

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis Sims R9607

f9VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/23/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Ohio Meigs County: SS

On this 25 day of December 1833 personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the said County of Meigs State of Ohio Francis Sims a resident of the said County of Meigs and State of Ohio aged 71 [could be 70] 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 passed June the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That in the County of Monongalia State of Virginia in the year 1780 in the month of March declarant thinks about the 15th he volunteered his services as an Indian guide as a private soldier and was placed under the command of Captain William Lowther Lieutenant Isaac Richards Ensign's name he has forgotten. Declarant states that the spies were divided and some were commanded by the Captain and some by the subalterns. He further states that he was placed under the command of Lieutenant Isaac Richards and joined the spies at the place where Salem now stands about 14 miles distant from where Clarksburg now stands in the County of Harrison Virginia declarant states that he was marched from Salem aforesaid to Harbert's Block house on ten mile Creek not far distant from Salem the place last before mentioned and was ordered out on spying tours and spied the Country from said Block house came on to the waters Middle Island Creek a water of the Ohio River down said Creek to its mouth down the Ohio River to the mouth of the little Kenhawny [little Kanawha?] up said River to the mouth of the South fork of [indecipherable word]<sup>1</sup> up said River to the head crossed the divide and fell over on the waters of Middle Island Creek from there a small direction to the Block house aforesaid declarant states that he continued to spy the Counties just named by regular towers [tours] until sometime in the month of December 1780 and was discharged by his said Lieutenant Isaac Richards after having served nine months as a private soldier as an Indian spy – Declarant states that he remained at his residence in the County of Monongalia state of Virginia on the West fork of the Monongalia River during the winter of 1780 and in the spring of 1781 in the month of April declarant thinks about the 10th day of the month in the County of Monongalia State of Virginia he volunteered his service and was placed under the command of the same officers as in his first tour to wit Isaac Richards, &c and spied and defended by regular tours of duty – During the spring & summer of 1781 marched the same routes as in '80 – with but little variation [?] from April till about 15 days of December 1781 when he was discharged



by his said Lieutenant Isaac Richards after having served about eight months affiant has no documentary [evidence] of his service has lost also his discharges he is two [too] old & infirm to attend Court. If he belonged to any Regiment he does not recollect – the number he served with Indian spies on the Virginia frontiers – he knew but few officers he knew Captain Wm Lowther, Captain George Jackson &c – he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Subscribed & sworn to the Day and year aforesaid.

S/ Francis Sims, X his mark

To the Several Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department by the Justice of the peace Declarant answers as follows

1. I was born in the year 1763 in Loudoun County & state of Virginia
2. I have no record of my age.
3. I was living in Monongahela County & State of Virginia when I entered the service I have lived since in the State of Virginia & Ohio where I now reside in Meigs County.
4. All my service I served as a volunteer Indian Spy a private soldier I performed no other Service
5. I have stated all my service as well as I can recollect if I belonged to any Regiment I have forgotten the number. I knew Captain Lowther & Jackson Lieutenant Richards
6. I have lost my discharges
7. I am known to John Flesher & Aron Torrance residence of Meigs County & State of Ohio who can testify as to my character for veracity & their belief of my having been an Indian [spy] in the War of the revolution

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Francis Sims, S his mark

[John Flesher & Aaron Torrance gave the standard supporting affidavit.

*John Flesher*

*Aaron Torrance*