

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Parrott S10253

f30VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/7/12

[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 Virginia County of Orange – to wit –

On this 28th day of November 1836 [last digit unclear] personally appeared before the court of the County of Orange William Parrott a resident of the County of Orange in the State of Virginia aged eighty-three 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 provision may by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. – That he was born in the County of Northumberland in Virginia in the year 1754. That he entered the service of the United States as a militia man in the County of Northumberland (where he was born) in the year 1775 under Captain Nutt to oppose the enemy then lying in Chesapeake Bay – The militia with whom he served were then called out to prevent the enemy from landing to obtain provisions – and on that tour of duty he served 10 or 12 days – That in the course of the year 1775 he was again called out, and entered the service of the United States as a militia man from the same State and County several times – how often he cannot positively say nor can he positively say how long he served at him this time – but to the best of his belief, it was 3 or 4 times, and he served each time not less than 8 or 10 days and during each time Under the Command of Captain William Nutt – John H Fallin was the Lieutenant of the Company and Richard Nutt the Ensign. On these occasions the militia were called out to oppose the British vessels lying in Chesapeake Bay and to prevent them from landing to obtain supplies of water and provisions – he received no pay, and when he was dismissed no written discharge, but was always ordered to hold himself in readiness to act at a moments warning to oppose the enemy when they returned which he accordingly did – In the year 1776 he was again called out from the same County as a militia man under the same officers and marched to the County of Lancaster to Thomas Lawson's [to] oppose Lord Dunmore then lying at Gwyns Island [Gwynn Island] and on this tour he served 10 or 12 days – During the same year he was again called out as a militia man from the same County under the same officers and again marched to the County of Lancaster to Colonel Henry Fleets – to oppose Lord Dunmore, and again served 10 or 12 days – When Dunmore left Gwyns Island he went up the Potomac, and the declarant was again called out as a militia man from the same County and under the same officers during the year 1776 (the exact date he cannot state) and stationed at Barren¹ Point [?] where he served a fortnight – When he was dismissed from these tours he received no pay and no written discharge – In the year 1777 he was called out as a minute man from the same County under the same officers (Colonel Thomas Gaskins the Colonel of

¹ *Barren*

Northumberland County being in command over them) and marched to Chesapeake Bay to oppose the enemy – This occurred to the best of his recollection 8 or 10 times in the course of the year and he served on each tour from 8 to 10 days to a fortnight – This small craft that tended the British vessels were almost constantly in the Bay, and whenever they were there the militia called out against them – So that it appears to the Declarant that he was in the service almost half of the year 1776 – He accounts particularly by serving at Garden Point in the Bay repeated the a fortnight at a time – When dismissed he received no pay and no written discharge – In the year 1778 he was called out as a militia man from the same County and under the same officers, and marched to James Champions – where there was a barracks 2 or 3 times, and served each time from a week to a fortnight – the barracks were burnt by the enemy – In the year 1779 he served as a militia man from the same County under the same officers at Joseph Husks [?] in the County of Northumberland. Husk was a Tory who had gone on board the enemy's vessels and he the declarant was stationed with others to watch him – On this tour he served not less than 3 weeks – he was also called out several other times in the course of the year in the same capacity, and under the same officers, but how often, or how long he served he cannot undertake to say – In the year 1780 he was called out as a militia man under the same officers from the same County and marched up the Wicomico in the County of Northumberland to guard one of the vessels of the United States which had been run high up that stream to avoid the enemy, and he served at that place for weeks. In October 1781 he was called out as a militia man from the County of Northumberland and marched to the County of Gloucester to oppose Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] – there he was under the command of Captain John Diggs – his Lieutenant was John Smither and Ensign not accurately recollected, but he thinks he was Fortunatus Pitman – The superior officers in command were General Weeden [George Weeden], Colonel Innis [probably Lieutenant Colonel James Innis], Colonel Campbell whom he now recollects. After he had been on this service about a fortnight he had a paralytic stroke, and was dismissed from the service and never after called out. When discharge from the above named tours of service he never received a written discharge and he never received any pay – This Declarant further states that he was born in the County of Northumberland in the state of Virginia in the year 1754 where he lived until he was 33 years of age – he then removed to the County of Albemarle in the same state where he lived 3 years, and then to the County of Orange in the same state where he has resided ever since. He further states that in the beginning part of his declaration he has stated as fully and accurately as his memory will enable him the nature of his service, the mode in which & time when he was called out, and the length of time that he served – that he has stated everything with exact accuracy he cannot positively say, for it is a very long time since these occurrences transpired, and he is now an old man and speaks only from memory, but to the best of his belief and recollection he served at least as often and as long as he has stated.

The court then propounded to him the interrogatories required by the War Department as follows – to which he gave the answers annexed

1st Where and in what year were you born?

I was born as I have stated in the body of my declaration in the year 1754 in the County of Northumberland in the State of Virginia.

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

I had a record of my age kept in the family Bible by my father, but it was sold with my other property, and I do not know who bought it.

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

A full answer to this question will be found in the body of my declaration, which I suppose it is unnecessary for me to repeat here.

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

As I have stated in the body of my declaration – I always served as a militia man.

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 recollect – and the general circumstances of your service.

I have already stated in the body of my declaration the general circumstances of my service in the names of the officers whom I recollect – I generally served in the militia of Northumberland in my own County.

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

I never received any written discharge – we were always verbally discharged by our Captain, and ordered to hold ourselves ready to March at a moments warning –

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

I see here Captain Thomas Davis, Colonel Thomas Roe [sic], Colonel Dulanly – Thomas Coleman and I can name more if necessary –

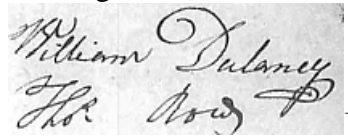
And the said William Parrott further deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and extreme loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned in his declaration and always as a private – and for such service 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ William Parrott



[William Dulaney and Thomas Row gave the standard supporting affidavit.



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$22.20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months & 20 days in the Virginia militia.]