

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Forester (Forrister) S1517
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 17 Feb 2014.

VA

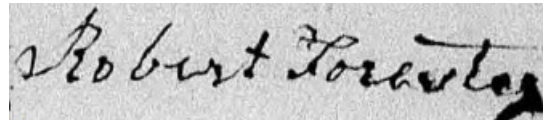
State of Tennessee, } ss.
County of McMinn }

On this 6th day of September personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the County Court of said county, Robert Forrester a resident of said county and state, aged about 73 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, 1832.

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

For the particulars of his services he refers to the statement hereto annexed in his own hand writing, and marked (A.) and paged 1, 2, 3, 4.

He does not know of any person by whom he can prove the facts set forth in said statement A., nor is he acquainted with any minister of the Gospel or other person, who can say that he has the reputation of having been a Soldier of the Revolution in the neighborhood where he now resides. After the revolution, declarant removed to Montgomery County North Carolina; thence to York South Carolina; thence, about 20 years ago to Blount County, Tennessee, and thence only 3 or 4 years ago to McMinn County, Tennessee, where he now resides.



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 6th day of September 1832.

[The edge of the paper is damaged at places marked *.]

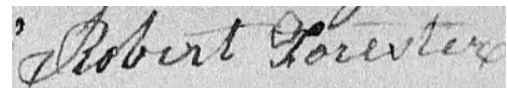
(1) The first sarvice I Enter'd in was I inlisted in a minit Rigment [Lancaster District Battalion of Minuteman] as it was Call'd. we was station'd at Mathias Silg[*] twenty days then went home. we was then Call'd out aga[in] and station'd. at barron point, a neck of land call'd. Cher[*] point [probably Cherry Point in Lancaster County]; lord Dunmore when he was drove from Norfol[*] [driven from Norfolk 1 Jan 1776] with his fleet he sail'd up Chersepeek bay to the mouth of petomack [sic: Chesapeake Bay to the mouth of the Potomac River] and up to the above mention'd place. Theare we stade till he sail'd of & left the Country [7 Aug 1776] – Next we was call'd out and station'd at Winder Krinars lying upon Cheserpek bay near Smiths point [Smith Point] and the mouth of petomack in Northumberland County. theare we stade someti[*] then we was call'd and station'd at a place call'd Tapeys b[*] or at Clo. Tapleys [Col. Tapley's] we stade thier some time, then we w[*] call'd to Clo. Peacheys [Col. William Peachey]. a British privateer had went up to Kobeseshool[?] and in coming down she got on a Oyster shoal [shoal] fast, she had taken a large sloop from the warf that was their laded with corn. she was also stuck on a shole, we ware put in small sailing Vessels sailed and and gave them Battle the Vessel I was in Run a long side of the privateer and fired into her for some time [*] we had orders to bord and in so doing we lost a man [*] was shot and fell back in our Vessel. at Rising [tide] the privateer floted and crowded sale and left us – But the sloop she cut from the warfe we Retook and Restored her to the Owner. the commander of the Vessel that I was in, his name was Clo. Walker liv'd in Urbannar [sic: Urbanna] a little town upon the Rapahanno[*; Rappahannock River] (2) The man that was kild was a Coullored man a sarvent [colored man a slave] Bellong'd to s'd Walker. a Very brave man I think both of them. this was done in Rapahannock River as we was thear station'd upon that River – Theare was other places that we was call'd to and station'd at but I dont Recolect. But when we was not upon other

duty we had to meet and incamp four days together to be disipled [disciplined?] in Each month and find our Own provisions – But when call'd into actual sarvice we was found and our Comisary's Name was William Barber liv'd in Richmond County whear I was Born and Rais'd – This minet Rigment was a siperate Rigment from the militia had our siperate Officers uniform and duty we was inlisted as other solders was and under duty and uniform. which we found ourselves as well as our other clothen. we continued in this sarvice I think a bout two yeares as near as I can Remember perhaps more or perhaps less – Our Curnal was Peter P. Thorn [sic: Peter Presley Thornton] our Major Thomas Jones Jun'r. Both liv'd in Northumberland County. my first Captain was William Mitchell liut Harry Fontuluroy [sic: Henry Fauntleroy] both in Richmond County. the Capt Died and the lieutenant Resind [resigned]. Then we had Barnes I th[ink] his name was Brokenbery Barnes for our Capt. and larrence Butlear [sic: Lawrence Butler] leftennant. I dont Rember the date of my inlistment in this Rigment, nor my age but I must of been Very young not more I suppose then seventeen or Eighteen (3) the duty I did whilst in this Minnit Rigment was cheafley in Richmond Northumberland and Lanchaster Countys as this Rigment was Rais'd for that purpose to guard thear water courses

