

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Holman (Holeman)¹ S17496

f51VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/14/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Indiana Wayne County: SS

On this 12th day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the honorable Nathan Smith Judge of the Wayne Probate [court] now sitting at the November term thereof George Holeman a resident of the County of Wayne and State aforesaid aged seventy-one years or thereabouts, 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 under the following circumstances and under the following named officers, and served as herein after mentioned and described. I was born in this State of Maryland in the year 1761 or 2 where I lived until the year 1774, went to the best of my recollection, Edward Holeman and family with Richard Rue and myself removed from that state to the County of Monongahela in the State of Pennsylvania. Afterwards early in the spring of the year 1776 the said Edward Holeman with myself and the said Richard Rue descended the Ohio River and settled at the mouth of Kentucky River which surrounding Country was then a territory and a savage wilderness. We planted a small piece of corn at the mouth of said River in a field which had been cleared by one Robert Elliott, who had before that time abandoned the Country in consequence of the hostilities of the Indians, who had killed one man and took two boys prisoners, but a short time before, and carried them to their towns on the Kentucky River near where Frankfurt is now situated. The prospects looked dangerous on account of which we shortly afterwards removed to McClenan's Station near the spot where George Town now is situated. We tarried there but a short time: and late in the summer or early in the fall of the same year, we went to Herodsburgh [Harrodsburg] where we resided until the last of February or the 1st of March 1777. Near or about the 1st of March 1777 when James Ray with William Ray his brother and two hired man Thomas Shores and William Cooms were boiling sugar water and making some improvements for Hugh, since Colonel Hugh McGary [Hugh McGary] at Shawnee Springs about four miles from Harrisburg a large party of Indians fell in upon them and killed William Ray and took Thomas shores prisoner. James Ray since General Ray escaped and apprised the people at the station of their Danger. On the next day the Fort was besieged by the Indians and ^{a severe battle was fought in which several were wounded} all the men capable of bearing [arms] or doing militia duty were formed into a company under the command of George Rogers Clark then commissioned Major and since General Clark. James Herod [James Harrod] since Colonel Herod was a Captain Levi Todd Lieutenant Francis McConnell Ensign and Edward Holeman 1st Sergeant. We defended ourselves from the hostile foe, and no one as I recollect was killed, but several were wounded among which number were Colonel McGary and John Guess. Shortly

¹ BLWt26265-160-55

after this time and during the same summer the Indians attacked there [?] Asbury fort and a severe fought battle ensued in which I was engaged. In this battle Francis McConnell our Ensign was killed and many wounded and other mischief done. In this engagement Major Clark commanded assisted by Captain James Herod and Lieutenant Levi Todd since General Todd and Francis McConnell who fell as above stated. Our company went under the name of Herod's Company. This station was situated on the waters of Salt River and the place where Harrisburg now stands the capital of Mercer County Kentucky. Thus I continued sometimes standing as guard, sometimes out on a scouting parties, and at other times out hunting in order to procure meat for the Garrison until in the spring of 1779 when the Indians withdrew their hostilities from this Garrison.

In the month of February 1781, I, Richard Rue and Evan Hinton and under commissary were all taken prisoners, while on our way from to Boone's old station. We were engaged in conveying empty Barrels from the Louisville to Boone's old station, to salt meat or beef and for the troops, – We remained in captivity three years and upwards during which time Hinton was killed by the Indians and we made our escape after hostilities were somewhat subdued.

In 1787 I went under the command of General Clark against the Indians the Monsees [Munsee?] and Peaukishaws [?]² up the Wabash River. In this expedition we passed the Opost [outpost?] now called Vincennes and relieved the inhabitants in that vicinity and so I returned –

I have no documentary evidence whatever of my services as aforesaid and know of no person except the said Richard Rue, who can testify to my services as aforesaid –

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 –

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid before me

S/ Samuel Hannah, Clerk

S/ George Holman



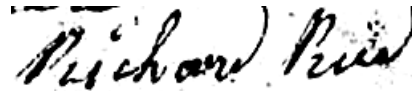
State of Indiana Wayne County: SS

Be it remembered that on the day and year aforesaid came personally in open Court Richard Rue³ a resident of the County of Wayne and State of Indiana who being first duly sworn doth on his oath say that he has been acquainted with the said George Holeman for nearly forty years and that he believes and knows from his own personal knowledge that the said George Holeman entered the United States service and served as herein before set forth in his declaration, and says that the said declaration is true in substance and relation [?].

Signed and sworn to on the day and year aforesaid before me

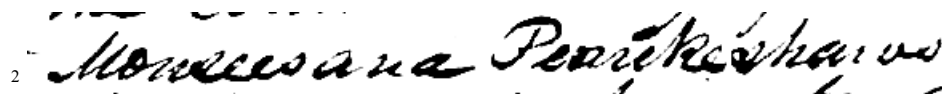
S/ Samuel Hannah, Clerk

S/ Richard Rue



[Isaac Cotton, a clergyman, and Thomas McCoy gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born. Answer. I was born in Kent County in the State of Maryland the time I do not know, but believes from the best information I have been



² ³ [Richard Rue S17064](#)

able to collect that I was born in the year 1761.

Question 2nd. Have you any record of your age. Answer. I have not. I was an orphan boy and never saw a record of my age.

Question 3rd – Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary war, and where do you now live? Answer. When called into service I lived at Harrodsburg in the State of Kentucky. I continued to reside in Kentucky until the year 1805 when I removed to the State of Indiana, where I have lived ever since and where I now live.

Question 4th. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute? Answer. I served always a volunteer.

Question 5th State the names of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your Service. Answer. General G. R. Clark was the commanding Officer in most of the Campaigns in which I served. Colonel Bowman commanded in the year 1779. My services were against the Indians in the State of Kentucky. [Indecipherable word written over and obliterated] the what then was called the North Western Territory.

