

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Absalom Bobo R980
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn14SC
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State of South Carolina, Union District

On this the thirtieth day of September in the year of our Lord 1845, personally appeared in open Court before the Court of ordinary now sitting Absalom Bobo, a resident of Spartanburg district in the said State, Aged Eighty-one 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 7th 1832.

(The said deponent being old & infirm & it being nearer to Union Court House from his place of Residence, then to Spartanburg Court House in the District he resides in, it is much more convenient & even less expensive to make this declaration here, than at Spartanburg Court House).

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers & served as herein stated

To wit

That Early in the year (Say in February or March) of 1781 he, then residing in Spartanburg District, was drafted in the Militia for a three months Tour of duty in the service of the United States. The Troops drafted from the section of the State in which he resided rendezvoused at Blackstock's in the said District of Spartanburg. That the Militia so drafted was at the time & place stated, under the Command of Colonel Benjamin Roebuck, who is now dead, and that this deponent was enrolled in a company under the command of Captain George Roebuck, a Brother of the Colonel – The said Captain George Roebuck is still alive, & lives a near neighbor to this deponent, but who is too old & infirm to be removed from his own house, but whose affidavit, this deponent will endeavor to procure to aid him in proof of this his declaration.

From Blackstock's the Militia under the Command of said Roebuck of which this deponent was one, marched through about the middle of the State of South Carolina to Granby, on the South side of Congaree River, opposite to where the town of Columbia is now situated. From Granby they marched on to Orangeburg & encamped for a short time about 1 mile from Orangeburg Court House – That at that place they were joined by two or three other Regiments of Militia.

That a short time after the arrival of Colonel Roebuck's Command at the last named place, Orders came from the officers in Command of the Southern Army, the deponent believes General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], for two or three of the Regiments with which he was Encamped, to March to Bacon's Bridge on the Ashley River, and that they did leave the Encampment at Orangeburg on that tour of duty. But that a portion of the Troops, with himself, was left at Orangeburg to Guard the prisoners in the Goal at Orangeburg, which at that time Contained many prisoners of War.

That Colonel Roebuck & Captain George Roebuck, with their Commands, remained at Orangeburg, and that this deponent remained there also under their immediate Command upon the duty

aforesaid until his Term of three months duty Expired & he was then Honorably discharged & returned home. That he surmises he had a Regular discharge in writing, but if so he has lost it -- that he has no recollection of there being any Regular Troops at Orangeburg during the time he remained there and therefore that he knew no Regular Officer while he was in the service. That while at Orangeburg he Recollects to have seen Colonel William Farr with the troops, but whether he Commanded any portion of them or how long he remained there, he does not remember. This deponent further states that Captain Prince Commanded another of the companies under the command of Colonel Roebuck, but whether he is dead or alive this deponent does not know -- that he knows of no living witness of his services but Captain George Roebuck whose Testimony he expects to send in the proper departments with this his declaration.

That he was in no Engagement during his said Tour of duty, that he has no documentary Evidence to prove his services.

That he has procured letters to be written to Charleston & Columbia in this State to have the Revolutionary Records searched to see if any Evidence can be found of his Services, & the Result, whatever it may be will be Communicated to the proper departments.

This deponent further States that for the services so Rendered he has never by any manner of means received one Cent of pay. That he served said three months, as a private Soldier, that he was engaged in no civil employment during the said three months, but was wholly Employed in the service of the United States. That 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 or any where else.

This deponent further states that since the time of his discharge above referred to, he has resided six years in Union District, and has resided the Balance of the time in Spartanburg District.

The following Interrogatories were propounded to and answered by the deponent as follows
1st: When and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in Albemarle County in the State of Virginia, in the year 1764 According to information derived from my parents.

2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Ans. No

3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. I lived in Spartanburg District, & have lived Since six years in Union District, and the Balance of the time in Spartanburg District where I live now

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

Ans. I was drafted

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. I have stated this and my previous declaration as fully as I can recollect

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

Ans. I think I received a written discharge and if so it was given by the officers in Command at Orangeburg -- but my memory does not well serve me as to this. If I ever had a written discharge it is lost long ago

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Ans. I am known to Colonel B. B. Foster, Major James Edward Henry, Major Eliphas Smith, Colonel H. H. Thompson, who are members of the Legislature of South Carolina from the District of

Spartanburg, & to many others of my neighbors, all of whom I doubt not would testify to my veracity, and many of them as to their belief that from traditionary Evidence I rendered the Services stated in my declaration.

This deponent further states that he cannot without subjecting him to trouble & expense produce the two persons one of whom must be a Clergyman, in opened Court, to give the required Certificate as to his age, and as to the traditionary evidence of his Revolutionary Services – but he will conform to this alternative in the manner referred to, which he hopes will be satisfactory to the departments.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid, in open Court before me.

S/ J. J. Pratt, Jude of the Court of Ordinary

Union Dist. So. Ca.

S/ Absalom Bobo

[standard certificate of belief of age, veracity and service given by Rev. Thomas Ray, Senior, and Col. Robert Martin]

State of South Carolina, Spartanburg district

Personally came before me Jesse Cooper one of the Magistrates assigned to keep the peace in & for the District of Spartanburg Captain George Roebuck¹ on being duly sworn deposes & says, that having heard read the within declaration of Absalom Bobo, he knows of his own knowledge, that the same is true in Every particular, that he has lived a near neighbor to said applicant Bobo ever since they were in the Service of the United States together, as stated by said Absalom Bobo.

This deponent further states that by reason of his great age, he is unable to leave his home to appear in open Court to give his Evidence, as he would like to do in favor of his old fellow soldier & comrade in arms.

Sworn to & subscribed the 2nd [?] day of October 1845 before me.

S/ J. Cooper, Mag.

S/ George Robuck [sic], X his mark

[This veteran's application was rejected because he only alleges three months service. In order to qualify under the 1832 act for a pension, the applicant had to have served at least six months active duty during the revolution.]

¹ [George Robuck \(Roebuck\) S9467](#)