

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob Custard S16093 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

The State of Ohio } Ss. Court of common Pleas
Perry County } November Term A.D. 1832

On the ninth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, Personally appeared in open court before the Judges of said court now sitting at the court house in Somerset in said County Jacob Custerd a resident of Jackson Township in the same County and State, aged eighty two years in February A.D. 1832, 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 entitled "an act supplementary to the act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution" approved 7th June A.D. 1832, viz. That he was draughted into the service of the United States into the Company of Captain John Riddle [see endnote] some time about the spring of the year 1775 at Rockingham County [sic: formed from Augusta County in 1778] in the State of Virginia, where he then resided for the term of six months that he was marched with Captain Riddles company during the months of April and May to Boston that he was present in the battle of Bunker hill [17 Jun 1775; see endnote] and that on the expiration of the said six months he returned to said Rockingham County in Virginia, and he further states that some time about the month of June 1776 or 1777 he cannot with certainty state which of those years [see endnote] he enlisted as a regular soldier in the army of the United States under Captain John Craven, at Rockingham in Virginia, and marched in said Captain Cravens company soon thereafter on an expedition against the indians, Crossed the Ohio at the mouth of Big Beaver [present Beaver PA] and advanced somewhat near an hundred miles into what is now the state of Ohio, and was stationed for a considerable time on the waters of Tuscarawas and White woman creeks, the sources of the muskingum river, Colonel Nevil commanded our troops in this expedition, [see endnote] this expedition lasted seven months which time this applicant served and then returned with his company to his residence in Rockingham county in Virginia and by reason of the extreme sickness of his wife he was forced to hire a substitute to serve the balance of his term of enlistment by the name of John Smith, and gave said Smith sixty dollars to substitute for him. This applicant further states that during & between the times of his services in the Boston campaign before mentioned and his expedition against the indians in Ohio as before stated he was draughted in the militia of Virginia at Rockingham aforesaid, under Captain Coonrod Humble [sic: Conrad Humble] for the term of three months and that he marched in said company into the Greenbriar [sic: Greenbrier] county in Virginia against the hostile indians which was a tedious and dangerous service that he served out the last mentioned three months tour and was discharged, making in the whole a period of sixteen months service. This applicant well recollect of seeing General [Israel] Putnam in the Boston campaign, General or Colonel McIntosh [Gen. Lachlan McIntosh] in the indian expedition to Ohio, and Colonel or General Brown in the expedition into the Greenbriar country. This declarant never held a commission or received a written discharge and he has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his said services and he knows of no survivor by whom his said services may be proven and whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service – He Hereby relinquishes every claim what ever 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. Jacob hisJmark Custard

Somerset, Perry County, Ohio/ 30th of July 1833

Honored Sir. It is perceived by the decision made in the case of my application for a pension that an objection is made to an allowance of 7 months of time which I served in 1776 or 7 under Captain Craven I am sorry that it is so, but I must abide the decision, as I I know of no persons living at this time by whom

I can prove that service. I will therefore relinquish so much of my claim as relates to the seven months under captain Craven in the regular army and ask a pension Certificate to be issued for the two tours which I served in the Virginia militia. Please to forward the certificate to the Honorable Mr. Ewing Senator in Congress at Lancaster in Ohio. I am very poor & destitute of the means of living and far from my connections & relatives and shall be happy in obtaining even a part of what, if I were not so unfortunate as to proff I should have a right to claim. Very respectfully I am your most obedient humble
Servant

Jacob hisJmark Custard

Witnesses present/ J. B. Orton/ John Beckwith

NOTES:

I could find no record of a Captain John Riddle. There was a Lt. John Ruddle of the Rockingham County Militia, but he was not a Captain until 1782.

I could find no record of Virginia troops at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

The tour said to have begun in June 1776 or 1777 probably began in 1778. I could not find a Capt. John Craven in the regular army, but there was a Capt. Robert Craven of the Augusta County Militia who led a company to Fort McIntosh at present Beaver PA. From there some of the troops left in Nov 1778 to construct Fort Laurens on Tuscarawas River near present Bolivar OH. "Colonel Nevil" probably refers to Col. John Nevill, who was not present on the expedition.

A document in the file states that Custard died on 17 Aug 1833.