg, remained there about four months as well as he now recollects. From there they were marched to [word partially written over and illegible] Ferry on the Staunton River remained there some time 3 or 4 months from there they were ordered to march to Little York and arrived there two days after the Surrender of Cornwallis – and some short time after the Surrender of Cornwallis he was discharged and returned home he received a written discharge but the same has long since been lost. While lying at Cole Ferry as stated in his narrative he was placed under the command of Captain Joseph Fuqua his former Captain Threat having been absent from some cause to this petitioner unknown.

He has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his Services nor does he know of any living witness by whom he can prove the same.

He states that he served nine months & was willing to have served out his Term of enlistment but was discharged by orders (as he understood) of the Commander in Chief. He was acquainted with Colonel Edmonds and Colonel Scott who was in the Army the Great lapse of time, his advanced age and consequent loss of memory put it out of his power to give the particulars of the movements of Troops or the names of officers or the numbers of the Regiment. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity whatever except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 5th day of December 1833

S/ S. C. Posey, Judge

S/ Wm Reader



And the court propounded the interrogatories as prescribed by the war Department to which he answered as follows

To the first he answers he was Born in Charlotte County State of Virginia in the year 1757.

To the second – he answers he has no record but does [indecipherable word] in the family Bible owned by his Father at the time of his death which is somewhere in the State of Virginia

To third, answers he was living in Charlotte County Virginia left Virginia in 1818 removed to

South Carolina remained there 18 years & then to the State of Alabama Lauderdale County where he now resides. That he has resided 2 years in [indecipherable word] Hardeman County.

To the 4th refers to his narrative

To the 5th he refers to his narrative

To the 6th he refers to his narrative

To the 7th he refers to John Chisholm Esquire, John S Nelson Esquire the Reverend Henry Garrard, Matthew Wilson and Colonel Joseph Hupp

S/ S. C. Posey, Judge

S/ Wm Reador

[John Chisholm and Matthew Wilson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[The Reverend Henry Garrard a clergyman gave a separate standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 25: In an application for a new pension certificate filed in Iredell County Alabama on February 23, 1844, the veteran describes himself as having formerly belonged to the company commanded by Captain Thomas Threat in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Mook Weddleton.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months service in the Virginia State Troops.]

[Note: There are notes on the cover sheet of both these files indicating that the applicant in each file is the same person. While the name, signatures and places of residence appear to be the same, the description of officers served under are totally different from one application to the next. I have not explanation for these discrepancies.]