

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Lewis Blew Reynolds R8713

f45VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/19/12

[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 Virginia County of Bedford Sct.

On this 22nd day of October 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Bedford now sitting Lewis Blew Reynolds a resident of said County & State aged about eighty 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 provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 –

That he was born in the County of Buckingham in the State of Virginia on the 15th of November 1753 as well as he remembers. He thinks there was a register of his age in the Books belonging to the Church of the parish in which he was born – what has become of that register he is unable to say since the Revolutionary War he has lived in the Counties of Buckingham, Prince Edward, Campbell and Bedford but mostly in Bedford. In consequence of a paralytic Stroke which he has unfortunately received, his memory has become somewhat impaired and he fears therefore [he]cannot well remember the names and dates particularly as he was in the service many years during the revolutionary war under the command of great many different officers at different times and places and moving about from one station to another – To enumerate all his services and all the Skirmishes in which he was engaged would be a thing almost impossible he proceeds however to state a part of them. In the early part of the war he volunteered under the command of Captain Lewis and was a Sergeant in his company. They rendezvoused at Buckingham Courthouse in the State of Virginia where he then resided and marched in rather a circuitous route to Norfolk in Virginia. He remained there but a few weeks and was engaged in a Skirmish with the enemy – During this stay in Norfolk a part of the town took fire. He assisted in extinguishing the flames and was discharged – He does not know whether or not he received a written memorandum of his discharge from this service. He thinks however that none was given. He was in this tour but a few weeks, After his return home he enlisted under C. Shelton he thinks either for five years or during the war as well as he now remembers. He believes it was in the County of Albemarle in the State of Virginia that he enlisted and was a Sergeant at one time and shortly after his enlistment he belonged as he thinks to the 5th Regiment of the Virginia line under the command of Colonel Lawrence Major Belew and Captain Cobbs together with other officers. From the County of Albemarle he marched northwardly and under the command he thinks of Captain John Scott (Captain Cobbs his first Captain at that time very sick) to the White Marsh there they crossed the Delaware [River] and he was in the Battle at Trenton [December 26, 1776] General Washington commanding He thinks there were about 600 prisoners taken at that place and carried to White Marsh, he was also in the Battle of Princeton [January 3, 1777] General Washington still commanding if he mistakes not there were about 300 prisoners taken at that place and sent to White Marsh – From Princeton he thinks he was marched to the Red Banks

being engaged in some few skirmishes and numerous scouting parties on the way he was in a battle at the Red Banks [October 22, 1777] General Greene he thinks in commanding at this place being a Sergeant he had the command of a Cannon. He was also in a battle at Mud Island [the siege of Fort Mifflin or the siege of Mode Island Fort took place from September 26 2 November 16th, 1777] Colonel Trier [?]¹ he thinks commanding. He was also in a battle at Stony Point [July 16, 1779]. He was in the main Army at one time under General Washington and wintered with him at Valley Forge. During that winter he was engaged in many scouting parties being a Sergeant (familiarily known as Sergeant Blew) he often times had the command – He well remembers the taking of Major André [John André, taken into custody September 23, 1780] – having been sent on an express for some purpose he does not now particularly remember – he went with Major André on the road but did not then know that he was a British officer – he saw him after his arrest and recognized his person. The applicant was one of the detachment afterwards sent to arrest Arnold [Benedict Arnold] – he however had taken a vessel & sailed for England before they could reach the point at which he had been stationed. He was in the Battle at Monmouth [June 28, 1778] under the command of General Washington. Here he was wounded in the thigh. The ball was extracted by a Doctor Hopkins he thinks. The sore is still perceptible. After his recovery from this wound he was for some time engaged in scouting parties – After this he was marched to the South and on his way was in a battle at Falmouth General Rochambeau he thinks having the command at that place. That his conduct in this engagement he thinks it was he received from the commanding officer a written Statement of his valor – What that paper was he cannot pretend now to say some years ago he handed it to Major Samuel Scott of Campbell County Virginia for the purpose of endeavoring to procure for him a pension. Major Scott shortly afterwards died and the applicant has never since heard of it. Perhaps it may be somewhere in the war Department. On his way to the South he was in a battle at Moore's Creek [February 27, 1776] in North Carolina under the command of General Wayne. From Moore's Creek he thinks he marched to Guilford Courthouse N. C [March 15, 1781] & was in the battle at that place under the command of General Greene at this place he was again wounded and the ball is still in his thigh. From Guilford C. H. he believes he marched to Camden South Carolina he was in the battle [presumably a reference to the Battle of Hobkirk Hill , April 25, 1781] at that place General Greene commanding, here they were defeated. He then marched he thinks to the Eutaw Springs and was in the battle [September 8, 1781] at that place General Greene commanding. Colonel Lynch and Captain Samuel Scott he remembers were at the Eutaw Springs – the declarant thinks that on this engagement he was under the immediate command of Captain Samuel Scott. From the Eutaw Springs he marched with the prisoners to the Barracks in Albemarle County Virginia. From thence he marched to Little York a while after the siege by Cornwallis and was there discharged. He had a written memorandum of his discharge highly flattering to him as a Soldier and a man. It was signed by General Washington, General Wayne, General Greene, General Sullivan, Colonel Lawrence and a great many other officers of rank and distinction. This paper was also handed to Major Scott some short time before his death for the purpose of obtaining a pension for the applicant if it be not in the War Department he knows not where it is. The applicant further states that before his discharge he was at the Battle of Sullivan's Island [June 28, 1776] General Lee [Charles Lee] commanding – he was near McDonald when he fell and saw him die after his discharge from his