The next sarvice was as follows, sometime in may I think in the year of 1778 I inlisted in the state garrison Rigment which was to be and was station'd at Williamsburg then the see[*] of the stat [seat of the state] for three years. my Father being an old man wanted my sarvice at home we hired a man in my place to serve the three years out. I think I sarv'd in that Rigment Nine months myself besides hiring the man to sarv the ballance of the three years out, as I hired the man and was discharg'd in Febuary 1779 [see endnote] the man's name was that I hired Thomas Webb he died in the sarvice before his time was out he was born and rais'd not far from wheare I was the Officers Name that I inlisted under was Opie Deavenport [sic: Obadiah "Opie" Davenport] a lieutennant he Resind and left the Regment after some time. the Captain that I was put under name Wallar, I think Edward Wallar [sic: Edmund Waller] Our Curnals name was Morebee or Morebile [sic: Nicholas George Moeballe] the first Curnal that commanded that Rigment he Resin'd he left the Barrocks and put up in town I was a sargent in that Rigment I mounted guard in town as sarjent of the guard he Curnal Morbee sent for me. I went he gave me a large seel'd letter directed to Patrick Henrey governear [sic: Gov. Patrick Henry]. he told me to carry it to the pallace to him and deliver it out of my own hand which I did I alway's thought it was his Resignaton [see endnote] – then Capt. Wallar became a magor and was Comander of the Regment (4) it was with his consent that I got the man in my place it was him that gave me my discharge some time in February 1779 – But aboute this time Clo. Porterfield [Col. Charles Porterfield] came and had the comand of the Rigment [*]d some time after march'd them to south Carlina and had a battle at Camdon [sic: Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] and got his thigh broke and it kild him as I was told by my old comrdes when they came home. I think I must a been nineteen or [*]twenty when I inlisted in this Rigment

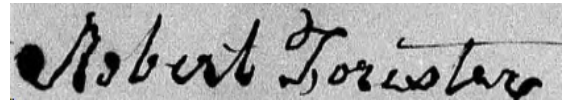
The next service I was in was at the siege of Wallace at little York [sic: Cornwallis at Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] upon york River tho I was on the gloster [sic: Gloucester] side but it was all in sight we had some fight before we got them pend up I went as a Vollenteare and joind Capt. sisen's [sic: George Sisson's] compaeney a brave Old man who commanded a Company thier from our County – [*] Countys we march'd through to Williamsburg and york was lankester on the East side of the Rapahanok and on the south and west side was Essex Middlesix [sic: Middlesex] and Gloster I think I sarv'd in all over two years and perhaps over three I think so

(A)



State of Tennessee } On this 26th day of August, 1833 Personally appeared before the
 McMinn County } undersigned, a justice of the peace in and for the County & State above
 stated, Robert Forrester, who, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age and the
 consequent loss of memory, he cannot 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: For one year and three months, I served as a Sergeant, in the minute service. I was in the minute service, I think about 2 years, as I entered it in 1776 – the month and day I cannot recollect – and was discharged from it, as I think, in the early part of 1778. I was in actual service a good deal over half this time, and I set down the length of my actual service at 15 months, as I know I served that long. I omitted through neglect to mention in my statement appended to and taken as part of my declaration, that I served in the grade of Sergeant in this minute regiment, and now make this statement as an amendment. – For nine months I served as a Sergeant in the Virginia State Troops: – For three months I served as a Sergeant and volunteer, in Captain Sisen's Company, Regiment not recollected – at the siege of Yorktown; and for such services I claim a pension.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert Forester". The ink is dark and the background is a light, textured surface, possibly a document or parchment.

NOTE: Forester may have served in the Virginia Garrison Regiment later than stated. Col. Moeballe resigned in Aug 1779 and was succeeded by Porterfield on 14 Aug 1779.