

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Rector R8639

f25VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/13/12

[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.]

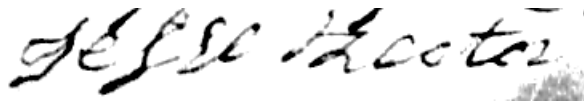
State of Indiana Lawrence County: SS Lawrence County Probate Court November Term 1833

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

On this 11th day of November in the year 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before Asher Wilcox, Judge of the Probate Court of the County of Lawrence aforesaid, the same being a court of Record, Jesse Rector resident of Shawswick Township in the County aforesaid, aged seventy-three years on the 26th day of December last past, who being first 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 7th 1832. That he was sometime in the summer or fall of the year 1780, but on what day or month he cannot now particularly State, drafted as a militia man in the County of Fauquier in the State of Virginia to serve for a three months tour as a militia man, in the war of the Revolution in the Army of the United States, under the command of Captain ___ him and that at the time said declarant and the rest of the militia of Fauquier County, at the time herein stated, were equipped and ready to set out for headquarters which were at ___ in the State of Virginia, that this declarant was unable to join the Army by reason of a severe attack of sickness, by which he was confined and unable to perform any duty for the space of ___ months – and that by reason of his non-attendance as a militia man for the cause aforesaid, he was returned for a six months tour of duty, which was sometime about the 1st of September in the year 1781, that he and five or six others, pursuant to their orders, met on the 10th day of September aforesaid in the year last aforesaid at Fauquier Court House in said State of Virginia, from which place they marched to Fredericksburg in said State of Virginia, where they remained a short time under the command of Strother Suttle [Strother Settles], whom this declarant understood was placed there for the purpose of receiving soldiers enlisted for a six months tour, that said Strother Suttle measured this declarant and the rest of the men who were with him, and took their heights and a description of their complexions, and by whose orders this declarant and the rest of the company marched under the command of a Sergeant to Little York, where they joined the main Army under General Washington, and where this declarant remained until after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis on the 19th day of October 1781. That this declarant was at no other battle except the siege of Little York at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis as herein stated. That after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis aforesaid, this declarant was marched with a part of the Army to Portsmouth to tear down some breastworks – that this declarant was then marched, he thinks, under a Major Dick, (but is not certain in consequence of the length of time and failure of memory) through Norfolk to the seashore after some Tories – that we took some Tories he does not now recollect how many, with whom we marched back again to Portsmouth – that some short time after said declarant was discharged – That he received his discharge from said Strother Suttle home he met with after his return home in Falmouth in

Stafford County in said State of Virginia, whom this declarant believes signed his said discharge – that he lost said discharge, supposing it to be of no value, and for that reason he did not take any special care of it – that he thinks the officer under whose immediate command he was placed, when he joined the main Army at Little York was Captain Dudley – that he does not now remember the names of all the officers under whom he served during said tour of duty, having been frequently changed to different companies, but that they were all chiefly regulars – that what rank the said Strother Suttle held, this declarant at this lapse of time does not remember – That during said campaign this declarant recollects to have seen the following named officers viz. Generals Washington and Greene, and some others that he does not now remember – that he has a record of his age at home and that from said record he was born on the 26th day of December in the year 1759. – This declarant further states that since the revolution he has lived in the following states, to wit – four or five years in Virginia after the revolution – from thence he moved to North Carolina, where he resided about five years – from thence he moved back again to the State of Virginia where he remained about thirty years – from thence he removed to Indiana the state in which he now resides and where he has resided for thirteen years – that he has accompanied this declaration with the certificate of the Reverend Abraham Mitchell and Levi Mitchell and Gideon Potter and Francis McBride all of the County in which said declarant resides, and to whom said declarant is known, and by whom he can prove his general character and reputation for truth and veracity, and who can testify as to their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, which he prays may be received and made a part of this record. – This declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency in any State or Territory.

S/ Jesse Rector



[Abraham Mitchell, a clergyman, Levi Mitchell, Gideon Potter and Frances McBride gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories put by the Court

1. Question – Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – I was born in the County of Fauquier in the State of Virginia on the 26th day of December in the year 1759.

2. Question – Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Answer – I have my father's record of my age, which is now in my house in this County.

3. Question – Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary war, and where do you now live?

Answer – When called into service I was living in the County of Fauquier, and State of Virginia, since Revolution I have lived 4 or 5 years immediately succeeding it in Virginia, about 5 years in the State of North Carolina, from whence I removed back again to Virginia where I remained about 30 years, from thence I removed to Indiana, in which state I now reside.

4. Question – How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute?

Answer – I was drafted into the service for a 3 months tour, and not being able to perform that duty in consequence of sickness, I was returned for a 6 months tour, which I performed until discharged and for which tour of 6 months, this declaration is intended.

5. Question – 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 services.

Answer – General Washington, Commander in Chief and General Greene are all the superior officers that I now recollect – I think Captain Dudley was the officer who commanded the company to which I belonged after I joined the headquarters of the Army at Little York – I do not, at this distance in time, recollect what rank Strother Held, but Think He Was Only Stationed at Fredericksburg to Receive Soldiers Drafted in That Neighborhood, I Do Not Recollect Any Continental or Militia Regiments, My Memory Being Bad and I Not Having Charged It with the Recollection of Such Incidents. My Services Were Distinguished by No Important Circumstances, Other Than the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis, Which I Distinctly Recollect, the Tearing down the Breastworks at Portsmouth – and the taking of the Tories near the Seashore below Norfolk in Virginia.

6. Question – Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer – I did receive a discharge from the service which I think was signed by Strother Suttle, but I have lost it in consequence of not supposing it of any use.

7. Question – 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 – Abraham Mitchell Minister of the Gospel – Levi Mitchell – Gideon Potter and Francis McBride

State of Indiana Lawrence County: SS

Personally appeared before me Alexander H Dunihue a justice of the peace in and for said County Jesse Rector who being duly sworn deposes and saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods below and in the following grades: From the 1st September or thereabouts in the year 1781 until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis on the 19th of October in the same year, making not less than forty-five days supposing that he set out a few days after the 1st September –*

He further states that from failure of memory he cannot recollect the name of the Colonel of his Regiment but he hopes that the War Department may make this affidavit a part of his declaration and consider it accordingly.

*That he served in the march to Portsmouth and in that after Tories two months after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, but was ready to have served his tour of six months had not peace been made and the war ended.

S/ Jesse Rector

[Note: Having served less than the 6 months required under the provisions of the 1832 act, this veteran would not have qualified for a pension.]