

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Franklin Reuben
Transcribed by FA Weyler

VA

S13082
16Nov2013

[p2] Kentucky Certificate 7657
Reuben Franklin of Clark County
Private 18 months
Captain Martyns, Colonel Green
Issued 11May1833 @ \$60/annum

[p3] State of Kentucky
Clarke County sct

On this 26th day of March 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Hon. Richard French judge of the Clarke Circuit Court now sitting Reuben Franklin a resident of Clarke County and state aforesaid, aged seventy seven years past, now in his seventy eighth. 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 some time in the first part of the year 1778, the month he is not able to tell at this time. He was drafted for eighteen months as well as he recollects, tho the time he was drafted for he cannot say positively in a company commanded by Capt. John Mountjoy. When he entered the service of the United States he lived in Stafford County Virginia. And said company was raised in said county. The captain John Mountjoy resided in said county. He was marched to the northward and joined the army at the Valley Forge where we remained some time in quarters and from there we were marched near to Philadelphia. And the British having retreated from Philadelphia, were pursued by the American army. He states that he was under Lee at the affair at Monmouth, and that he was with the troops who were ordered by Lee to retreat and who fell back in consequence of said order. He was then [p4] marched to a place called New Brunswick as well as he recollects. From there to the White Plains where he was stationed for a considerable time in the army of General Washington.

Whilst the army was at White Plains he was taken sick and in consequence thereof he was taken to the Barracks at Fishkill where he remained a considerable time. When he left there he was ordered to West Point where he remained a considerable time. From there he afterwards was ordered to Washington's army in the Jersey's at a place called Middlebrook as well as he now recollects, near which place he was discharged.

He states that when he first joined the army at Valley Forge, the company he belonged to was in the regiment commanded by Col. John Green, the major was by the name of Samuel Haws. Gen. Washington commanded at the Valley Forge when he joined the army. His regiment called the tenth regiment. He was part of the time in the sixth regiment in a company commanded by Capt. Woodson. He was a very short time in said regiment and does not recollect any of the other officers except Woodson but he is under the impression that it was commanded by Col. John Green for he has no recollection of being under the command of any other colonel. He recollects in Green's regiment, Capts. Chilton, West, & Land. He also recollects Col. Brent and Col. Gressom or Grussin who commanded the thirteenth regiment.

[p5] He recollects Gen. Lee at the affair of Monmouth and he recollects Gen. Weeden whom he saw frequently. Whilst he was out with Washington's army. Those are all the officers that he recollects distinctly.

He states that he was discharged at the expiration of his time. He received a written discharge from Col. John Green some time in the latter part of the year 1779, the exact time he cannot recollect. He has long since lost said discharge. He states that the time he was in actual service he cannot exactly state, but he knows that it was more than fourteen months during that tour.

He will now state his service in the militia during the revolutionary war. In the year 1776 he was drafted as a militia man in a company commanded by Capt. James. The company was raised in Stafford County Virginia and marched down the Potomac River to a place called Brunts house which was burnt by the British under Governor Dunmore. Whilst we were in sight of it and compelled to retreat.

In 1780 he was again drafted in a company commanded by Captain George Mountjoy which company was raised in the same county. We were marched from Falmouth to Stafford Court House and there stationed to watch the British under Cornwallis and after remaining there some time we were discharged. We were commanded by Col. James Garrard.

In 1781 he was again drafted as a militia man in a company commanded by Captain George Burrus. We were under the command of Col. James Garrard and marched to the Forge Old Field where we were stationed some time still

[p6] expecting the British under Cornwallis who not making their appearance we were discharge.

In the Fall of 1781 he was again drafted as a militia man in a company commanded by Capt. James Prim. He was in a regiment commanded by Col. Philips. He was started in the direction of York at the time of Cornwallis' siege there and met the prisoners on the road and we were employed guarding the prisoners to Winchester in Virginia where we were discharged. If he got a written discharge either of those four militia tours he has forgotten it. Indeed he is of the opinion that the company was merely dismissed and got no written discharge. He states that he cannot state with certainty how long he served in the militia in those four tours. He knows however that it was not less than four months that he was in actual service although he believes it longer, but will say not less than four months. so as not to run any hazard, which with the fourteen months actual service in the army makes altogether eighteen months actual service during the revolutionary war.

