

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Wade S14801

fn24VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/20/11

[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 Kentucky County of Owen: Sct.

On this 7th day of January 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Owen County Court now sitting John Wade a resident of the said County of Owen and State of Kentucky aged 79 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 that he mustered into the service of the United States in the month of December 1775 as a private volunteer soldier upon a tour of three months in the company of Captain Reed – that he rendezvoused at the Courthouse in Prince Edward County Virginia of which County I was at that time a resident and was marched from thence to Norfolk in Virginia shortly before he reached Norfolk the battle of the Great bridge was fought and soon after he reached the place the British landed from their vessels and set fire to a part of the town and burnt down some of the houses and the Americans burnt down the balance and left the place – he states that the British were under Lord Dunmore who was a former Governor of Virginia. He states that when he reached Norfolk he fell under the command of Colonel Woodward and that he continued on the coast till the expiration of his said tour and was there discharged and returned to his home in Prince Edward County Virginia.

He further states and declares that in the month of June 1776 he again mustered into the service of the United States as a private volunteer soldier upon a tour of six months in the company of Captain William Alexander that he again rendezvoused at the courthouse in Prince Edward County and was marched from thence to Richmond Virginia – from thence to Williamsburg where he was under the command of Colonel Mathews and General Nelson at which place and its neighborhood he remained for some time and from thence about the first of September he was marched to the State of New Jersey and joined the Army under the command of General Washington near the city of New York. Soon after he joined Washington the British Army under Lord Howe landed at a place called frogs neck – the American Army retreated and most of the post in the country were evacuated and at the White Plains a battle was fought in which this declarant was personally engaged under General McDougal. He states that the Army continued retreating slowly and the British advancing till it entered New Jersey and it was forced to pass through that State and crossed the Delaware [River] at Trenton. He states that a great deal of skirmishing took place during these movements and the sufferings of the American Army was very great and the soldiers were much disheartened. He states that he was one of the men that was sent up the River to get possession of the boats and thereby prevent the British from crossing the River. He states that soon after this service was performed his term of service expired and he was discharged by his officers and returned home to Prince Edward County

Virginia.

He further states and declares that in the month of March 1777 he again mustered into the service of the United States as a drafted militia man & private soldier upon a tour of three months in the company of Captain Fry of which company James Bishop was Lieutenant – that he rendezvoused with his said company at the house of Captain Fry in Prince Edward County Virginia and that he marched from thence to the Courthouse in Prince George County Virginia – from thence he was marched to Richmond Virginia and from thence to little York. He states that he was in this tour under the command of Colonel Griffith and General Nelson. He states that he was kept on the coast moving from one point to another assisting in protecting the inhabitants from the incursions of the British till the expiration of his said term of service when he was discharged and returned to his home in Prince Edward County.

He further states and declares that a short time after his return from his tour as a above named there was great apprehension created by the appearance of a large number of British vessels in the bay and this declarant again became a volunteer upon a 3 months tour and mustered into the service in the month of August 1777 as well as he now remembers as a private soldier in the company of Captain John Philips – that he rendezvoused with his said company at the courthouse in Prince Edward County and he was marched from thence direct to Richmond at which place there was then a great many soldiers – that he was there placed under the command of Colonel Jack Willis who lived in Richmond – that from Richmond he was marched to the bay coast to assist in repelling any attempt which the British might make upon the country – that the principal part of the vessels continued up the bay and as this declarant afterwards understood landed a large Army at Elk River, but the balance of the vessels remained and done a good deal of injury along the coast without being much hurt themselves for when a party of them would land they would frequently effect their object and return to their vessels before any force could be brought to bear against them. He states that he continued in the service till the expiration of his said term of duty and was discharged at Williamsburg and returned home to Prince Edward County.

