

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Shiveley R9521

f15VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/11/12

[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 Tennessee Bradley County: SS

On this 15th day of October 1846 personally appeared before me an acting Justice of the Peace for Bradley County John Shiveley aged ninety-five years and seven months who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress of June the 7th 1832: That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 and in the summer of that year Declarant says that he went to Shepherdstown Berkeley County in the State of Virginia in company with one Matthew Shaw and at that place (Shepherdstown) they met with a recruiting officer by the name of Nathaniel Linder &c both Declarant and Shaw enlisted in the service of the United States as private soldiers for the term of three years or during the war of the revolution if not sooner discharged and received from said recruiting officer a bounty of \$12. Declarant says that he remained at Shepherdstown some short time after enlistment he thinks two months he says as to the name or number of the Regiment that he served and he does not recollect but recollects that he served under the following named officers viz. General Stephens [probably Edward Stevens] Colonel Darke [probably Lieutenant Colonel William Darke], Major George Wales [perhaps Major George Walls] and Captain Spotswood Dandrage [probably Alexander Spotswood Dandridge]: he says from Shepherdstown he with his company marched to New Brunswick in the State of New Jersey at which place he says he joined the Army under General Washington at which place he remained but a few days until he was ordered to march with the Army to a town called Trenton on the Delaware River at which place he says the Army had a Battle with the Hessians [December 26, 1776] under the command of Colonel Rowle [Johann Rall]: This Battle he says was fought on the night of the 25th of December 1776 which Battle terminated favorable to the American Army. Declarant further says that they took nearly the whole garrison prisoners of War amounting in number to near one thousand after taking the aforesaid prisoners they immediately recrossed the Delaware River (and he says that he was one of the guard ordered to conduct the prisoners immediately to Albemarle Barracks in the County of Albemarle in the State of Virginia at which place Declarant says he remained some three or four months as a guard and he says that from Albemarle Barracks they took the prisoners to a Town in Virginia called Winchester at which place he says he left the prisoners and he says he marched immediately from there to Pennsylvania near Philadelphia at which place he says he was attached to his former company and shortly after that time he says they had a severe battle with the British Army on a Creek or small River called Brandywine [September 11, 1777] & in preparation for the battle he says that he was placed at chance forward under the command of General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] some small distance from where the main Battle was fought at the old Quaker field in which engagement the American Army was defeated: from Brandywine

he says he marched with the Army under General Washington to a camp called White Marsh from thence to Germantown at which place he says they had another Battle [October 4, 1777] with the British and were defeated again: from thence to Valley Forge at which place he says he remained several months in log huts prepared by the Army for wintering from thence to Monmouth [June 28, 1778] at which place he says the armies had a battle and from thence he says he went to White Plains at which place he says he remained several months and from thence he says he marched under the command of General Wayne to Stony Point which march he says was performed in the night in great silence with unloaded guns and he says that the Americans succeeded in entering the Fort and capturing [July 16, 1779] the inmates or prisoners of war amounting to near nine hundred and he says that after General Wayne got possession of the Fort that it was with difficulty that General Wayne could prevent the soldiers from massacring the prisoners: from thence he says he went to West Point in the State of New York and there remained sometime occasionally marching through the country to and fro and returning to the above place: from thence he says he marched to little York in Virginia after remaining there some short time a cannonading commenced between the two armies which lasted several days and the result was that Lord Cornwallis with his whole Army surrendered themselves up as prisoners of war to General Washington [October 19, 1781]: Declarant says shortly after the battle of York Town that he received from his Captain Dandrage a written discharge and he further says that his whole time was employed as a soldier either in garrison or in the field and that he was not engaged in any civil pursuit during the above time: Declarant says shortly after he was discharged from said service he returned to Berkeley County Virginia where he says he lived at the time of his entering the service as aforesaid Declarant says about 4 years after he left the Army that his discharge was destroyed by fire: in Berkeley County Virginia Declarant says his reason for not applying for a pension sooner is that he was generally informed that in consequence of the loss of his discharge he could not obtain a pension unless he could procure were 2 witnesses that served with Declarant he says that he does not know of any witness that he could prove his services by: Declarant says by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory that he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection not less than 5 years as a private soldier under the above named officers for which he claims a pension: he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State in the United States.

S/ John Shirley, X his mark