

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Aquilla Roby R8918

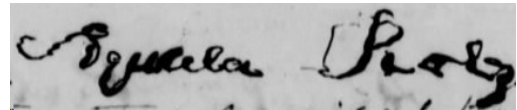
MD

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia } ss. On this 19th day of November 1833 personally appeared before me John S
Lewis County } Camden a Justice of the peace in and for Lewis county in the State of Virginia
Aquilla Robey a resident of Lewis County in the State of Virginia aged 73 on the 8th day of September
1833 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 of the act of congress of 7 June 1832 That he entered the service of
the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That in the year 1777 he
was drafted to serve a tour in the Maryland Militia for 3 months he was placed under Captain Lockett
Lieutenant James Wilkenson. was marched from Charles County in Maryland to Blandensburg [sic:
Bladensburg] there joined Col. Campbells regiment was marched down to the Severn river to a place
called Annopolis [sic: Annapolis] was stationed there and sometime in June had a skirmish with the
British at that place. we had to retreat. he served from March till June under his draft. and then forthwith
volunteered for another 3 months under his same officers. was marched up the Chesepeake [sic:
Chesapeake] Bay to the mouth of Patapsico river [sic: Patapsco River] to a place called Boakin Point
from thence up to Baltimore there sometime then marched down to North Point on the North side of
Patapsico he continued till in September the time for which he had volunteered having expired and the
enemy being still in the bay he again forthwith volunteered for another term of three months under his
same officers. he was kept at North Point and once up to Baltimore till his last term of engagement had
expired when late in December he was discharged having served this year of 1777 full nine months as a
private in the Maryland Militia. Again in March 1778 the enemy were again in the Chepeake Bay. he again
volunteered under captain Brown for three months in a company of Maryland Militia. He marched from
Charles county to Port Tobacco there joined the regiment under his former Col. Campbell was stationed
there in March 1778 continued there one month. The enemy went out of the Potomac we marched across
the country to the Patuxent river and down on the southern side of that river to the Bay to the point
between the Potomac and the Bay then called point look out [Point Lookout] here we were stationed till
in June when his time of engagement expired. He again forthwith volunteered under his same officers for
another term of 3 months in the Maryland Militia. Here he was continued till in September 1777 his other
term of three months when he again renewed his engagement as a volunteer in the Maryland Militia under
captain Beckwith The same Col. Campbell still continued. here at point look out he was continued
without any particular occurrence till late in Decr. 1778 when he was discharged having this year serve full
nine months in three continuous engagements of 3 months each as a private, a volunteer in the Maryland
Militia. Again in March 1779 the enemy again appeared in the Chesepeake Bay in March he again
volunteered under captain Nixon in a company of Maryland Militia for three months he was again
marched to Point look out there joined Col. Ridgelys regiment sometime in May the enemy [under
Commodore George Collier and Gen Edward Mathew] landed in Virginia and went to Norfolk
Portsmouth and Suffolk in Va. Col. Ridgeley was ordered over into Virginia crossed the Potomac
marched down through Northumberland county into Lancaster county in Virginia over to Windmill point
here his term of 3 months expired and he again volunteered for 3 months more in the Md. M'a. under his
same officers. The enemy passed up the Bay sometime after and we followed them. they went into the
Potomac having failed in an attempt to land in Northumberland. we followed up into Westmoreland
county where the enemy returned to the Bay we suspected them of designs on some point in Maryland
along the Bay we crossed the Potomac in Westmoreland and marched to the Patuxent. here we crossed
and continued up the Bay till we met Col. Howard at Annopolis here his second term of 3 months ended
in Septr 1779 he again volunteered for another term of three months under his same officers and was
continued watching the British along the bay till in December 1779 when he was discharged by his captain
having served this year (1779) more than nine months as a private in the Md. M'a. a volunteer. Again in

May 1780 he volunteered for three months in a company of Maryland M'a. under captain (West as he now thinks) in Charles county he was again marched down to point Lookout out and there joined Col. Lucket his former captain was stationed there till in August his time expired he was sick and discharged having served this year only three months as a private in the Md. M'a. a volunteer. Again in May 1781 he volunteered in a company of Charles county Md. M'a. to serve three months under his former captain Nixon was marched down to Point look out stayed there till Col Campbell joined them were then ordered across the Potomac into Virginia marched up into Spotsylvania county Va. there joined Genl. Lafayette [sic: Lafayette] retreated up to the Rappi Dan river [sic: Rapidan River] There joined General [Anthony] Wayne marched agast Cornwallis he retreated followed him into New Kent had a skirmish here his term expired he again volunteered for three months passed on by Williamsburg to Yorktown in Va. where in October 1781 The British surrendered [19 Oct 1781] we guarded some of the prisoners to Winchester in Va. where in Nov'r. 1781 he was again discharged after in all three years service as a private in the Md. M'a. He has no documentary evidence he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. 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.

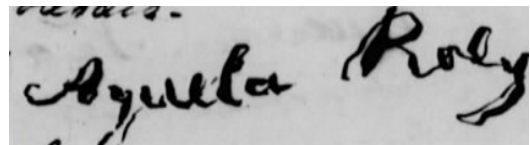
Subscribed and sworn to this day and year aforesaid.



The several interrogatories prescribed by the war department were propounded to the applicant to which he answered as follows

- 1st That he was born on the 8th of Sepr 1760 in Charles County in Maryland State.
- 2nd That he has no record of his age.
- 3rd That he was living in Charles county in Maryland from thence in 1790 he removed to Pendleton county Va. Thence to Randolph and in 1819 to Lewis county Va. where he now lives 15 miles from Weston.
- 4th That he was first drafted for three months then volunteered and the whole of his services which was full three years was as a volunteer in the Md. M'a. a private in 1777 78 79 80 & 81.
- 5th He knew Generals Washington Lafayette Wayne and [George] Weedon. He saw many others whose names if he heard he has forgotten The Nos. or names of regts he does not recollect he saw Va. Pa. Md. and other troops regulars and militia state and continental. His general circumstances of his service is set forth above.
- 6th He rec'd. discharges at the end of each years service signed by his captain & countersigned by his Cols. they are lost.
- 7th He is known in his present neighbourhood to James D Sprigg and Edward G Sprigg they can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He is too infirm from bodily affliction to travel to court. There are no clergymen residing near him

Subscribed and sworn to this day and year aforesaid.



[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications from Lewis and other counties. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. Comparison with the case of Andrew Wilson (R11653) suggests that John S. Camden tricked Roby into making a false application. Singleton wrote "Not entitled" on Roby's report.]

Lewis county

Aquilla Roby. aged 73. Serv'd 3 yrs.

Colonel George Copeland [sic: George Coplin] of Harrison aged 84 say he has know Roby for twenty four years. when he first knew him he was then a young man – he may be sixty years old but he should think not.

Waldo P. Goff (State Senator) of Harrison says he has known Roby for fifteen twenty years, that he thinks him between fifty & sixty years old. Cant exceed sixty.

Nathan Goff has known Roby for many years. he concurs in opinion with Waldo P. Goff as to Robys age.
July 1834

Respectfully Reported

W. G Singleton/ Special Agent.