

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of George Reed R8658  
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn20NC  
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State of Indiana, Warrick County

On this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D. 1847 personally appears in open court before the Circuit court now sitting George Reed a resident of Warrick County in the state of Indiana aged Eighty Seven Years who first duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers & served as herein stated. From old age & from the great length of time that has elapsed since the happening of the circumstances which he herein relates, he cannot with certainty state the exact period of time but he believes that it was in the summer & as he believes was in the year 1780 that he volunteered into the militia of North Carolina in Onslow County of North Carolina for the term of three months. That the company into which he volunteered was mounted & that this was the only company of mounted men in the regiment to which he belonged. His officers were Col. Thomas Bloodworth [sic, Thomas Blutworth], Maj. James Love, & his Captain was Capt. John McLamma. During this term of his service, the headquarters of his regiment was at Bluford's Bridge on the Cape Fear River in North Carolina & about 10 or 12 miles from Wilmington at which time the British held that place. The most of his time was spent during this term of his service in scouting & in trying to prevent the foraging parties of the British from coming into the country. A part of the time he was engaged in guarding & feeding the cattle of the American troops. About twenty days before this term of his service was ended, he with five others viz. John Wilkins, John Ferrell, Sandy Rouse, John Loper & William Bowen were staying all night on the Edenton Road about 12 or 13 miles from Wilmington at the widow Colier's house with some cattle which they were driving to headquarters for the use of the American troops. On the same night, a detachment of American troops was staying at Rouse's house on the same road & about four miles toward Wilmington from where he was staying with his five companions. On this night, a party of British commanded by Majors Craig & Manson attacked this detachment of Americans & defeated them. Major James Love, Capt. John McLamma<sup>1</sup> with several men were killed.<sup>2</sup> Among them was John Ferrell, the father of one of the men that was with this declarant. Also among the killed was the quartermaster & a lieutenant whose names he has forgotten. A part of this same detachment of British, on the same night, attacked him & his companions at the widow Colier's house &, after a short resistance, they were all taken prisoner by the British. He received from this skirmish two wounds from a bayonet; one on the side & one in the leg below the knee. William Bowen was mortally wounded by a bayonet thrust in the neck & died the next day. This same party of British, on the same night, took one Col. Arnett a prisoner at the house of John Spears' house where he was there lying sick. This Col. Arnett had, before the war, been a treasurer or

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1 This name looks more like "John McClaney" in the power of attorney Reed signed on Sept. 20, 1853

2 This same incident is described in the pension application of Benjamin Taylor R10406. See this index. The incident is thought to occurred at Rouse's Tavern sometime in March 1781.

collector for the King & he always understood that there was a reward offered for Col. Arnett. He saw him the next day as they took him in a carriage to Wilmington where he, Col. Arnett, died in about a week afterwards. On the next day, just before night, this declarant was, with his other companions, set free on parole & under a promise to the British Major to go into Wilmington & "take protection". This promise they all violated except Sandy Rouse who, he heard, did "take protection" to save his property. This declarant was hauled in an oxcart to his father's which was about forty miles from Wilmington. The wound in his side was dressed by Col. Thomas Bludworth who was a doctor & when he probed it he said it had penetrated to the hollow, this wound, however, soon got well but his wound in the leg below the knee was sore for a long time, the bone was injured by the bayonet & ever since that time his leg has occasionally broken out causing him a great deal of pain & loss of time & this declarant was unable to serve the balance of his term for which he had volunteered which was about twenty days. In the next spring & as soon as the wound in his leg would permit he again volunteered in the same county into the militia of North Carolina. His officers were Col. Johnson, Maj. Snead & Capt. Zepheriah Ward. This term he was posted & served his whole term at Bluford's Bridge where his regiment was again posted. About two months after the expiration of this second term of service, he again volunteered into the militia of North Carolina in the same county of Onslow for another term of three months. His officers were Col. John Spicer; the man at whose house Col. Arnett was taken, Maj. Ephraim Battle & Capt. Amos Love & for about two three weeks was again posted at Bluford's Bridge when that post was taken command of by a regular officer by the name of Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] & who he thinks was a general & the regiment of Col. Spicer was sent onto the Edenton Road where he stayed until the British evacuated Wilmington, when he was sent home on furlough he stayed at home for about two or three weeks when the company was again called out & sent to guard the commissary Stores at widow Rouse's. He stayed there until all the corn was fed away to the cattle & hogs when he was sent with the cattle across the southwest fork of New River towards Charleston to a swamp called the Black Swamp where he served the balance of his term in herding the cattle which were then sent off to General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]. This was about the end of the war. He recollects that he was lying at home wounded when the battle of Guilford Courthouse was fought. He recollects seeing a regular officer on Edenton Road whose name was James Campaign & he thinks was a Captain & did was on his way with some 18 months men to Joined General Greene. General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] was once in the neighborhood but the did not get to see him. He recollects Col. Craig & Col. George Michell who were Colonels of the militia Regiments & who were with him at the Bridge, also a Col. Hill who commanded a regiment of militia.

