

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Gray S1464

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Ohio Noble County Ss

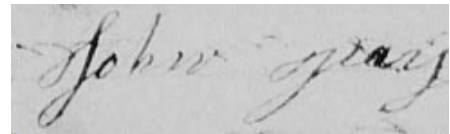
On this 12th day of January AD 1855 personally appeared before me Phillip Berlingame a Justice of the peace in and for said County John Gray a resident of Brookfield Township in the County and State aforesaid, aged ninety one years, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the first engagement, and under the following named officers, having volunteered to serve in the Malitia and served as herein stated, the twenty fourth of Febuary seventeen hundred and eighty one and started the same day from Fairfax County Virginia, where he then resided, and marched to Fredericksburg Va, where the Company received their arms and amunition. from thence the company marched to Williamsburg and from there to near Richmond Va, he remained in service untill the forepart of may of the same year at which time he was discharged at Richmond Va, thinks it was the third of May, he was discharged, knows he got home on the fifth and thinks he was two days on the Road, Served as above stated under the following officers, Col. Church, Major Denis Ramsey [Dennis Ramsay], Robert Sanford Capt, Edward Sanford Leituenant, James Neal Ensign

Under the second Engagement volunteered as before, as near as he can recolect about the latter part of June 1781, was the time he entered the Service, and continued therein untill the 19th day of October of the same year, it being the time of the surrender of the English [at Yorktown], and he with the other Soldiers were permitted to go at large the time of service under both engagements amounting to some over six months, James Neal who was Ensign during the first engagement, was Capt. of the Company the last Engagement. the names of the other Officers not Recolected this time the company did not leave the County of Fairfax. he was born in Fairfax County in the State of Virginia, in the year seventeen hundred and sixty four. he has no Record it having been left with his Mother. I lived some time in Virginia and came to Ohio in seventeen hundred and ninety five and have lived in this County since 1829. he volunteered as before stated. the discharge was handed to him by Major Denis Ramsey. how many officers signed it cannot recolect. he states he has no documentary evidence of services, he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service

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

John hisXmark Gray

[5 Jan 1867] I John Gray of Noble County Ohio on my oath do say, that I am aged one hundred and Two years on the 6th day of January AD 1866 that I was born in Fairfax County Va. that I served for about three months in the Virginia Line in the War for American Independence that my Captain was Captain Sanferd that I never drew a Pension for my Service not having served for sufficient time [six months] to entitle me to a Pension under existing Laws, that I have no means of support & am now & have been for years indebted to my neighbors for the means of Subsistence.

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "John Gray". The ink is dark and the background is light-colored paper.

State of Ohio County of Noble SS

On this Fifteenth day of March A.D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty seven personally appeared before me W. B. Teters Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas within and for the county and state

aforesaid John Gray age one hundred three years a resident of Brookfield Township Noble County Ohio who being duly sworn according to law declares that he is the identical John Gray now a resident of Noble County in the State of Ohio, who served as a Private in the Company commanded by Captain Sanford in the Regiment Commanded by Colonel Church of the Virginia line enlisted about February 15th, 1781 in the Revolutionary War for American independence in the Continental Army [sic] and was honorably discharged at Richmond Virginia on or about the 15th day of March AD 1781 and who was granted a pension by special or private act of Congress approved AD 1867, or passed by the second session of the 39th Congress of the United States.

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the pension provided by said Act of Congress and hereby requests that a draft for amount due or a certificate be issued to him under the provisions of said act, and that said certificate and all communications concerning this claim be sent to him in care of W. H. Frazier Caldwell Noble County Ohio.

And he further states that he has not aided or abetted the rebellion in the United States but now is and always has been loyal to the Government of the United States.

His Post Office address is Hiramsburgh Noble County State of Ohio

Witnessed by/ Henry McElroy/ Nancy McElroy

John hisXmark Gray

NOTES:

A letter sent with the 16 March 1867 application stated that John Gray's only living relative was "one Daughter of his wife by a former marriage (his stepdaughter) now over 60 years of age, & her husband, who is also aged and infirm the family are at this time receiving relief from the Infirmary Directors of this County." The letter also states that Gray's father lost his life in the Revolutionary War.

M. Taylor. *The Last Muster: Images of the Revolutionary War Generation*. (Kent OH: Kent State University Press, 2010) states that Gray died on 29 Mar 1868. A note on the file jacket reads: "This was the next to last surviving pensioner of the Rev." The last pensioned Revolutionary soldier was Daniel Frederick Bakeman of New York (10 Oct 1759 - 5 Apr 1869; pension application S17265). The last pensioned widow was Esther S. Damon, widow of Noah Damon of Vermont (pension application W10711). Further information on Gray's service and life is in the biography by J. M. Dalzell, *John Gray, of Mount Vernon: The Last Soldier of the Revolution* (Washington, DC: Dalzell and Woodburn, 1868).

