

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Charles Allen S16597

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia to wit

On this 23rd day of October 1832 Personally appeared before the Court of Halifax County now sitting, Charles Allen a resident of the said County and State aforesaid, aged sixty eight 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 as a volunteer, some time in the year 1779 being then in his 15th year, and was appointed orderly Sergeant in a Company of Militia under the command of Capt Richard Allen [pension application R138]; they marched from the County of Cumberland across James River through the Count of Goochland Bartholomew Dandrighes where we were stationed for some time and at that place we were attached to a Regiment commanded by Colo Henry Skipwith and Majr Duvall the main Army under the command of Barron Stuban [sic: Gen. Baron von Steuben; see endnote], we marched from that place to Morben Hill [sic: Malvern Hill 15 mi SE of Richmond] and was stationed there for some time but frequently marched out into the surrounding Country and then back again until our term of service expired being six months, we were discharged by a General Order and no written discharge was given to me. I have no documentary evidence but the service rendered is proved by Jacob Anderson [pension application W2428] who was a soldier with me at that time. I again entered the service of the United States being drafted about the latter end of the same year (1779) and marched from the County of Cumberland under Captain Richard Allen through Goochland and Albemarle &c passed the said Morben Hill and joined the main army under the command of the same Barren Stuban in the County of Hanover or Henrico, and continued under his command marching in various directions, not being stationed long at any on place, until we were discharged by entire companies, and no written discharge was given to me; the whole of the time of service rendered on this tour was about seven months I have no documentary evidence but the service rendered on this tour is proved by Jacob Anderson, and John Guthrey [S8642]. I acted on that tour as Orderly Sergeant the whole time.

I again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer some time in the year 1780 [sic] for six months, and rendezvous'd at Prince Edward Courthouse Virginia and was attached to Colo Benjamin O. Overstreets company of Militia and was stationed at that place about twenty days, when this Company with several other companies under the command of Maj'r John Oversteet, Colo John Holcombe & Genl. Robert Lawson marched from the said place through Cumberland County and joined Genl Stephen's [sic: Edward Stevens's] Army in the County of Henrico and was stationed near the long bridge over Chickahominy where we staid for 5 or 6 weeks, then marched down to Jamestown, from thence we marched in various directions not being stationed long at any one place until we arrived near Cabin Point [on James River in Surry County] where we were discharged I acted on this tour about one month as a private and acted as a Lieutenant five months. I received a Commission as Lieutenant which was signed by Patrick Henry who was then the Governor of Virginia [sic: July 1776 - June 1779], that Commission is lost or mislaid and cannot be found, my discharge is also lost or mislaid and cannot be found, my discharge is also lost. The whole time of service rendered on this tour was six or seven months I again entered the service of the united States about the last of August 1781 as a substitute for Joseph Coleman and marched from Cumberland County in a Company commanded by Capt Richard Allen direct through Powhattan [sic: Powhatan] Chesterfield & Prince George to Little york and was attached to Colo Henry Skipwith's Regiment and was stationed at that place engaged in throwing up entrenchments &c until Lord Cornwallis surrendered himself and army to Genl. George Washington on the 19th day of October 1781 when I was discharged by Colo Holt Richardson. my discharge is lost or mislaid and cannot be

found. I have no documentary evidence but the service rendered on this tour is proved by Jacob Anderson who was a soldier with me at the same place. I saw at that place Genl. Washington, Lafayette, Stephens &c. the whole of the service rendered in the Revolutionary War by me, was upwards of two years. I was born in the year 1764 in the County of Cumberland in the State of Virginia, the record of my age is in a family Bible now in my possession. I lived in the County of Cumberland when I entered the Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War. I lived in the County of Cumberland seven years after the War ended then moved to the County of Halifax Va. and have lived in that County ever since. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State

Charles Allen

State of Virginia

Halifax County to wit

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid Charles Allen 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 day or month when he entered the Service of the Revolution, nor as to the precise length of his Service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, for 1 year and 1 month I served as a Sergeant, for Five months I served as a Lieutenant, and for six months I served as a private and for such Service I claim a pension, that the troops to which he was attached, and with whom he served were regularly embodied, and called into service by competent authority, that he was either in the field or in Camp, and for the time during which he served, he was not employed in any civil pursuit.

Given under my hand this 25 day of June 1833

Jno

Sims

I do hereby Certify that I have propounded the Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department to Charles Allen who is an applicant for a pension under the act of June 7th 1832 and that his answers to the 1st 2nd and 3rd Questions are annexed to his declaration before the Court of Halifax County on the 23rd day October 1832, and that his answer to the other Ques as as follows (to wit)

4th. I entered the service, first as a Volunteer, 2nd I was dra[fted] 3rd I Volunteered and Last I was a substitute for Jos Coleman

5th The names of the Officers the Regiment and General circumstances of Service are all stated [words missing] declaration

I was discharged twice by a Gen'l. Order and did not receive written discharges. I was discharged from the service in the year 1780 by an entire Company – I Rec'd. a written discharge from Colo Holt Richardson in 1781 which is lost

6th I Received a Commission signed by Patrick Henry in the year 1780 which is lost or mislaid and cannot be found

7th Captain John Simms Robert Crute & William Childress can testify as to my Veracity, and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution

[signed] Charles Allen

NOTES:

Baron von Steuben did not arrive in Virginia until Nov 1780 and then only as an aide.

Jacob Fariss (pension application S8453), John Guthrey, and Jacob Anderson deposed that they had served with Charles Allen.

On 26 Apr 1853 David Allen, 85, applied for a pension for the services of his father, Richard Allen, including the following statement: "... for proof of the Services of the said Capt Richard Allen he refers the honorable department to the evidence herewith exhibited & to the declaration of Charles Allen a son of the said Richard Allen and brother of this deponent filed about the year 1833... the said Charles Allen as will be seen by his declaration served several tours under the Command of the said Richard

Allen in the Revolutionary war the said Charles Allen is now dead....”