

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Zachariah Rhodes R8735

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Capitalization partly corrected]

State of Virginia } SS

Jackson County } On this 19<sup>th</sup> day Of November In the year of our Lord Christ 1833 personally Appeared Jno Ephraim S Evans a Justice of the peace in and for the Said County of Jackson & state of virginia Zachariah Rhodes a respectable Citizen of the County & State aforesaid Aged 77 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 act of Congress of 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832 That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated that at the County of Washington & State of Maryland on or about [?] day of Aprile of the year 1777 declarant states that he was drafted for a tour of six months under Capt Richard Davis of the Maryland millitia from Washington County. Affiant has forgotten his subaltern officers names Capt Davis Company rendesvoused at Ringolds Manner [sic: Ringold Manor] & state aforesaid & in obedience to the orders of his said Capt Davis declarrant was marched from Ringolds Manner aforesaid to Hagerstown & State of Maryland aforesaid affiant was marched from Hagerston in the direction of Brandywine Creek & State of Delaware [sic: Pennsylvania] Declarant has forgotten the names of places on his march from Hagerstown to Brandywine arrived in the neighborhood of Brandywine about 2 months previous to the battle at that place [11 Sep 1777] Declarrant says he was stationed at a fort of garrison in the vicinity of the above named place & that he remained there untill the day of the battle of Brandywine he now thinks Sept 77 – he also states that he was engaged in that memmorable action & he further states that previous to the engagement that he became acquainted with Col. Wm Washington [then Major William Washington] & Major Williams [possibly Col. Otho Holland Williams] & he further says that after the battle he was marched about six miles from Brandywine in the direction of Baltimore affiant has forgotten the name of the place from the above named place affiant was marched to Ringolds Manor & State of Maryland and his term of six months having expired he was discharged by his said Capt Richard Davis after having served six month a private soldier in Capt Richard Davis Company of Maryland Millitia from Washington County & State of Maryland on or about [?] day of October 1777 at Ringolds Mannor aforesaid again in the year 1778 and 1<sup>th</sup> day of April at Ringolds Manor & state aforesaid declarrant volunteered his service for a tour of six months under Capt Richard Davis aforesaid subaltern offices names not reccollected. Declarrant says Capt Davis prevailed upon him in consequence of the distressed situation of the Country and the want of men to volunteer his service and further that he was marched from Ringolds Manor aforesaid in the direction of Baltimore to a certain place the name affiant has forgotten where he states that he met with Col or General Morgans [then Col. Daniel Morgan's] command where he became acquainted with Morgan & again seen Co Wm Washington Declarrant states that he was engaged during his 2<sup>d</sup> tour principally with Morgans command he now thinks Morgan was a general officer he recollects that Marqus Lafayette [sic: Marquis de Lafayette] retreated from a British army shortly after he had volunteered he also states that he was marched in the direction of Momouth [sic: Monmouth NJ] but he further states that Capt Davis did not reach the field of action in time to participate in the action faut at Momouth he now thinks June [28<sup>th</sup>] of the year 78 Declarrant is very infirm he cannot give his marches with pricision he now thinks that he followed the army of Washington to Hudson River he now thinks July 78 Capt Davis Compay of volunteers remained a few weeks and then retraced their steps through a level country into the State of Maryland & he further states that he was marched to various places in the State of Maryland the names of which declarrant has forgotten & he further says that during his whole 2<sup>d</sup> tour he was chiefly under marching orders and that finally he was marched to Ringolds Manor & State of Maryland his 2<sup>d</sup>

tour having expired he was discharged by his said Capt Richard Davis after having served six months a private soldier from April of 78 untill about October of 78. Declarrant further states that at Ringolds Manor & State of Maryland in the year 1780 he again volunteered his service under his same Capt Richard Davis for a 3<sup>d</sup> six months tour and was marched on 2<sup>th</sup> day of June as well as he can recollect from Ringolds Manor to Hagerstown remained 2 days thence to Harford Courthouse thence northward to a place called he now thinks Springfield where he was engaged in a skirmish with the enemy late in June or first of July he has forgotten which [Battle of Springfield NJ, 23 Jun 1780] Declarrant says he was marched about and through a very low & level country till some time in July he states the troop to which he was attached then marched to the South & entered Virginia crossing the River Potomack [sic: Potomac] above Georgetown passing through Prince William & Staford [sic: Stafford] counties to a place called King George Courthouse he now thinks late in Sept of 1780 – he also states that great fears were entertained in Virginia of an invasion by Benedict Arnold and he was marched to many different places in Virginia the names of most of them he has forgotten except that of Petersburg he remembers of seeing a foreign officer whose name he has forgotten but remembers that a report prevailed that said officer was killed shortly afterward in Carolina – affiant was engaged in Virginia till some time in December 80 when he was discharged by Capt Richard Davis at Louisa Courthouse & State of Virginia after having served six months a volunteer private soldier Declarrant was very sick on his way home and did not reach home till in January of 1781 Affiant states that he has given a faithfull narative of servis to the best of reccollection he has no documentary evidence to produce neither does he know of any person living that he can prove his service by he is two old & infirm to attend at the court house of the said County of Jackson from which he lives 8 miles he knew in the services & became acquainted with the following officers Gen or Col Daniel Morgan he seen the Marqus Layfayette & Gen [Nathanael] Greene Col Wm Washington & Major Williams. He served with Maryland Pa Newjersey & Virginia troops Declarrant does not recollect the number of any regiment whatever He has lost his discharges many years ago Indeed he says he did pretend to preserve them. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or anuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