He states that he has no documenting evidence by which he can prove his said service or any of them. He can prove part of his service by John Laytham whose certificate he has procured and he can prove part of his services by James Spillman Sen. He states that he was born in King George County Virginia

[p7] in the year 1755. The time of the year he has forgotten although frequently told by his parents. He has no record of his age, but has seen one that his father kept in a family bible. He has not however seen it for a number of years. When he was a small boy his father moved into Stafford County Virginia where he resided at the time when he entered into the service of the United States as before detailed. He lived in Stafford County during the whole period of the war and until the year 1805 when he removed into the state of Kentucky and settled in the County of Clarke where he has ever since and still resides. He has before stated that he was called into the service by being drafted. It has been suggested that he must have enlisted at the time he was in actual service fourteen months. It is his recollection that he was drafted into the service. In this he thinks he is not mistaken.

He is known in his present neighborhood to the Rev^d Thomas Boone, Thomas Lowrey, Landon Noe, David Turner, John Rankins, Rev. William Rash, and others who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his service as a soldier of the revolution.

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.

[p7]

I James Spillman Sen. A resident in Clarke County Kentucky do hereby certify that I am now seventy seven years of age. That Reuben Franklin who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration in the year 1780 in the fall of that year served a tour as a militia man in the same company with myself which was raised in Stafford County Virginia and commanded by Captain Mountjoy and stationed at Stafford Court House. In the beginning of the year 1781 we also served another tour together. We were stationed at the Old Forge. We served each of these tours not less than four weeks tho I think we served longer. This is all that we served together during the war. I was not very well acquainted with said Reuben Franklin at that time and cannot speak positively of any other service performed by him. He lived in Stafford County Virginia where I resided, but he lived in a different part of the county. He is in my opinion seventy seven years of age.

Sworn and subscribed in open court the day and year aforesaid. James Spillman Sen.

[routine county support and certification

William Rash, clergy

David Tanner, neighbor

Samuel M Taylor, clerk

[p18]

State of Kentucky, Bourbon County, Sct

This day John Laytham, a citizen of said county aged seventy two years personally appeared before me the subscribed justice of the peace in and for said county and made oath that he was well acquainted with Reuben Franklin in the time of the revolutionary war and that said Franklin was then a citizen of Stafford County & State of Virginia and now a citizen of Clark County State of Kentucky and that he knows that said Franklin was in the time of said war drafted on a tour of duty of eighteen months and that he very well knows that he did start when said tour of duty and was gone for some length of time from his home and that he always heard & has every reason to believe that while he was absent he was on said duty and has no reason to believe but what he served eighteen months. That he had never heard anything to the contrary but that all his acquaintances who were drafted together with said Franklin did serve the time they were drafted for fully out. Given under my hand and seal this 2nd day of October 1832. Foster Collins

[routine certification

Thomas P Smith, clerk

[p30 Dept. of Interior synopsis- Deceased 11Aug1843]

Notes for Reuben Franklin S13082

By C. Leon Harris. 28 Feb 2014.

Capt. John Mountjoy: pension application S36175

“Lee at the affair at Monmouth”: Gen. Charles Lee, Battle of Monmouth, 28 June 1778

Samuel Haws = Samuel Hawes

Capt. Woodson = Hughes Woodson R19215

“His regiment called the tenth regiment. He was part of the time in the sixth regiment”: The Tenth Regiment became the Sixth Regiment at White Plains on 14 Sep 1778.

Capt. Chilton West, & Land = Clough Shelton, Thomas West, and David Laird

Col. Brent = William Brent

Col. Gressom or Grussin who commanded the thirteenth regiment = John Gibson

Gen. Weeden = George Weedon

“a place called Brunts house which was burnt by the British under Governor Dunmore”: the above Col. William Brent’s, burned 16 July 1776

“In 1780... marched from Falmouth to Stafford Court House... to watch the British under Cornwallis”: Cornwallis’s arrived in Virginia May 1781.

“at the time of Cornwallis’ siege”: 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781

John Laytham = John Latham S8811

James Spillman Sen. S16535