

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Lewis Snell R9262

French Sea Service [see endnote]

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 12 Sep 2015.

State of Pennsylvania }

Greene County St. }

On this 11th day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty three, personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, Lewis Snell resident of Franklin Township in the county and state aforesaid, aged seventy two years who being 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 passed June 7 1832.

That he was enlisted in the French service at Valence, France, about the year 1778 in a company commanded by a Captain Debon[?] and taken to Cape François in the West Indies. – That he then went into the sea service and after remaining between two and three years, cruising and touching at various places, he was sent to the American coast, in the Ship Ville de Paris, of 110 guns, commanded by admiral Count De Grasse. That he arrived on the American coast, about two months before the battle of Yorktown [Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and served as an artilleryman, in which he received two wounds one in the calf of each leg. That he received from Gen. Washington a certificate of the fact of his being wounded in that battle, which he has since lost. That he does not recollect the officers immediately under whom he served in the battle of Yorktown, except first Sergeant Sartie. That he remained at Yorktown one month after the battle in service. That he was then again put on board the Ville de Paris, which continued cruising along the American coast between five and six months. That the Ville de Paris started on her return to the West Indies, but was captured at Guadeloupe, by the British under Commodore Rodney. That he remained four of five days a Prisoner, and was then exchanged and in about a month, as near he can recollect he was put on board the French Ship Ria, commanded by Captain Devash, which was ordered to Boston with ammunition &c. for the Americans. That while the Ria was on her passage to Boston she was captured by the British – and deponent with others was taken as a Prisoner to New York, by the British in the ship Jersey. That he remained at New York three months as a prisoner and was then exchanged in March of the year [1783] in which peace was declared between Great Britain and the United States.

That after the Revolution he removed to Morgantown in Virginia when in the year 1790 he volunteered his services in a company commanded by Captain John Evans for one year to guard the inhabitants against the Indian invasion. That he served out the term at Duvals Station on Dunkard Creek, now Greene County Pennsylvania, and was discharged.

Deponent was born in the city of Leon [sic: Lyon] in France on the 10th of May 1760. He has no record of his age and only knows it by verbal information from others. Deponent when called into service lived in the city of Valence in France. After peace was declared he lived between two and three years in New York, Albany, and Philadelphia and then removed to Morgantown in Virginia, where he resided eighteen years, since which time he lived in Greene County Pennsylvania

Deponent has no knowledge of any person now living by whom his services can be proved. Deponent can prove his veracity and the belief of his revolutionary services by the Reverend David White and Mr. Caleb Spragg

Deponent 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 the day and year aforesaid in open Court

Lewis hisXmark Snell

Greene County }

Pennsylvania } Ss On the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 1834 personally appeared in open court before the judges of the [several undeciphered words] Lewis Schnell or Shnauesh[?] resident in Franklin Township in said county aged seventy four years who being duly sworn did on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of congress pass'd the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 1832.

That he first entered the service of the United States when De Grass arrived with the French fleet that he continued to serve the United States against the British by sea & land till the end of the war – he was during this time four months on board of the Prison Ships that after the war was over he was released & came to the Western country with Mr. E Matern[?] & has resided in Green county ever since – the term of his service was two years wanting two months or twenty two months. when enlisted he was under Cpts. Wm. Wilson [William Wilson] & Capt Jno. Evans.

He has no discharge or documentery evidence nor does he know of any witness living who can prove his services but that his neighbours Caleb Sprigg and George Hoge will certify to his reputation as a revolutionary soldier and his character for truth & veracity.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to any annuity or Pension whatever Except the Present & declares that his name is not on the roll of the agency of any state.

In answer to the Interrogatory put by the court he answers

1. That he was born in the city of Lyons in France on the tenth day of May 1760
2. That he has no record of his age
- 3 When he left France to enter the service of the U.S. he lived at Marseilles in France & that since the revolution he Emigrated with Messers Gallatin & Saveares[?] to the western part of Penn'a. where he has lived ever since & still resides.
- 4 He volunteered
- 5 His officers were admiral De Grass – when in the land service his american officers werre captain John Evans, Captin William Wilson LaFayette was in command.
- 6 He has no discharge nor had he any that he recollects. Lewis hisXmark Snell

NOTE: Fold3.com has this file with applications of soldiers who served from Virginia.