He further states and declares that in the month of May 1779 he again mustered into the service of the United States as a private militia soldier upon a tour of three months in the company of Captain Fry and rendezvoused with his said company at the Court house in Prince Edward County Virginia and from thence was marched to a place called Cobham [Cobham Wharf in Sussex County] on James River where he remained a short time – that there was at that time as he understood a British Army under the command of General Mathews act Portsmouth which had done a great deal of injury at Portsmouth, at Suffolk and at Norfolk and at other places. He states that the British did not remain long but left the country about the first of June and that soon afterwards he was marched to Portsmouth – that upon this tour he was under the command of Colonel White – that he was kept on the coast till the expiration of his tour and he was then discharged and returned to his home in Prince Edward County Virginia.

He further states and declares that in the month of October 1780 he again mustered into the service of the United States as a private militia soldier under the command of Captain Ray upon a tour of three months and rendezvoused at the courthouse in Prince Edward County – that he was marched from thence to Richmond at which place he was placed under the command of Colonel Clarke – that a British Army under the command of General Leslie as he understood had landed near the mouth of James River and had taken possession of Portsmouth and various other places on that side of James River. That the militia of the country to a considerable number embodied for the purpose of checking and repelling the British – that there was some regular

troops stationed at Richmond – that General Steuben took the command of the troops that were collecting – that the British remained for some time at Portsmouth and this declarant remained in the service at Richmond until his term of service expired and he was discharged.

He further states and declares that immediately upon his discharge as above mentioned to it in the month of January 1781 as well as he remembers he again mustered into the service of the United States as a private volunteer soldier in the company of Captain Nathan Harper upon a tour of six months – that he was under the command of Major Armstead [perhaps either Major Anthony or William Armistead] and Colonel Mathews – that he did not leave Richmond upon his discharge from his last tour – that soon after he thus again entered the service a large British force invaded the country under General Arnold [Benedict Arnold] who had been in the American Army but had turned traitor and joined the British – that he was one of a detachment sent by General Steuben to remove and secure some stores which had been collected at Petersburg – that in the meantime the British Army marched to Richmond and destroyed a quantity of stores that had been collected at that place – that they done much damage to public and private property – that they went from Richmond down to Portsmouth and the main body of the American forces followed on amongst which was this declarant and were stationed through the country near Portsmouth so as to confine the British to the town as much as possible and protected the country from their incursions. He states that after remaining in the neighborhood of that place for some time he was marched again to Richmond – that another British Army under General Philips invaded the state and as they marched through the country made great havoc amongst the public and private property – about this time General Lafayette arrived at Richmond and took the command of the troops. He states that after Lafayette took the command he this declarant was detached amongst others to remove the stores from Richmond up the country which duty they performed and deposited the greater part of them at Albemarle old Court house – that he again joined the Army on the Rivannah [Rivanna] River and they then followed the British Army down the country towards Williamsburg. He states that he continued with the Army till the expiration of his tour and was discharged at Richmond and returned home.

This declarant states that from his great age he finds that his memory has greatly failed him particularly in respect to the names of officers and the minute circumstances of his service but from his best recollection he served at times in the manner and for the periods above set forth – he is confident that he did not serve less than eighteen months as a volunteer and nine months as a militia man. He states that he has no documentary evidence of his services and that he knows of but one individual who knows anything about his services whose testimony he can procure and that individual lives in the County of Grant in Kentucky and is named Joseph Reese.

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.



