

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Samuel Paxton S11206

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 Jan 2015.

Rockbridge County }

State of Virginia }

October 2<sup>nd</sup> 1832

On this day personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the County Court of Rockbridge, s'd. Court being a Court of Record, and now sitting Samuel Paxton, aged 79 last November, a Resident in s'd County & State 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered ths service of the U States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

This applicant states he served against the Cherokees, under Capt. Samuel Wallace & Liutenant David Edmondson, both of Rockbridge Cty now [formed in 1778 from Augusta and Botetourt counties] and that he marched from s'd County in the year 1776 1775 as he thinks some time in Aug [1776]: – that he marched to the Big Island on Holston River [sic: Long Island at present Kingsport TN] – there remained untill Pack Saddles were prepared to carry off the flour & other provisions, which were waggoned to the Island – then passed the Bend of Nolachucky [sic: Nolichucky River] – The Spy Fowler who had gone on before, met Ned Gass a white man in favour with the Indians, who informed the Indians of the approach of the company in which this applicant served – the Indians were stationed on the opposite side of the Island from where his company were, being on the opposite of the River. In order to take the Indians by surprise, this applicants officers ordered the fires to be built up, and left men to keep them burning, whilst the compay marched off in Indian file down the River to another Island (the name not recollected) crossed the River lay upon their arms – having waded waist deep in the water, arose next morning, somewhat stiffened with a frost that had followed – & marched to surprise the Indians but they had fled to their Towns. Thence we marched to the Indian Towns (called Dragon Canoes [see endnote]) remained about a week, when Col Christie [William Christian] this applicant's commanding officer capitulated with the Indians [sic: negotiated the Treaty of Long Island, ratified 20 Jun 1777]. Thence marched up the Tennessee River and Destroyed the Hiwaasse [sic: Hiwassee] Town – remained at this place some time, and then prepared for a return, and arrived at home about the middle of November. On this tour he served a period of 3 months.

This applicant states, that at the time, the members of the Virginia Gen Assembly were chased as far as Charlottesville [6 Jun 1781], he volunteered as a horseman, and went with Col McDowel [Samuel McDowell], & Col [William] Bowyer, beyond the blue Ridge, but in consequence of not being able to get provision for their horses, returned, after being gone 10 days.

This applicant states that he was draughted in the year 1781 for 3 months and marched some time in July from Rockbridge Cty. and under Cpt David Gray crossed Rockfish Gap – passed Charlottesville – and thence to Richmond – thence to Williamsburg: a short distance before which place at Burrels Mills [Burwell's Mill], the company encamped some time and joined the lines between Burrel's Mill and York – and there marched on to the Siege of York, under the immediate command of Col Lewis. This applicant left the Siege the Saturday [13 Oct] before before Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct 1781], having served out his tour of 3 months. He cannot recollect his Field officers. He received no written discharge as he believes.

He refers to the personal knowledge of John Davidson [pension application S8304] as evidence in his behalf as to this tour of duty

This applicant was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1752 – in Augusta, now Rockbridge County where he has continued to live.

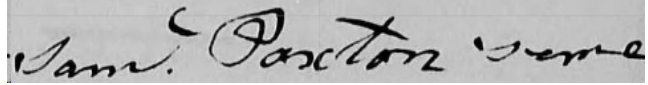
He has a record of his age in his possession, and herewith exhibited to the court

He states that during his last tour, He was an orderly Seargeant for Two months as he believes,

having been constituted one, on account of the absence of one of the officers. He never received a commission.

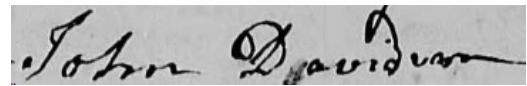
He refers to Col James McDowel [James McDowell] as his neighbor has evidence in his behalf. This applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year above written.



I John Davidson of the county of Rockbridge, do hereby certify, that I know that Samuel Paxton in the above declaration, served in the Revolutionary War at the Siege of York, as an orderly Sergeant, as stated in his declaration: Having served with said Samuel Paxton from the 7<sup>th</sup> August to the 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year above written



[On 13 Jan 1834 Jane Paxton applied for the pension of her husband, Samuel Paxton, whose first application had been mislaid by the court. A second application follows, but Samuel Paxton died on 29 July 1833 before he could sign it.]

Rockbridge County }

State of Virginia } to wit.

On this [blank] day of [blank] in the year 1833 personally appeared before me [blank] a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid, Samuel Paxton aged 80 years of age, a resident in said County and state, and 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officer, and served as herein stated.

ques. 1<sup>st</sup>. Where and in what year were you born?

He was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of Nov. 1752 in what was then Augusta County, but now said County of Rockbridge Virginia.

ques 2<sup>d</sup> Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it? He has a Record of his age in his possession, which is now exhibited to the Magistrate.

ques 3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

He was living in Augusta County (now Rockbridge, where he has continued to live since.

ques 4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service – were you drafted – did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if so for whom?

He was twice draughted, and once volunteered.

ques 5<sup>th</sup> 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? [The answer is similar to the declaration of service in the first application.]

ques. 6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given, & what has become of it. He recollects of having received no written discharge, during his service. He never received a Commission

ques 7<sup>th</sup> State the names of Persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity, and of their belief of your services as a soldier in the revolution.

He refers to Col. James McDowel, and John Davidson both of his neighborhood, as evidence in his behalf.

NOTE: Samuel Paxton appears to have confused the name of a Cherokee town with the name of the later Chief Dragging Canoe.