Revolutionary services he marched with General Wayne in his campaign against the Indians. He was present and cut the first piece of lumber for the building of Fort Wayne – he was a Sergeant in this campaign he thinks but was during it promoted. From Fort Wayne he went with a detachment up the Miami [River] to the Miami villages was in numerous of our skirmishes with the Indians, killed many of them and destroyed their huts and corn fields. He does not recollect how long he was in this service. From General Wayne he also received an honorable discharge in writing which was also handed over to Major Scott along with the papers before mentioned. He cannot say exactly how long he was in the Revolutionary war – it was however [?] for several years – almost from its commencement to its close, He has no documentary evidence of his services except the certificate of T. Molloy who is now dead and which is in his own writing and knows of no person by whom he can prove the same – He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day & year aforesaid

S/ Lewis Blew Reynolds, X his mark

[David Saunders and Thomas P Mitchell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I do hereby certify that myself and Lewis Runnals [sic] was in the United Service together in the year 1776 attached to General Wayne's Regiment at the Battle of P. Town. Given under my hand.

S/ T. Molloy

State of Virginia Bedford County to wit

This day personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid Lewis Blew Reynolds who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age the effects of a paralytic stroke 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 six years I served as a Sergeant in the revolution. For you one-year I served as a Sergeant in Wayne's expeditions against the Indians in the Miami – and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ Lewis B. Reynolds, X his mark

Subscribed and sworn to before me a Justice of the Peace as aforesaid this 22nd day of April 1833

S/ Wm R. Jones, JP

[f p. 13: On February 10, 1854 in Campbell County Virginia, Charles B Reynolds executed a power of attorney authorizing his attorney to prosecute the claim of Lewis B Reynolds. His relationship, if any, to the veteran is not stated.]

[f p. 14: letter dated April 15, 1852 in Bedford County signed by Charity Reynolds asking the Commissioner of pensions to recognize Robert H Gray as her agent in pursuing her claim for the services of her deceased husband Lewis B Reynolds.]

[Other information in the file: The veteran died about the year 1847 in Bedford County Virginia; he had lived for many years on a plantation belonging to John L. Leftwich in Bedford County; the veterans widow Charity Reynolds was living in Bedford County in 1851; at that time it is stated that her 2 brothers, Jacob and Nathaniel Clark of Buckingham County Virginia served in

the Revolutionary war and that one of them died in the Army and the other shortly after his return home.]