This declarant has no documentary evidence. Neither does he know of any living person by whose testimony he can procure who can testify to said services. And he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the 7<sup>th</sup> day of October AD 1847.

S/ George Reed, X his mark

Questions of the Court:

1. Where & in what year were you born?

Answer: In King William County, Virginia, on the 12th day of June 1760.

2. Have you any record of your age &, if so, Where is it?

Answer: I have none now. The book in which it is recorded is destroyed.

3. Where were you living when called into service?

Answer: In Onslow County in the state of North Carolina. After the war, I removed to Charlotte

County, Virginia, & lived there until 1799. I then moved to Kentucky where I lived until about 1815 when I moved to Warrick County, Indiana, where I now live & where I have lived since 1815.

4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute &, if a substitute, for whom?

Answer: Each time I was a volunteer.

5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such continental & militia regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I recollect General Rutherford (at least I think he was a regular officer) & one Capt. James Campaign who were regular officers. I recollect Col. Hill commanded a regiment at Bluford's Bridge. I first served awhile at Bluford's Bridge & was then sent out onto the Edenton road to protect the Country from pillage about 20 days before this term of service expired I was taken prisoner with John Wilkins, John Loper, John Ferrell, Sandy Rouse & William Bowen. William Bowen was wounded by a bayonet thrust in the neck. I was wounded in the side & in the leg below the knee by a thrust from a bayonet. They, the British, told us we might go home on our honor to go home & for us to go into Wilmington & take protection. None of us kept this promise except Sandy Rouse. I went home to my father & while my leg was sore from the wound the battle of Guilford Court-house was fought. After I got well, which was a short time after the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, I again served three months in Capt. Ward's company. This time, I stayed all the time at Bluford's Bridge Johnson was Col. & Snead was Major. I again volunteered three months in the Company of Capt. Amos Love the Col. Was John Spicer & the Major was Ephraim Battle, this time I was a short time at Bluford's Bridge when we were dismissed for two or three weeks when we were called out & sent to the Widow Rouse's house to guard the commissary Stores there. I stayed there awhile when the forage gave out, the hogs were sent to John Brinstone's on New River & I went to a swamp called the Black Swamp or War Tom [?] Swamp where I stayed guarding the cattle until my term was Expired, this was about the end of the war. The officers in my first term of service was Col. Thos. Bludworth, Major James Love, & Capt. John McLamma. Each time I volunteered & served as a private soldier in the militia of North Carolina.

6<sup>th</sup>. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; &, if so, by whom was it given & what has become of it?

Answer: I received a discharge for the last two terms of my service. The first term of my service I was taken prisoner & got no discharge. My discharges were given me by the officers of my Regiment & I have lost them & I believe they were burnt in my house in Virginia which was consumed by fire with everything in it.

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity & their belief of your Services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. Reverend Henry Hart has known me more than 30 years & Colonel John B. Kelly has known me about 27 [? this number is very hard to decipher] years & they I suppose will testify for me.

[Henry Hart, a clergyman, and John B. Kelly gave the standard supporting affidavit.]