

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Enoch Breedon S1747

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }
County of Spotsylvania to wit. } On this 1st day of October 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the County Court of Spotsylvania, in the State aforesaid, now sitting, Enoch Breedon, a resident of the said County, aged seventy three years and eight months, 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 was born in Maryland in the month of January 1759 and is now in his 74th year. That his Father removed himself and his family to Virginia when this affiant was about seven years of age. That he enlisted in Charles City County, when the revolutionary war commenced. That his father having entered the Continental army at the beginning of the War, (from which he never returned,) this affiant and his mother, removed to King William County, where two of his brothers resided. That he entered the Virginia Militia, in King William County in the summer of 1776, (having been drafted, and served a three months tour of duty. In this tour of service he was in Captain Mordecai Abrahams Company, and the regiment to which his company was attached, was as well as this affiant recollects commanded by Colonel Ennis. That he was marched to Hampton where his company remained until the end of the tour; this affiant having in consequence of the ague & fever, been permitted to return home a few days before. That he served several other short tours of duty, as a volunteer, and as the substitute of his brothers Moody & Caleb Breedon, who had families, and who had to take care of this affiants mother. The circumstances under which these tours were performed were these - King William County, in which he lived, lies in Tide Water, and was frequently liable to the depredation of the enemy while their ships were in York river - their frequent landings caused much alarm, and the militia were frequently ordered out, to resist & repel them. In these short tours he was under the Command of Colonel Hickman, and of Captains Mordecai Abrahams, Christopher Tompkins, Mordecai Booth and Harry Quarles. This kind of militia service was performed by him at Intervals as required until January 1781. In that month he was drafted into service, and remained in the service, performing his own tour and as the substitute of his two brothers until the latter end of October in that year. In this service Captain Drury [sic: John Drewry] was his first Captain, Captain Booth commanded him part of the time, and Captain Abrahams the latter part of the service. The first regiment to which his Company was attached was commanded by Colonel Charles Dabney. In this tour, the regiment joined General [Edward] Stevens command, at four mile Creek in Henrico County and from there the troops retreated from the British, through Hanover, and Spotsylvania Counties into Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County, crossing the Rappahannock at Elys ford [sic: Rapidan River at Eleys Ford, 4 Jun 1781] The whole under the Command of General Lafayette - a short time after [6 Jun] they recrossed the river at Racoon ford into Orange County, and marched to Pogues mill in Orange County where they joined the regular Army, and where General Wayne joined them with three Regiments and some artillery [Anthony Wayne at North Anna River, 10 Jun]. From that point they marched up the Marquisses new road [Marquis Road], clearing it as they went along to Machunk Creek in the lower end of Albemarle [sic: Mechunk Creek near Boyds Tavern], (the force was then considered strong enough to meet the enemy - and they were marched down the three chopped road [Three Chopt Road, parallel to present I-64] towards richmond; while on this road they were joined by Baron Steuben with some troops - and they were marched into the lower end of Hanover - they were encamped for some time at Simms Neck on Pamunkey, where the river makes a bend, like a Horse shoe - and were from there marched down the Country through New Kent to near Jamestown - from the encampment here, this affiant was detached to carry a parcel of broken down horses to King William County and on his return to the army in four days, he found that there had been a engagement with the enemy in which they had the advantage of the American Army [Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul] - a detachment of about six hundred men under the command of Majors Campbell and Cary and of Colonel Ennis, was ordered to the north side

of York river — This affiant was in Major Campbells battalion — They crossed York river at White house ferry, in the month of August as well as this affiant recollects, where they joined General [George] Weedon's army. They were then marched down to Ware Church [near Gloucester] in Gloucester County where they were joined by the French Horse under Duke Lauzan [sic: Duc de Lauzun] — Those troopers all wore large mustachios on their upper lip, and very large whiskers. — lower down they were joined by a large body of French Infantry - At Seawells [Seawell's Ordinary at present Ordinary], near Gloucester town, the Duke Lauzens horse, who were in advance, had a skirmish with the enemys horse, and beat them back to their entrenchments — This affiants regiment was not in the engagement, but was encamped on the battle ground immediately after, where it remained with the army blocking the british who were in Gloucester town untill their surrender. A few days before that event, the three King William militia Companies (to one of which this affiant belonged,) were sent up to their own County, where they remained untill their discharge immediately after the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct] - after that event this affiant, with the other militia, was permitted to return home, without any written discharge — that a few years after the war this affiant removed to Spotsylvania County, where he has resided for forty five years and where he now resides - that he has no documentary evidence of his services - that he knows of no person alive whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services except Ptolemy Powell of the said County, whose affidavit is herewith annexed —

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.

[signed] Enoch Breeden

County of Spotsylvania to wit

On this 1st day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Spotsylvania now sitting Ptolemy Powell a resident of the said County who being first duly sworn according to law, deposes & sayeth - that Just before the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown in 1781 - this deponent being then about 14 years of age & a resident of King William County having a brother in the militia of that County then in service on the Gloucester side of York river went down to see his brother, & his brother wishing to see his family the Captain, whose name was Abrahams agreed to receive this deponent as a substitute for his brother untill his return — the deponent remained a fortnight & was in the same mess with Enoch Breeden who was in service in the same company — a Major Campbell commanded the battalion.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year afsd

[signed] Ptolemy Powell

NOTE: On 20 Apr 1835 Breeden applied to transfer his pension to Tennessee, where he intended to move "for the welfare & benefit of his children, one of whom is at present residing there & four others are removing with me." He settled near Winchester in Franklin County TN and died 28 Aug 1841.