

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Isaac Roberts S19453

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia Cabell County towit

On this [24th] day of [Sep 1833] before the county Court of Cabell County Isaac Roberts a resident of said county of cabell aged seventy three years who being first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benifit of the provision, made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

That on the [blank] day of [blank] he entered the service of the united as a private soldier and malitia man as a substitute for Thomas Roberts father of this applicant & served in the fourth Regiment commanded by Colonel [James] Lucas and Major [Nathaniel Garsden] Morris and in the company commanded by Capt. Binns Jones, that they marched from Mecklenburg Court house Virginia to near Cambden [sic: Camden] South Carolina where the American forces under General [Horatio] Gates and the english army had a battle in which battle the American forces were defeated; this applicant further states that during that Battle or just about its termination when the regiment to which he belonged had retreated some of the british soldiers called out to this applicant to surrender, & just at the moment a british officer came out of the smoke waving his sword, when this applicant fired at him & killed his horse and then broke and run & escaped

This applicant will here state for the information of the War department that he has here purposely left the precise date of his entering the service blank because he does not recollect the precise date of his entering but does here state that about the first of June 1780 he entered the service as above stated & thinks the battle of Camden was on the 16th day of August 1780; in this trip this applicant served three months and was discharged by Col. Ralph Fauquarar (or Faightner) [sic: Ralph Faulkner] by a paper that stated that we had served & were discharged, the Colonel advising us to keep together for fear of the tories.

This applicant further states that in the year 1780 in the month of January (but what day this applicant does not now recollect) he vollunteered as a private soldier to guard the magazine at Banks old store near Taylor's ferry on Roanoke in the State of Virginia, that he guarded said magazine or munitions of war for some time when they were transported toward the south and this applicant went with said munitions of war from the said store to Boyds ferry on Dan river at which place this applicant was discharged by a written discharge given by Major James Anderson what length of time this applicant served he cannot say because he does not recollect, but he well recollects that the discharge given by Major Anderson was for three months service; this discharge has been lost long since.

This applicant further states that in the month of August or September in the year 1781 he again entered in to the service of the united States as a private soldier (he being drafted) under the command of Colonel [Lewis] Burwell, in the company of Captain Elijah Graves, that they marched from Muklenburg [sic: Muhlenburg] county Virginia to Yorktown Virginia, that he remain'd in the service until after the Brittish Army surrendered to General Washington [19 Oct 1781] a short time after which event this applicant was discharged in this tour of duty he feels confident he must have served three months & that his discharge was signed by Capt. Graves.

This applicant further states that that in the month of February or March 1781 he again entered in to the service of the united states as a private soldier as a substitute for one Henry Snead in the regiment commanded by Col Robert Munford, in the company commanded by Captain Robert Smith, that he marched from Mecklenburg County Virginia into north carolina to Guildford [sic: Guilford] Court House, Hillsborough Ramsey's Mill, that he was not in the Battle at Guildford Courthouse [15 Mar 1781] tho he was in hearing on other duty. On this tour we served three months, was discharged by Col. or Major Holcombe [probably Maj. Philemon Holcombe], by directing us to stack our arms at Hillsborough & to go home.

[signed] Isaac Roberts

John Samuels CkCC

Interogatories put by the court to the declarant

1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Meclenburg County Virginia the 2^d. day of December 1760.

2nd. Have you any register of your age; & if so, where is it?

Answer. I had a register or the date of my birth given to me by my father but have lost it.

3^d. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war; & where do you now live.

Answer. I lived in the county of Meclenburg Virginia, when called into service, and since the close of the war I have lived in Meclenburg Kanawha & Cabell county Virginia. I now live in Cabell county Virginia, tho my house is on the county line between Kanawha & Cabell counties.

4th. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute, & if a substitute for whom?

Answer. In answer to this interrogatory, see the foregoing declaration.

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 the first tour I served was at Gates' defeat; there I was commanded by General Gates and General Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] Col. Lucas Major Morris & Capt. Binns Jones, the tour when near Guilford Battle I was under the command of General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], General [Robert] Lawson and Col. Munford. At the Siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] I was commanded by Gen'l. Washington Gen'l. Weeden [sic: George Weeden], Col. Lewis Burrell, & Capt. Elijah Graves.

6th. Did you ever receive a discharge & if so by whom was it given.

Answer I never did receive a discharge except for my service in moveing the magazine & that I have lost.

7th. State persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood who can testify to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. Major Davis Hudson, Jesse Hudson Esqr. Capt. John Morris Mr. Henry Morris, & Col. Thomas McCallister

[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.]

Isaac Roberts alledges on his Declaration to have served 1 year in the Va. Militia under Capt. Jones & Col. Lucas. So says the abstract. -

I the undersigned Isaac Roberts in pursuance of the requisition of the Secretary of War make the following re-declaration of my Revolutionary Services to wit -

I am a native of Mecklinburg Co. Va. was born Dec'r. 2, 1760. I moved from mecklinburg to Kahnawha county in 1805. I think it was in the year 1780. I substituted in the place of my father Thomas Roberts. marched from Mecklenburg Co. to Hillsborough under Capt. Ferrill, who left us at that place & returned home. Capt Jones was assigned to the command of my company. about 1500 men Rendezvoused at Hillsborough. Gen'l Stephens commanded the Militia. I belonged to the 4th Va. Regt. commanded by Col Lucas. my Batallion was commanded by Major Morris - Gen'l. Gates was commander in chief. He marched to Ruggles Mills there met the British army - an engagement ensued. the americans were defeated. after the Battle the american army retreated to Hillsborough and then about six miles above Gilford Court House to a place called New Garden quaker settlement. remained there some weeks. My term of 3 mos. expired and I was discharged at that place haveing been in actual service at least 3 mos. I will not be possitive as to the year in which this tour of service was done, but the date is fixed from the fact that I was in Gates defeat whilst in this service.

in the winter in the same year I think in December I was drafted for 3 mos. and was stationed at the Magazine at Taylors Ferry in Mecklinburg county. was under the command of Major [illegible] a regular officer whilst in this tour of service the Magazine was removed to a place called New Boston [sic: South Boston] on Dan river. I remained in service at the latter place until my tour expired was then discharged and sent home.

In the Spring of 1781. I substituted in the place of one or more lines evidently missing] Gen'l. Greens army at that place the day after the Battle was assigned to Col. Robert Munfords

Regt. Major Philip Holkens Batallein [sic]. the american army marched from Gilford to Deep river, from that place the Militia by the directions of Genl. Green were marched to Hillsborough, at that place my term expired I was discharged after being in actual service for 3 mo.

In the fall of the same year (1781) I was drafted again for 3 mo. marched from same county with Regt commanded by Col. Lewis Burwell, Elijah Green[?] was my Captain) to York town. on getting there our regt. was attached to Genl. Weedons Brigade which was stationed on the opposite side of the River from Yorktown and consequently was not brought into the action which resulted in the defeat of Cornwallis. after the Battle was over we were marched to Richmond and then kept in service until our times expired which we were discharged and returned home haveing been in actual service 3 mos. This ended my service. the substance of the statement here given is the same as given to Mr. Samuels also towit my Declaration - he charged me nothing

In witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name

August 25. 1835

Isaac hisXmark Roberts

Witness J. M. McComas a copy

W. G Singleton

note - this man sustains a good character in this county. W G Singleton

NOTE: According to a Treasury Department document, Rebecca Roberts, widow of Isaac Roberts, was given his last pension payment. A note on the pension certificate indicates that Isaac Roberts died 24 Mar 1838.