

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Roberts R8877

Sarah

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/5/12

[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.]

Switzerland County State of Indiana: Sct.

Be it known that on this 23 day of March 1839 personally appeared before Newton H. Tupp one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said County Sarah Roberts a resident of said County aged [mark through and written over and illegible] years and upwards who being first duly sworn according to law made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed in 1838 allowing under certain Circumstances a five years pension to the widows of revolutionary soldiers &c

This Declarant states that she is a resident of said County and is now seventy-eight years of age & upwards – that her maiden name was Sarah Hawley – that she lived in Culpeper County Virginia and was legally and duly married to John Roberts in 1788 – that she does not now know what month of that year the marriage took place in and she has no record of it or memorandum in relation to it. She states that she has often understood from her husband the said John Roberts and from others that he served the United States faithfully in the War of the Revolution and that he was out in the Service at one time as a common soldier 18 months and that he served at other times but she cannot state the particular tours nor the length of them even from information, nor does she now remember the names of the officers under whom he served – She states that her memory has greatly failed her from old age and disease and that her said husband died about 18 years ago; so that from lapse of time combined with other above named circumstances she cannot remember the particulars of his statements – but she is well assured that he served his country faithfully and valiantly –

She will have to rely upon the proof which she will be able to procure in relation to his terms of service in the Revolution & the length thereof – She states that she has not married since his death – She states that she is unable from bodily infirmity arising from old age and general debility to attend to proper Court to make her declaration.

Sworn to & subscribed this 28th day of November 1839

S/ Sarah Roberts, X her mark

The deposition of Henry are Roberts taken at his own house in the County of Putnam and State of Indiana to be used on behalf of Sarah Roberts who is making application for a pension – this 28th day of November 1839

This deponent being duly sworn states that he is now 74 years of age and upwards that he is the brother of John Roberts deceased who was the husband of the said Sarah Roberts – That his said brother according to the family Register was born in Culpeper County Virginia in 1763 – He further states that his said brother married Sarah Hally more than fifty years ago – that the marriage took place at the house of George Johnston in Culpeper County Virginia and this

deponent was present and witnessed the ceremony – He cannot recollect the year or month of said marriage not having kept a record of it but he knows that it was more than fifty years ago from a variety of circumstances within his distinct recollection. The rites were solemnized as well as he remembers by a preacher named Pickett – This deponent further states that the said marriage of his said brother John did not take place till after the revolutionary war and that during said War his said Brother served as a soldier four tours – I recollect distinctly of two tours of duty which he performed – I cannot say whether he was a ~~volunteer~~ drafted in the first tour but from what I have understood believe that he was – In the second tour I know he was a volunteer on second Tower [tour] and served three months as well as I remember. I have understood from him & others that in this last mentioned tour he served under Colonel or Major Boyd and that he was at the taking of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] – In the second mentioned tour I think he was absent in the service six months or more. This deponent further says that his said Brother was out in the service on other occasions as a drafted man but how long at a time and how often he cannot say for his memory does not serve him with certainty and he does not want to state anything which he does not certainly recollect. He is confident that his having served the six months mentioned above in the two first tours spoken of and he may have served as much as [several numbers marked through] months & will say about on the other calls alluded to and it is probable more. He further states that his said Brother died 18 or 19 years ago and that his widow the said Sarah (whom we sometimes called Sally) still survives and lives in Switzerland County Indiana and has not married since his death.

S/ Henry R. Roberts

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry R. Roberts". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

[f p. 10: Reuben Redding gave testimony that he was well acquainted with the veteran and his wife; that he was present at their marriage in the house of George Johnston in Culpeper County Virginia some 50 years ago; that they were married by a Parson named John Pickett; that the veteran and his wife moved to Shelby County Kentucky about 33 years ago from thence they moved to Henry County Kentucky where the veteran died about 18 years ago & that his widow is now living in Switzerland County Indiana. His affidavit is dated October 21, 1839 and was given in Shelby County Kentucky.]

[f p 11: Affidavit also given in Shelby County Kentucky on October 21, 1839 by Elizabeth Redding in which she states she is the sister of John Roberts, the veteran who married Sarah Hally in Culpeper County about 50 years ago; that her brother served 2 tours against the British one of 6 months and a number of 3 months; that from one of his tours he brought with him a leather halter and a pair of striped pantaloons which he said he took during a skirmish with the British. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[f p. 16: Affidavit given on May 22, 1839 in Henry County Kentucky by Mary Ann Turner, upwards of 80 years old; she states that she resided in Culpeper County Virginia at the time of the revolutionary war and lived within one mile of the family of George Roberts the father of John Roberts whose widow now resides in Switzerland County Indiana; she, this deponent, states that she has been married twice and that her first husband died as well as she can remember in the year 1782 from the sickness he contracted in the Army whilst engaged in the service of the

United States in the year 1781; that John Roberts also served in the war and was part of the time in service in company with her said husband; that sometime between 1783 and 1790 John Roberts married Sally Halley who lived a distance of about 3 miles from where deponent lived in Culpeper County. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]