Question 6th Did you ever receive a discharge. Answer. I did not. I was taken prisoner by the Indians and kept by them 3 years.

Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier of the revolution – Answer. Isaac Cotton, Thomas McCoy and John Whitehead Esquire the present Sheriff of the County have been acquainted with me for many years past.

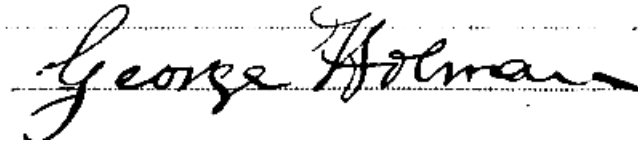
[f p. 19]

State of Indiana Wayne County: SS:

Be it remembered that on the 14th day of February 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for said County of Wayne Indiana George Holman 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 service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. To wit for two years viz. From March 1777 until March 1779, I served as a private and a volunteer in the Company commanded by Captain Herod making two-year service: In 1781 this deponent with others volunteered their services to go from Boones old Station to Louisville to bring empty barrels to salt meat in and on our return were taken prisoners by the Indians, and this deponent was detained prisoner with them for three years during all which time this deponent considers himself as being in the service of his country as a private soldier. This deponent further states that after obtaining his release from the Indians he volunteered his services as a private in a company of Horse commanded by Captain Morrison, Ensign Jacob Sipes and went with a detachment of troops against the Indians on the Wabash River. Said detachment being commanded by General G. R. Clark, and served a tour of 3 months or thereabouts and for such service I claim a pension.

S/ George Holman

[f p. 10: On April 13, 1855 in Wayne County Indiana, the veteran, giving his age as 90 years, filed for his bounty land entitlement under the 1855 Act.



. This application was witnessed by Charles O. Wiggins and Richard Rue residence of Wayne County Indiana.]

[f p. 17]

Richmond Wayne County Indiana March 17th 1856

Dear Sir

George Holman an old Revolutionary pensioner of this County, has applied for his land warrant which is refused, for some cause, Please have the matter examined at the proper Department, If there is no law providing for the Revolutionary Soldiers, there should certainly be one passed, for their benefit, they having served almost half a lifetime in oppression & hard Service, When others in all other wars, for 14 days and upwards can get a Warrant under circumstances much more favorable.

George Coleman in 1781 (then the land about 19 years old under his Uncle Edward Holman) lived at Boones Station in Kentucky. He and Richard Rue were sent as guard for Evin Hinton in the month of February who was employed as an under Commissary to kill & salt Buffalo meat for Colonel Slaughter's Army where little Kentucky, and when marching from one point to the other with a wagon, they were all taken prisoner by the Indians. Simon Girty with the party of Indians, They killed Hinton after they arrived at the Indian Towns. They sold Rue to the British at Detroit, and Captain Holman as an Indian adopted him in the family of Logan, Rue & Holman being released return home 3 1/2 years after they were taken. Soon after the Indian troubles began again, when General Clark gathered a force & marched to Vincennes and retook that post, and then marched northward Within the Territory of Illinois until their provisions gave out, Then Colonel Barnett's Regiment fired their guns & returned for home left General Clark, Colonel Todd, and Captain Morris or Morrison, the latter commanded the light horsemen of whom George Coleman was one, a Volunteer, found his own horse & other equippage; At the retreat of Colonel Barnett's Regiment, a Council was held, the result was that they all returned for home, each were allowed to make their way home as best they could, without provision, Holman, lived alone on parched corn & meal until he arrived at General Wells Station in Kentucky.

From the year 1776 He lived in Kentucky in a garrison and when he could on a farm until he was taken prisoner; When released in 1784, He served occasionally through all the Troubles of the Country until all the war was over.

Rue & Holman by settlement was entitled to a Town lot in the heart of Louisville as it now is in Kentucky; their absence as prisoners, and the records being burnt, they lost them.

Their services under General Clark entitled them to their Shares in Clark's Grant, but owing to their absence as prisoners and shore [sure?] by a want of knowledge, as to what was going known in reference to that matter, they were shut out; equal justice would give them their proportionate share in cash, or in the lands of the Government, equal to the present value of those lands now; without their improvements, neither of them have asked the Government for any Special favor: When the law passed allowing them, with other pensioners, they applied, & procured a small sum, say \$80 per annum each; They moved from Kentucky in 1805 near Richmond in Wayne County Indiana; and then in the War of 1812, they were on the frontier, & greatly harassed, were scouting as spies and marching to the Delaware Towns, on White River,

under my son Captain William Holman & Colonel George Hunt who marched a volunteer Company into the Indian Country, And were more than 14 days in that employ at that time, have not received any Warrant or any other Compensation therefore.

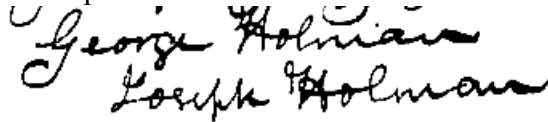
Please so arrange the whole matter, in such a manner as that equal justice may be done for the foregoing Revolutionary Soldiers that they may have their proper dues, as others; and by so doing you will confer a great favor on the undersigned.

Should it be found necessary to employ an attorney to aid you, owing to your quantity of business do so by paying him out of the proceeds recovered or obtained & pay according to the work done; Say paid well. We have written to Holloway & English

Very Respectfully your friends

S/ George Holman

S/ Joseph Holman

The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The top signature is 'George Holman' and the bottom signature is 'Joseph Holman'. Both signatures are written in a fluid, connected style.

[The above letter was addressed to Hon Jesse D. Bright, U. S. Senator, Washington City.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia militia.]