

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Micajah Reeder R8678

f14SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/24/09 & rev'd 6/11/18

[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.]

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Territory of Arkansas County of Washington} SS.

On the 13th day of December A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before me Thomas P. Eskridge one of the Judges of the United States Court for the Territory aforesaid assigned to hold the courts on the 3rd Judicial District of which Washington County forms a part, Micajah Reeder a resident of Ilenois [sic, Illinois]¹ Township in the County of Washington aforesaid and Territory of Arkansas aged seventy-five 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1778 as a volunteer under Captain Jeremy Williams [Jeremiah Williams] who commanded a rangeing [sic, ranging] Company in the State of South Carolina in the frontier parts thereof Colonel Beard [Jonas Beard] had command of Williams and his company of which I was one. I was retained in service sixteen months I am certain and probably longer events of importance took place during the above service we had some skirmishes none of importance. I received no written discharge at the time I was dismissed[.] Shortly after my dismissal I was in the month of February 1780 drafted for six months in the State of South Carolina in the County of Newberry where I then resided I was called into service under Captain George Harvis [Harris ?]² who to the best of my recollection was not regularly a Captain out [several words obscured] so for one towers [sic, tours] my company was attached to Colonel Beard's Regiment of militia. I was marched under the command of these officers to Orangeburg in said state a distance of about 100 miles from thence to Ashpoo [Ashapoo] River on our march we were joined by Colonel Long with a company of 300 men. When joined by Colonel L. we were marched to said Ashepoo River where we remained about 12 days here we received intelligence that the British was near and not being able to fight them we started [to] Join General Green [Nathanael Greene] who was at Bacon's Bridge on Ashley River on the second day's march we were attacked by a scouting party of British and Tories and an engagement ensued. We drove them in to Edisto River several of them were drowned in the river and some killed. I joined Greene's Army and stayed there until my time of service was out which was six months at which time I was discharged by Colonel Beard the militia to which he belonged was kept whilst stationed here somewhat apart from the regulars and I do not recollect the names of

¹ Thanks to Janelle Swearingen for pointing out that the township in question is Illinois.

² I cannot identify a likely candidate for this officer from among the militia captains or lieutenants then in the service of SC.

the Regular officers except General Greene. I mistake [sic] I was retained two months after the six months had expired. I then went home and afterwards joined a company as a volunteer under Captain Frederick Gray Colonel David Glen [David Glynn] commanded and ordered us to guard a merchant mill of his own and my Captain Frederick Gray released us and said that he would stand between the us and the Colonel David Glen who had no authority as the Captain said to detain us. I served a month in this tour and save some scouting of little note I closed my military service. I forgot to state in the first part of my statement that Captain Williams was promoted to Major after I had been under him about one year and Frederick Gray was promoted to Captain and I served under him the balance of my first term of service.

I do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that my name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state or elsewhere.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court on the day and year aforesaid

S/ Micajah Reeder, X his mark

Questions propounded by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Louden [Loudoun] County Virginia in the year 1758

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. I have no record of my age.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. I lived in Newberry County State of South Carolina I moved from there to Livingston County Kentucky and from there to Clark County Arkansas Territory and from thence to Washington County where I now live.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I first volunteered and served sixteen months, I then was drafted and served eight months, I again volunteered and served one month. I was no substitute.

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

Answer. I do not recollect the name of any regular officer except General Greene. Colonel Beard commanded the Militia in which I served I do not recollect the number of the regiments I would refer the court to my declaration above for the particulars of my service.

6th 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 received one discharge only and that was from my Colonel Beard, it is lost.

7th 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. Lewis [name obliterated by a tear in the paper]³ Esqr of this County and John E. Turner will testify as to my veracity and their belief as to my services as a soldier in the revolution there is no minister of the gospel within ten [word obliterated] of the place and refers the court to his certificate on a former occasion.

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion that the above named applicant was a

³ Janelle Swearingen kindly informs me that Lewis Evans was sheriff of Washington County, Arkansas at the time this application was made.

revolutionary soldier and served as he states.

S/ Tho: P. Eskridge

[L. Evans & John E. Turner gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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United States of America Territory of Arkansas County of Washington

This day Micajah Reeder the Identical person who has his claim for a pension as a revolutionaries soldier certified from this court at the last term thereof on his oath states that that part of his statement in his former declaration which represented him as having served for the term of sixteen months continuously was a mistake made by himself or draftsman that he never had the designed sayings sixteen but six months was the time he had designed setting forth.

S/ Micajah Reeder, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this 12th day of June 1834

S/ B. L. Smithson, Clerk