

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Vachal [Vachel] Light¹ S1551

f11VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/3/13

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Sullivan County: Declaration in order to be placed on the Pens lat [sic, Pension List]

On this __ day of September 1833 personally appeared before the Honorable the Circuit Court of Law & Equity in & for the County & State aforesaid Vachel Light a citizen of said County aged seventy years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions of the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832. That he entered into the service of the United States & served under the following named officers in the Revolutionary war as follows to wit. He was born in Halifax [Halifax] County Virginia and there resided when the Revolutionary war broke out, and in the year 1780 in the militia of said state of Virginia volunteered for a three months tour of duty under Captain Cobb rendezvoused at Staunton Virginia, marched to Petersburg, thence to Norfolk, & thence joined the main Army under Ge [sic, General] Muhlenburgh [Peter Muhlenberg] & continued until the expiration of his three months at Norfolk & was there discharged by Captain Cobb but which discharge in the lapse of time he has lost.

Again in the year aforesaid (1780) he in the militia of Virginia he substituted for one William Hodge a drafted militia man & enrolled himself under Captain Joshua Powel [Joshua Powell] marched to Norfolk by the way of Petersburg & there his Captain died & he was transferred to another officer whose name he has forgotten but was marched to the Fort above Norfolk of which the British had possessed themselves & had frequent attacks from the British there served out his term of enrollment and obtained a discharge from the Captain to whom he had been transferred on the death of Captain Powel which discharge he has also lost in which two tours he served six months in the Revolutionary Army & for which he claims to be pensioned. That he has no record of his age, but was born as informed by his parents in the year 1763, that his name is not on the roll of the agency of any state nor has he any record evidence or documentary proof of his service nor living proof of actual service, but that John Peoples Esquire & __ all persons known to him & he to them & by whom he can establish his Reputation to have been a soldier. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present. That there is no minister of the Gospel in his vicinity by whom he can prove the reputation of se [sic, service?]

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this day of September 1833

S/ Vachel Light, X his mark

¹ This veteran's name is spelled "Vachel Light" throughout all the documents in this file, but the War Department indexed it under the name "Vachal Light."

[John Peoples & John Vincent gave the standard supporting affidavit on the 24th of September 1833]

State of Tennessee Washington County: On this 4th November 1836 personally appeared Vachel Light before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for said County & made oath that he is the identical Vachel Light named in an original certificate of pension paid him 16 October 1833 at the rate of \$20 per annum, that he has failed to attend & draw his pension for the last 2 years, from inability to attend at the distance at which he resides from the agency (being afflicted with Rheumatism) that the same is still due him but the agent refuses payment without official instructions which he prays may be given him.

S/ Vachel Light, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]