Interrogatories put to the above named applicant by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born in Prince Edward County Virginia on the 5th day of June 1753 according to my register.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer I have a record of my age at home in my Bible.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. I lived in the County of Prince Edward in Virginia when I entered the service upon each one of my tours. After the war was over I continued to live in the same County till the year 1790 and then moved to Pendleton County in the same state where I remained till 1805 and then moved to Fayette County Kentucky and from thence moved to where I now live in Owen County in the year 1820 and have continued to live at the same place ever since.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer Upon four of my tours I was a volunteer and upon the other three I was a drafted militia man.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. In the first tour which I performed I was marched to Norfolk and do not recollect of seeing any other any other Colonel during that tour but Colonel Woodford who I believe was a regular officer. I recollect Major Wiley of the militia was amongst the troops a part of the time. In this tour Norfolk was burnt in my services were confined to the coast in guarding it – during the second tour I performed I recollect to have seen Generals Washington, Lee, Mercer & Greene and Colonels Smallwood, Morgan, Butler, Ennis & Posey who I believe were regular officers – I recollect also Generals Stevens and Nelson and Colonels Mathews & Parker and General McDougal who I believe were militia officers – upon this tour which was for six months I was first marched to Richmond and then to Williamsburg and from thence to New York and joined General Washington near the city of New York on the retreat of the American Army a battle was fought at the White Plains in which I was personally engaged under General McDougal – the Army continued to retreat and pass through New Jersey and crossed the Delaware River at Trenton. I was one of the men sent up the River to secure the boats and prevent their falling into the hands of the British. Upon my third tour I recollect to have seen Colonels Willis, Ennis & Heth who I believe were regular officers, and Colonels Griffith & Holcum [Holcomb] & General Nelson who I believe were militia officers. On this tour my services were confined to the coast without any thing of importance occurring. Upon my fourth tour I recollect to have seen Colonels Willis & Clark who I think were regular officers and Colonels Lyne & Woods and Major Armstead and General Lawson who I believe were militia officers – my services upon this tour were directed entirely to the guarding the coast – Upon my fifth tour I do not recollect any other field officers in the service but Colonel White who I think was a militia officer – I was marched from Prince Edward County to Cobham on James River and was there kept for a short time and was afterwards marched to Norfolk, Portsmouth and Suffolk at all of which places a great deal of injury had been done by the British. Upon my sixth tour I recollect to have seen in the service General Steuben and Colonels Willis, Nelson, Posey who were regular officers I believe and General Lawson and Colonels Harper & Clarke who I think were militia officers – In this tour I remained in Richmond during the principal part of the time – upon my seventh tour which was the last I performed I recollect to have seen Generals Lafayette, Steuben and Wayne and Colonels Posey, Ennis, and Nelson who I believe were regular officers and Generals Nelson, Lawson and Stevens and Colonels Lyne, Holcum, Harper and Griffith & Mathews who I believe were militia officers upon this tour I was sent by General Steuben to assist in removing some stores from Petersburg which he was afraid would fall into the hands of the British – after this

service was performed I was marched into the vicinity of Portsmouth where the British had stationed themselves and was there kept for a while and was then marched to Richmond and there stationed till General Lafayette arrived and was afterwards detailed to assist in removing the stores from Richmond which service was performed & most of the stores deposited at Albemarle old Court House – After this I joined General Lafayette on the Rivanna River and continued with the Army till the expiration of my tour and was discharged

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer Upon the termination of my second tour I received a discharge which was signed by my Captain and which I have since lost. Upon the termination of my other tours I did not receive any discharge in writing that I recollect of.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. I will name Nimrod Wiley and Thomas Hughes as persons of my neighborhood to whom I am known.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ John Wade

[Nimrod Wiley, a clergyman, and Thomas Hughes gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The affidavit of Joseph Reese taken at the courthouse in the Town of Owenton on the 7th day of January to be laid before the Secretary of the war Department on behalf of John Wade an applicant to be placed on the pension roll of the United States as a revolutionary soldier. This affiant states that he was born in Prince Edward County Virginia on the 18th day of March 1765 – that his father lived in about one mile of James Wade who was the father of John Wade present applicant – that the families were on terms of intimate friendship and he this affiant was very often at the old man Wade's house and he recollects very distinctly of being there on several different occasions when the above named John Wade was said to be on the eve of starting out to the Army in the revolutionary war – he further states that he was at the courthouse in Prince Edward County at two several times when the said John Wade was about marching out into the revolutionary Army. Upon one occasion he thinks that Captain Fry had the command of the men that were collecting and on the other Captain Harper. He states that his father did not live more than one mile and a half from the courthouse in said County. He states that John Wade was near if not quite half his time from home during the revolutionary war and was said by his father's family to be in the Army. He thinks John Wade is at least 78 years of age. This affiant further states that he came to Owenton today from Grant County where he lives to give this affidavit at the request of Mr. Wade who is quite poor and who he has no doubt served his country faithfully.

S/ Joseph Reese, X his mark

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