Zachariah hisXmark Rhodes

To the several interrogatories prescribed by the War department & propounded by the Justice of the peace to the applicant he answereth as follows – 1<sup>st</sup> I was born in the year 1756 in the County of Washington & State of Maryland on 13<sup>th</sup> day of July as I allways heard & believed

2 I have no record of my age

3 I was living when I I entered the service in the County of Washington and State of Maryland I have lived since the Revolutionary War in the State of Maryland and Virginia where I now reside in Jackson County

4 My first tour of six months I was drafted My second tour I was a volunteer of my own free will & accord

5 I knew in the service and became acquainted with many officers I have forgotten many officers names I remember the names of Morgan Washington Layfayette (also a foreign officer I saw when in Virginia whose name I have forgotten that was killed in Caralina I do not recollect the No of any Reg't whatever I detailed all my services in my declaration to which I refer

6 My discharges I have lost

7 I am known to John Persons & Isaac McKown citizens of Jackson County & State of Virginia who can testify as to my character & their belief of my having been a soldier of the revolution

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid Zachariah hisXmark Rhodes

Seawee Kanhaway/ Lewis County Va/ June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1834

Dr Sir [J. L. Edwards, Department of War Pension Office]

I Received yours of the 24<sup>th</sup> of April some time in the past month the day I have forgotten in which I find the Declaration of Zachariah Rhodes sent back for some Explanation as his alleged services was in a company of Maryland Militia great pains has been taken to ascertain that mistake I live a Distance of about 70 Miles from this applicant which has created great Delays I seen the applicant and had an interview with him upon the occasion in which he says he can tell nothing further about his services or to Depose to anything further than he has done in his former Declaration but as to him serving with Militia he says he may very likely be mistaken as he was only a private soldier and unacquainted with the terms of the several classes and as he has no Documentary Record to advert to he says he may be mistaken as to the term he Entered the service for altho he thinks he is not mistaken at the time he was Drafted and when he was Discharged as he Recollects that it was before planting of corn that he was Drafted and was Discharged when the corn was hard in the field and some gathered and as for his name not being found in the land office he states he never was a land holder in that place and as to the pay Rolls he says he never Recd any pay and that was one great cause he Remained so long in the service as he could not get his pay without staying longer and for that cause he still Volunteered for another term and also states that he now thinks it most probably that he was not Drafted for more than 3 months as he Recollects that a great many of Capt. Davis Company went home some time in the summer and contended that they had served their tour but they went without their Discharges he thinks as they would not give him his Discharge at that time since he continued until the time he has mentioned as aforesaid altho living at a great Distance from the applicant I have had considerable acquaintance with Mr Rhodes and more Expressly with his neighbours who all think him Deserving a pension as he is always known as one of the old Revolutionary Soldiers and has been known to Detail the these Circumstances set forth in his Declaration long before he had any Expectation of a pension I am unacquainted with the business myself and what I do is merely through gratitude as attorneys ask high fees for Doing Business of this kind and also that they do not set forth their services as they are alleged to have been served Mr Rhodes is very infirm and his mind appears to be quite frail with his body he is an Expence to the County of Jackson was sold the last year at something upwards of \$50 – he is unable to perform any labour his wife lives in the same county but she has to be separate as she is able to work and if he could get his pension it would be the means of Enabling them to spend their few Remaining days together they are both members of the Methodist Society and has been they say this 30 years he is counted a very pious man I think his claims ought not to be Rejected he is not able if he could pay an attorney to go to the Court house to have his business done in Court I got the magistrate to go to the house where he was living at to qualify him I think he will not Draw my [many?] years in this world I have the honor to be yr most obt. servant &c

J Arnold agent for Z Rhodes

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pension applicants in present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth (S6111). Singleton's report resulted in Rhodes's being denied a pension. On the cover of the report Singleton wrote "Non compos mentes."]  
Zachariah Rhodes – Suspended –

I the undersigned Zachariah Rhodes in pursuance of the requisition of the Secretary of War give the following narrative of my age and Revolutionary Services to wit. I am almost eighty one or two years of age. Cant tell exactly – have no record of my age – I was drafted in Hagerstown Maryland for six months under Capt. Richard Davis. Cant recollect the year but it was sometime during the war of the Revolution – the company Rendezvoused at Ringolds manner – whilst there Capt. Davis was promoted to the office of Colonel. – I am not certain who succeeded Capt. Davis but think it was Capt. Nathan Williams. there were two other Companies with us. Col. Davis commanded the whole. – remained at Ringolds Manner two months & then marched to Little York – was joined by many other soldiers at little York & had a Battle with the British army. there many killed – hundreds of both parties – cant remember who commanded the

american army – remained at Little York until my term of Service had nearly expired – when peace was made & we were discharged. this is all the service I done against the British.

before I was drafted as above stated – I cant tell how long I marched as a volunteer from Hagerstown to Fort Pitt with about 60 others – cant remember the names of our Captain. Shortly after my arival there I was taken sick – discharged & returned home – cant say how long I was in service this latter trip –

James Arnold of Lewis County wrote my Declaration. I swore to it before Ephraim Evans at the Home of Asa Longs in Jackson cty – I was then unable to go to the court House 6 miles distant – agreed to give Arnold one half [of pension].

In witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name.

29<sup>th</sup> Decr 1834

Zachariah hisXmark Rhodes

Witness J M Steed

Note – this old Gentlemans mind is almost entierly gone – & such was the state of his mind when he made his declaration – as I understand from the Clerk of County Court of Jackson – Rhodes is wholly incapable of makeing a Declaration –

W. G Singleton

Jan'y 2, 1830 [sic: 1835]