

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William A. Fry S30425

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky

Jessamine County Sct.

On this 15th day of September 1834 personally appeared in Open Court, before the justices of the Court of Jessamine County now sitting, William A Fry a resident of said County 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 some time in the month of January in the year 1781 he volunteered as a private in Capt. John Harris's Company of Malitia from Albemarle ordered into service in Consequence of [Gen. Benedict] Arnold's invasion, that he marched with the s'd. Company to the half way house between Yorktown & Hampton where Colo. Charles Dabney was stationed in Command of a body of Malitia. That he there quited the infantry and entered a Company of volunteer Cavalry under the Command of Capt William O. Callis [William Overton Callis, pension application W6645] with whom he served in and about Hampton untill the Company was discharged towards the last of April. He returned home and after a short interval joined the American Army, as a volunteer of Cavalry then under the Command of the Marquis La Fayette [Marquis de Lafayette] at the City of Richmond. From Richmond he was sent with the dispatches to Baran Steuben [sic: Baron von Steuben] whom he found at the point of fork [at the confluence of James and Rivanna rivers, early June 1781], whence with dispatches form the Baran to the Marquis he regained the Marquis, in the County of Hanover having been chased by and narrowly escaped from Tarltons Corps of light troops [Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion]. He continued with the Marquis untill a few days previous to Wayne's engagement with the British near the Green Springs [Gen. Anthony Wayne, Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul 1781]. His horse now having tired he went home on furlow for a short period and again set out to join the Army at Williamsburg preparing to lay siege to York and united himself to Capt. Benjamin Harris's Command then on duty at Travis's point the mouth of Queen's Creek [Travis Point at the mouth of Queen Creek] a few miles above yorktown, with this command he continued untill it was ordered to join the main army then before the town of York where he remained on duty untill Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct 1781]. He then volunteered to march with the prisoners to Nolins ferry on the Potowmak [sic: Nolands Ferry on Potomac River], but on the second or third days march found himself unable to proceed and was discharged to reach home about a hundred and fifty or sixty miles. This he accomplished with much pain and difficulty in fifteen or twenty days according to the best of his recollection.

He has not pretended nor is he able at this distance of time to be accurate as to dates he is however entirely confident that he did not spend less than eight months of the last ten of the war in Virginia, in actual service, indeed he recollects not a single interval except those already mentioned (while absent from the Army) between the early part of January and his return home in the early part of November (1781) when he might not consider himself in the military service of his Country.

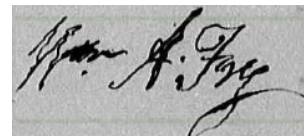
That he was born in Albemarle County Va. on the 17th day of October 1761. The record (kept by his farther) of his age is in the possession of his niece Mrs. Ann Bullett in the County of Jefferson He was living in Albemarle County Va. when called into service; lived since the Revolutionary war in Albemarle until 1799 then moved to Ky & settled in Jessamine County where he has continued to reside ever since. His services were volunteered. The names of the officers and general circumstances of his service above stated. Has no recollection of ever having recived a written discharge from the service. States James Overstreet, Joseph Baughn, John Hill, Samuel Burk, William Hogan, John Harris William Harris, Henry Overstreet, and Sam'l. Knock are persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a

soldier of the Revolution.

He further states that he knows of no person living except his brother Joshua Fry [S37947] whose affidavit is hereto annexed, by whom he can prove his services or any portion of them.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency in any State that he knows of.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

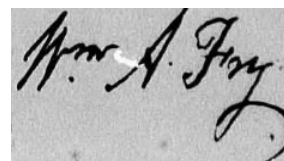
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm. A. Fry".

The amended decliration of Wm. A. Fry to his original decliration made on the 15th of Febr. 1834 in open court in the county of Jessamine state of Ky.

He states from the best of his recollection & after a conversation with his brother Joshua Fry, whose affadavit accompanies his original decliration, that his sevices in the Revolutionary war commenced January 1781, he thinks and believes, about the 10th of that month but he is perfectly confident, it could not have been beyond the 12th, that he continued in the service as set forth in his original statement until near the last of April he recollects being on his way home from the army, on the 26th of April the night of a hard frost, which has been often spoken of by those who lived in that day. He believes he arriv'd at home about the 27th of April 1781 His first tour therefore was from the 12th of January to the 27th of April in the year 1781

His second tour refered to in his original statement as a voluntary of Calvery, he is entirely confident could not have been later in May than 15th in the year 1781. He believes it was earlier in that month than the 15th but he is willing to put it to the 15th so that he feels perfectly assured that he is not charging for too great a length of time, and that he served until the 1st of Novr. of the af'd. year of 1781.

[13 June 1835]

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm. A. Fry".

NOTE: A document in the file states that William A. Fry died on 7 Sep 1835.