

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Ryan S18584

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia } SS

County of Randolph }

On this 22^d day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Randolph County now setting John Ryan, a resident of the said County of Randolph and State of Virginia aged seventy three 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 under the following named Officers and served as herein stated. That in the month of August in the year 1778 or 1779 he can not say with certainty which year but his impression is that it was in 1779 [sic] on Patterson's [Patterson] creek a branch of the Potomac in the County of Hampshire in the State of Virginia he entered the service as a volunteer in a company commanded by Captain Abraham Johnson and marched under him to fort McIntosh near the mouth of Bigg Beaver on the Ohio [on Beaver River at present Beaver PA]. Soon after he reached McIntosh's fort it was thought proper that some of the troops should advance further into the enemy Country (the Indians) he volunteered under Captain Josiah Swearingen for this expedition and was marched to the Tuskarawawas River and aided in the building fort Laurens [Fort Laurens on Tuscarawas River, completed Jan 1779] remained at fort Laurens about three months while there the fort was commanded by Col. [John] Gibson. Genl. [Lachlan] McIntosh was also in the fort, he also thinks that an officer by the name of Broadhead [sic: Col. Daniel Brodhead] was there but his rank is not recollected Col. [Benjamin] Harrison of Rockingham County Virginia and Col. Morrow of Berkely County [John Morrow of Berkeley County] Virginia were also there. while at fort Laurens a considerable number of Indians appeared near the fort and remained some time a treaty with them was mutch talked of but does not recollect whether a treaty was concluded or not. from fort Laurens he was marched back to fort McIntosh and about the 1st of February he thinks 1780 [sic] was discharged and reached home about the 1st of March having been gone from six to seven months his discharge he has lost. In May 1781 he again entered the service as a volunteer under Capt. Daniel Richison [sic: Daniel Richardson] and was marched from Pattersons creek in Hampshire County Virginia to the South branch of the Potomac from thence to the head of the Cowpaster and Jacksons Rivers [sic: Cowpasture and Jackson rivers] from thence was marched to the vally of the Shenandoah River passing the North & Cassin Rivers [possibly North Fork of the South Branch of Potomac River and the Cacopon River] after the deserters and tories and continued in this service until after the Surrender of Lord Cornwallis at the Siege of York [19 Oct 1781] during this service had a skirmish with the tories at Abraham Brakes on the South fork of Potomac [probably Abraham Brake's, pension application R1147, near Moorefield] took many of them prisoners some were discharged others taken to Winchester Virginia and some of the deserters were sent to the troops to which they belonged he continued in this service until after peace was concluded but how long can not be certain but thinks he was in the last mentioned service upwards of six month. was discharged by his Cap. but has lost his discharge. his entire service during the revolutionary war was about 12 or 13 months according to his present recollection. he has no documentary evidence neither does he know of any person who can testify to his services. To the 1st question directed to be propounded by the regulation of the war Department, he states that he was born in Hampshire County in the State of Virginia in the year 1759. to the 2^d. question, He answers that he has no record of his age. To the 3^d. question, He states that he was living on Patterson's Creek in the County of Hampshire Virginia when called into the service. I continued for some time after the revolutionary war to live on Patterson's Creek from thence I removed to Randolph County Virginia where I have ever since continued to reside and still reside. To the 4th question he states that he volunteered into the service. To the 5th question He refers to what he has before disclosed in his declaration being unable to give further particulars. To the 6th question he states that he did receive two discharges one was

given by Capt. Swearingen and the the other by Capt. Richeson but both have been lost. To the 7th question he states that he is known to Thomas OWilliams and Ely Butcher ___ in his present neighborhood who can testify to his character for verasity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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] John Ryan

[The following report is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from present West Virginia. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth. On Ryan's report Singleton wrote "Entitled."]

John Ryan draws \$41.66 -

on the 1st November 1834 Ryan made the following statement of his age & revolutionary services to Wit, born in Hampshire County in 1759 & lived there at the commencement of the war.

Sometime during the Revo. War, but cant tell in what year, he volunteered in Hampshire Cty. under Capt Johnson, who raised a part of a Company there & marched under Capt. Johnson to Fort McIntosh at the mouth of Big Beaver, went out the Braddock road by Red Stone old Fort [at present Brownsville PA]. Capt. Harriss Wiggins & Cunningham also went out from same place at same time. after getting to Fort McIntosh Capt. Johnson was discharged and went home - he was then placed under Capt Swarengin Leut. Neale Ensign Harrington - under the above officers he went to Tuscarahwa and aided in building Fort Laurence - returned to McIntoshs Fort and was discharged haveing been in service six months & 15 days and drew pay for that length of time - returned home — In the Spring before Cornwallis surrendered - he again volunteered under Capt Daniel Richardson, John Reynolds Lieut. & Jacob Randle [sic: Jacob Randall W5666] Ensign - who raised a company of Light horse on the South branch of 75 men - and Rendezvoused at Morefield Va. he was in service in that region of country keeping the Tories under, was three times at Winchester guarding Prissoners taken there. was in actual service all summer, was but ten days at home and then got a permit & went for clothes. was not discharged until after the surrender of Cornwallis having been in service six months and a few days, but drew pay for six months only - got his discharge which is lost — he gave Col. G. D. Camden the same statement in substance he here gives - Camden wrote his Declaration

John Ryan

Witness Nathan Goff [Pension Agent at Clarksburg]

Adam Cee Esqr. of Ran'd Cty. a gentleman of character says that he knows that Jno. Ryan was a soldier in the Revo' War and believes he done all the service herein above detailed by him. Ryan is truthful man.

A Copy. W. G Singleton Nov. 26, 1834

NOTE: On 24 Nov 1835 Adam See deposed that John Ryan had served with See's brother in Capt. Richardson's company.