

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of William Ligon S13764

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky Owen County & Circuit Sct.

On this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Thomas M. Hickey Circuit Judge of Owen County, now sitting, William Ligon a resident of Owen County and State aforesaid aged 70 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832

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

That he entered the service of the United States as a revolutionary soldier in the year 1779 [sic: see note below] in the state line of Virginia, for the Term of three months, in Powhatan County State of Virginia, that when he entered the service he was a Drafted soldier, under Capt Richard Crump of Powhatan County, that he rendezvoused at Scottsville and formed a portion of Col Parkers Rignent, (the number not recollected) that he thinks a part of the Rignent was attached to Col Thomas Goode's of Chesterfield County, that he marched through Manchester [across James River from Richmond] to Smithfield, to the county seat of Nansemond County from thence to Portsmouth, oposite Norfolk, that he went to Mobbin Hills [sic: Malvern Hill in Charles City County]. that he was there discharged, that during this Tour he was in no engagements.

That at the expiration of the aforesaid Tour of three months, he enlisted in the regular soldier as an express rider to the French army commanded by the Marquis Lafayette for about three months; that he was furnished a horse and ordered to go to Ryland Randolphs a little below four mile creek [probably Fourmile Creek in Henrico County] from which place he took an express to he believes the first from Gen'l Lafayette to Gen'l [Anthony] Wayne whose army then lay in the lower end of Amelia County not distant from Good's Bridge on appamattox river he states that he faithfully served out the time he enlisted for as he thinks three months.

That the third Tour he volunteered as a soldier for three months under Capt Littlebury Mosby and Col Caul, that this tour of duty he mustered into service this Tour in Powhatan County State of Virginia, that he was a mounted volunteer and every man furnished his own horse saddle and bridle his cap pistol swords that in this tour he marched to Petersburg [sic: Petersburg]. that they there joined some other Rignments of some of the regulars and some of the militia Troops, that the Rignments when they came together were commanded by Gen'l Stuband [sic: Baron von Steuben], that at this place they had an engagement with the enemy. that the engagement commenced below Bleuford's creek in the south of that part of the Town and on that morning six Millitia and six regular horsemen regular horsemen (this affiant was one) was placed under the command Boweyer [probably Col. John Bowyer] & were sent down to city point to discover the situation of the Brittish army. where we charged on a small detachment of the Brittish army and took six prisoners and brought them to Petersburg, shortly after which the Brittish arrived and the Battle commenced.

This affiant states that his fourth Tour of duty was for the Term of three months that he mustered and was drafted from the County of Powhatan, State aforesaid, that he was during all this time commanded by Capt Robert Hughes Lieut Wade Mosby, Major William Cunningham, or George Tucker [sic: St. George Tucker], Col. Beverly Randolph or John Holcomb the Gen'ls. Brigadier Gen'l [Robert] Lawson, this affiant thinks Gen'l Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] was also at Guilford Court house, and Gen'l Morgan [sic: see note below] who commanded the regulars, that Col [William] Washington commaned the horse was also there. that Gen'l Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] was the commander in chief at this place that at Guilford Courthouse he together with all the foregoing officers was in the Battle that

took place there, that the americans retreated about 7 miles to the [Troublesome] Ironworks, that it was a most disparate engagement, from thence they pursued the Brittish army to low down on Cape fear River, that he was in no other engagement, that he thinks he was discharged from service when he struck the Virginia line, by Captain Hughs, that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to an pension or a annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state in the union. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Questions put to the applicant by the court

Where and what year were you born in.

Ans I was born in Powhatan County State of Virginia, In the year 1762 the 24<sup>th</sup> of Nov.

Have you any record of your age, and if, so where is it

Ans I have no record of my age. I answer from what my father told me.

Where were you living when you were called into service, where have you lived since the revolution, and where do you now live.

Ans In Powhatan State of Va. Since the war, I have lived in Cumberland and Prince Edward Counties in Va and in Wilson County State of Tennessee. And in Owen County State of Kentucky for 16 years last past. I now live in Owen County.

How were you called into service, were you drafted, were you a substitute, or did you volunteer, and if a substitute for whom.

Ans I was drafted the 1<sup>st</sup> tour, the second Tour I enlisted as an express rider, the third Tour I was a volunteer horseman, the fourth I was drafted.

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia regments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service

And I recollect Col Parker a militia officer, Col Thos Goode, also a militia officer, Major Abner Crump of the militia. These were in the first Tour. The second Tour was an express riding Tour, in that Tour I carried an express from Lafayett to Gen Wayne who were regular commanding officers. the third Tour I recollect Gen Stuband who commanded both militia and regulars Troops. Col Caul a militia officer but had some regular Troops. Capt Giles, a militia horseman, Major Decloman a French officer [sic: Christian Charles de Klauman, Danish]. the fourth Tour I recollect Gen Green who was the commander in chief at Guilford courthouse, a regular officer. Gen'l Lawson who was a brigadier General, Gen'l Morgan was a regular officer, Gen'l Stephens was there a militia Gen'l, John Holcomb and Beverly Randolph were both there as malitia Cols. Major Cunningham, Major Tucker, malitia officers, were there Hughs was my Captain. I am verry certain that I know my own commanders, but am not so certain as to others but think I have named them right.

Did you receive a discharge from the service, if so where is it, and by whom was it given.

Ans, I received discharges from my Commander, for each Tour of duty, I performed, but have lost them.

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to you Character for veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the revolution.

I name as person to whom I known James O. Hara, John Brown, Peyton R Jennings Benj  
Haydon William hisXmark Ligon

NOTES:

Ligon stated that his first tour of three months began in 1779, and that at the expiration of that term he enlisted as an express rider for Lafayette. Lafayette, however, was not in Virginia before March of

1781.

Gen. Daniel Morgan was not at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse on 15 March 1781, having retired after the Battle of Cowpens to recuperate from chronic rheumatism. The Battle of Guilford Courthouse probably occurred before rather than after the other three tours mentioned by Ligon.