

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Peter Rouse S23880

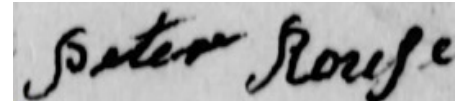
VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 July 2015.

United States of America

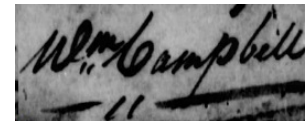
Western District of Pennsylvania Sct.

Be it remembered that on the fourth day of November Anno Domini eighteen hundred & eighteen, before me Jonathan H. Walker, Judge of the United States' Court for the said Western District, appeared Peter Rouse, a free man of colour, a resident of Bedford County & State aforesaid, aged fifty seven years, who by me being duly sworn, doth on his oath make the following declarations. That he enlisted in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy eight, in Dunwoddie [sic: Dinwiddie] County, Virginia, in the company commanded by Captain William Campbell [pension application W4149] in Colonel George Gibson's Regiment and served from the time he enlisted until the capture of York in Virginia and surrender of the forces under Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781], and was honourably discharged by Colonel Campbell – that the said discharge is since entirely defaced and worn out and the only evidence he has of his said service is contained in the certificate of Captain Wm. Campbell and Jo Nicholas, hereto annexed. That he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support.



Sir I do hereby certify that John Rouse is a freeman, that his parents & relations resided in this county. that I knew him in the capacity of a soldier in the regiment commanded by Colo George Gibson. Given under my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> April 1807 [signed] J Nicholas

I do certify that the bearer John Rouse was a soldier in the company of Regular troops of which I was Cap't in a Virginia Reg't. commanded by Colo. George Gibson, that he served faithfully to the end of the revolutionary war with great Britton, & supported the character of a good Soldier & an Honest man; that he & his parents also were born free. Given under my Hand in Orange County & State of Virg'a. this 15<sup>th</sup> Sept'r 1807

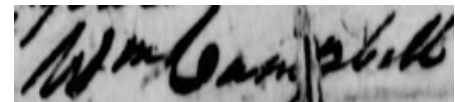


Orange Virg'a 8<sup>th</sup> July 1808

Sir [Peter Rouse], your letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> May has just come to hand; your papers was sent to Richmond soon after you left my House by one of our representatives but it was not untill winter that he could have the examination made to ascertain whither any money had been rec'd. for you & was lodged with the loan officer his report to me was that there was none & that your only plan must be by petition to the Virg'a Assembly, it is possible Lt. Ch's. Russell [Charles Russell R17603] who was pay master to the reg't. rec'd. it & kept it in his hands, as he was my 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. & commanded the few[?] men of the Comp'y while I com'd. Militia, I was at a loss what could be done for you & wrote you so soon as I could obtain the result of Mr. White's inquiry who had a power of attorney from me as your agent, by petition I think would be but a chance[?] as I tried that myself for arears due me, our Legislature never would give any thing, the law did not authorise & the act of limitation has long expired

My family all well, I wish you & yours health & Happiness

I am y'rs &c



State of Pennsylvania Ss  
County of Greene

Personally appeared Peter Rouse aged about 74 years, a resident for many years of said County, and late a resident of Bedford County Pennsylvania also late a resident of Orange County Virginia, and who is well known in this place, also to my own knowledge, to be a person of credibility and truth, and after being duly sworn according to law doth on his solemn oath declare, that he was a regular enlisted soldier in 1780, in the Regimt No first of the Virginia line commanded by Col. George Gibson, of Captain Wm Campbells company, also under other officers, particularly when said Capt. Campbell was call'd upon to command the militia, and also when said Capt. bore the rank of Major & Captain; and that he continued to serve in the said corps until the end of the said Revalutionary war, and that he is the same identical person set forth and mentiononed in the accompanying or said discharge given by his said Capt. Wm Campbell in Orang County Va 16<sup>th</sup> September 1807; and that he had long since made applications for a pension, also for Donation Land, but that all his said efforts has been without success; and that it is his most ardent wish & desire now to solicit the Honorable Senate & House of Representatives of the U. States for relief, as a poor man unable to support himself by manual labour, nor has he any means for his support, except by private or public charity. He further requests, that all communications in reply &c, be transmitted to Sam'l Sutton, (his agent) at Union town Pa. Peter hisXmark Rouse

Sworn and subscribed before me a Justice of the Peace in and for said County; given under my hand at Waynesburg the 22<sup>d</sup> day of June AD 1830 James Seals J.P.  
[The above petition is marked "Rejected."]

Greene County Pa

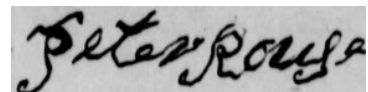
I do hereby certify that I well knew the within named Peter Rouse, late a soldier of the within named Captain Campbells company, also under Captain Dandridge of Colonel George Gibsons first Virginia Regiment, and that he the said Peter Rouse did well and truly serve, until the the end of the said Revolutionary war, and that I was a regular soldier of said line, also for during the war, and personally knew the said Peter Rouse during that whole period. given under my han at Wanesburg 22<sup>d</sup> June 1830  
John hisXmark McQuinn [John McQuinn S40141]

Greene County }  
State of Pennsylvania } SS

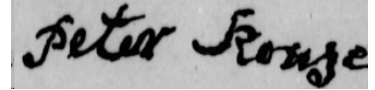
On this 8<sup>th</sup> day of Sept A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the court of common pleas for the county of Greene State of Pennsylvania now sitting Peter Rouse a Resident of Center Township county & state aforesaid, aged seventy one years the 22<sup>d</sup> day of December last, 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> day June 1832

That he Enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1778 in Captain William Campbell company and served in the 2<sup>d</sup> Regt. of the Virginia line under the following named officers.

That he Enlisted in the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy eight in Dunwiddie County Virginia in the company commanded by Captan William Cambell in Col George Gibsons Regt That he first Enlisted for eighteen months and served out this time, and immediately enlisted again during the war and served untill the capture of York in Virginia & surrender of the forces under Cornwallis and was honourably discharged by Col Campell [sic]. That the said discharge is since entirely defaced & distroyed. And the only evidence he now has of his services is contained in a certificate of Capt William Campell the same person who gave him his discharge. and the certificate of Jno Nichols, now on the files of the War department. That he enlisted the first time in Mar 1778. That his services were all performed in the state of Virginia. That all his documentary evidence he has is now at the war department. That the Revd Nicholas Hagar & the Revd John Fordyce & Jesse Lazer Esq will certify as to his reputation.



He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Rouse".

NOTES:

In the 1830 federal census of Greene County PA, Peter Rouse is enumerated as a "Free Colored Person." The letter by A. Stewart of Union Town PA dated 1 May 1833 states. "Tho' a yellow man yet if integrity of character, poverty & long serve can entitle any one to a pension this man ought to receive it."

The file contains an undated statement in support of Peter Rouse's character, signed by 29 of his neighbors.

On 8 May 1833 Peter Rouse was issued a certificate for a pension of \$80 per year for at least two years of service.