

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Ripley (Riply) S11299

f17VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/2/12

[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 Mathews: to wit

On this 13th day of August in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Mathews County now sitting, Richard Ripley a resident of the County of Mathews and State of Virginia aged eighty-two 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.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He enlisted in the Galley commanded by Ro Tompkins¹, Joshua Singleton Lieutenant: for the period of three [?]² years, he served his time out there and had a written discharge from the Captain but the water got into his pocket and the paper rubbed to pieces, he applied to the Captain to renew his discharge and that Captain told him as it was on Sunday it would not be proper to give him one but he would come on board next day and receive it. He did not come agreeably to promise and this claimant came off without one. After leaving the Galley he was first on board a Brig to carry some clothes for the soldiers up to Richmond and when he got back to the mouth of James River he saw the Bay lined with the British vessels. After that he went out with the militia of Gloucester County, attached to Captain [indecipherable name]³ company George Thomas was Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Payton [John Peyton], Major Boswell, Major Throgmorton [Throckmorton?] were the field officers, part of the time of his service Colonel James Baytop commanded; that he was discharged in the fall of 1781; he was in 4 or 5 engagements about Seawell's old fields under the same officers. He joined the Grenadiers [?]⁴ while he was out. He was a resident of Kingston Parish Gloucester County when he entered the service, he went out as a militia man; that he marched through a part of King & Queen

¹ [Robert Tompkins R102](http://www.awiatsea.com/Other/Hough%20List%20H-I.html) Robert Tompkins commanded the *Henry*. Ken Kellow has posted at <http://www.awiatsea.com/Other/Hough%20List%20H-I.html> the following regarding the *Henry*: "Coggins:102, VANavy:157, M:389, ND5:938, ND7:1061, ND8:446, ND9:869, ND10:628, ND11:1159, 1166, galley in VA Navy, 1776-79, Capts Robert Tompkins, Joshua Singleton, and Wright Westcott, dismantled in 1779. C64."

² three

³ Capt Robert Tompkins's

⁴ Grenadiers

County crossed at West Point sometimes called the brick house – through New Kent, close to Burwell's ferry, to the New Magazine and to Williamsburg where he staid some time. He was not acquainted with any of the regular troops or their officers – He was stationed for a long time at Hubbard's old fields for 4 or 5 months at one time, he was frequently during his service changed from Captain to Captain – He thinks in all he made up more than two years in the militia service – Joshua Singleton⁵ is alive and can prove his service on board the Galley. Anthony Hudgins,⁶ John Morgan⁷ and William Digges⁸ can prove his service in the militia – 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Rich'd Ripley, X his mark

[Humphrey Billups, a clergyman, and John Borum gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Virginia Mathews County to wit:

Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace in and for the said County, Richard Ripley who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that in consequence of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot now swear positively as to the precise length of his services, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades: to wit: For three years I served on board the Galley *Henry* commanded by Captain Tompkins.

For three months I served on the South side of York River at Williamsburg, Burwell's ferry and other places in Captain Robert Gayle's Company of the Gloucester militia in the year 1780 – For three months I served at Hubbard's old field, Seawell's old field and at Gloucester Town in the same company in the year 1781 – I was a private in both these services, during these services I was in no civil employment. And for such services I claim a pension. Joshua Singleton by whom I expected to prove my service on board the Galley is dead and unless his affidavit which I once took in the case and the affidavits of Richard Hurst⁹ and William Digges will support my claim, I know of no other evidence I can now come at. I do not recollect whether the Galley *Henry* belonged to the State of Virginia order of the United States but I am positive she was not a privateer.

S/ Richard Riply, X his mark

State of Virginia County of Gloucester: to wit

This day personally appeared before a Justice of the peace for the said County Joshua Singleton of the said County who being first duly sworn saith that he is between the age of eighty and ninety years he having no register of his age cannot be precise in that respect and that he is well acquainted with Richard Ripley of the County of Mathews and State aforesaid whom he believes to be fully as old as this affiant and knows that he served on board the Galley *Henry* as a seaman during the Revolutionary War but he does not know exactly how long but he believes he served three years as that was the term of enlistment about the time of the said *Henry's* crew being enlisted but this affiant served but a part of his service on board that Vessel he was a

⁵ [Joshua Singleton S7510](#)

⁶ FPA S10883

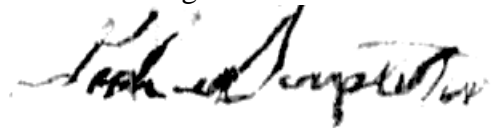
⁷ FPA S5777

⁸ FPA S8327

⁹ FPA S9593

Lieutenant first on board the Galley *Manly* Captain Edward Travis from which Vessel he was transferred to the said Galley *Henry* from whence he was transferred to the ship *Dragon* and further this affiant sayeth not.

S/ Joshua Singleton



[Attested May 7, 1833]

The Affidavits of Richard Hurst and William Digges both of lawful age taken in Mathews County to accompany the declaration of Richard Ripley made on the 13th day of August 1832 in open court before the Mathews County [court] in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832, to which declaration he has added an affidavit.

These Affiants being first duly sworn depose and say that they were in service with Richard Ripley in the American Revolution, that he belonged to Captain Robert Gayle's company which formed a part of the Regiment of militia for the County of Gloucester which was commanded by Colonel Sir John Peyton, they marched with [him] across the country to Burwell's ferry, to Williamsburg, the New Magazine and other places on the South side of York River, that they encamped with him at Hubbard's old field, Seawell's and at G. Town and they were discharged together after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] at little York. These Affiants further state that they know Richard Ripley served a tour on board the Galley *Henry* before he came into the militia, they think he served on board the Galley three years they know the place where the Galley was built (it was in Kingston Parish not far from Gwynn's Island near a place now called Cricket Hill) but they cannot now say whether she was a State vessel or a United States Vessel. These affiants think that Richard Ripley must have served in the militia twelve months, and further these affiants say not. That the Galley *Henry* belonged either to the State of Virginia or to the United States, they state that they have learned that Joshua Singleton is dead.



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia Navy.]