

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Martin S30563

f39VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/9/13

[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.]

County of Clark State of Kentucky

On this 25th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Richard French one of the Circuit Judges of the State of Kentucky John Martin a resident of the County of Clark and State of Kentucky aged eighty-three years last March who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, that he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1775. That he performed six tours of duty during the war of the revolution. The first when Governor Dunmore removed the powder on board of one of his Majesty's (George the third) ships. He was ordered to Williamsburg under the command of Captain Nicholas Lewis of Albemarle County and State of Virginia where he at that time resided and was first orderly Sergeant in this company. And when the company got to Hanover County the march of the company was countermanded. The distance was about one hundred miles but the times not recollected but with two days that we were in the roads before we started he supposes the time must have been eleven days or upwards.

The second tour under the command of Dr. [?] George Gilmore in 1775 when Governor Dunmore offered freedom to all slaves that would repair on board his Majesty's ships – this tour was to Williamsburg one hundred and sixty miles and time one month and five days –

The third tour was for two months at the Barracks in Albemarle County Virginia for the purpose of guarding the British Prisoners. During this tour he was Captain of a company of militia, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Francis Taylor.

The fourth tour he received orders from General Wood, to carry the British prisoners two hundred in number from the Barracks in Albemarle to Fredericktown in Maryland which took 11 baggage wagons – Distance supposed to be two hundred twenty-five miles – time not recollected, but supposed to be twenty-one days or more – He was engaged two days or more at the Barracks making preparation – upon this expedition he bore his own expenses and never received any compensation –

The fifth tour was at Charlottesville when the British under the command of Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] routed the Assembly, there being no field officer in the County, he received orders from Governor Jefferson to order the militia to Charlottesville, and hear the Assembly debated whether they would supply his men with arms and ammunition, which they had at command until the British came in routed them, and took the Arms and Ammunition and destroyed them, his men when they found they could not get arms went home, He remained at the River until the British entered it, when he also made his escape, this tour took nine days –

The sixth and last tour was at the Siege of York in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Richardson [Holt Richardson], in which Regiment he was promoted to the command of a

Battalion and acted as Major about two months, this tour was for three months and three days, and six days returning home, distance about one hundred seventy miles, he was in actual service altogether about seven months and twenty-five days, to wit, one month and sixteen days as an orderly Sergeant and about two months as a Major and the balance of the time as a Captain. He does not recollect what has become of his Commissions but supposes he has mislaid them. That he was acquainted with General Charles Scott, Captain Holman Rice of the Continental Virginia line, Colonel Beverly Randolph, Colonel St. George Tucker, that he can prove his services by said Rice who now lives in Bath County Kentucky, Colonel James Lewis & Colonel Samuel Murray [sic, Samuel Murrell] & David Watts & Mariah Madison & Hasten Marks.

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 – Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

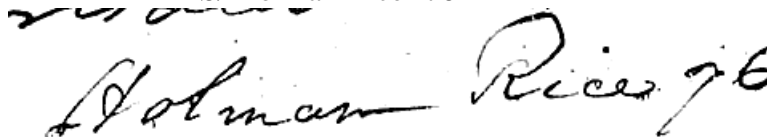
S/ John Martin



I Holman Rice residing in Bath County Kentucky, hereby certify that I am well acquainted with John Martin who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration, that I believe him to be eighty-three years of age, and I further state that I knew him during the revolutionary war, in the year 1779 and which time he was acting as a Captain and was then at Albemarle Barracks Virginia – I was there about 7 months at that time and the said John Martin was in service at that place about 2 months or upwards acting as Captain and commanded a company in a Regiment commanded by Francis Taylor.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Holman Rice¹ 76



And the following affidavits viz. one of James Lewis, one of Colonel Samuel Murrell, one of Daniel Watts, and one of Maria Madison were read in Court.

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Fayette County Sct.

This day personally appeared before me S. Shivel a justice of the peace in & for said County David Watts Sr. and made oath that Captain John Martin served three months & three days in Colonel Holt Richardson Regiment in the Revolution war, at the siege of York Town against Cornwallis & during the said length of time, the said Captain John Martin was promoted to that of Major of the Army.

Given under my hand this 29 day of August 1832

S/ Saml. Shivel, JP

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The deposition of Maria Madison of Jefferson County taken before me, W H Blaydes a

¹ [Holman Rice S31327](#)

Justice of the Peace of Clark County Kentucky this 24th day of August 1832 – deposed & saith –

That she recollects, that John Martin then of Albemarle County Virginia, and now of Clark County Kentucky, was in the service of the United States about the year 1775, under the command of Colonel Nicholas Lewis, and acted as this deponent was informed & believes as orderly Sergeant, and that the said Martin, performed a tour of duty – That the said Martin, marched to Williamsburg, and was appointed a Lieutenant shortly thereafter – That the said Martin performed another tour of duty, at the Barracks, in Albemarle County Virginia where he took charge of the militia, to guard the British Prisoners – That the said Martin received a Captain's Commission, and was ordered by Colonel Wood to convey about 200 British prisoners to Frederick Town in Maryland – That she believes this duty the said Martin performed – At the siege of York, the said Martin received the Commission of Major, and was under the command of Colonel Holt Richardson, and the said Martin as this deponent recollects, was in command, when the British troops commanded by Tarleton, were at Charlottesville in Virginia –

That this deponent believes that the said Martin was in Commission from the commencement, to the close of the War, and that he was always ready to Act, and perform duty, when called on –

That this deponent resided in the family of the said Martin, and that he was in actual service, upwards of 6 months – & further this deponent saith not.

S/ Mariah Madison

Mariah Madison

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The affidavit of James Lewis² taken before me James Robinson an acting Justice of the peace for the County of Franklin State of Tennessee. This Affiant being first duly sworn saith that he recollects the following Services performed by Major John Martin during the Revolutionary War, to wit, at the time that Lord Dunmore (then Governor of Virginia) removed the Powder out of the Public Magazine in Williamsburg and put it on board of one of his Majesty's (George the third) ships as he said for safekeeping there were two Companies of Volunteers marched from the County of Albemarle the Company to which I belonged to marched to Williamsburg the company that Major Martin belonged to was discharged as well as I recollect at Hanover Court House the powder business having been adjusted between Patrick Henry and the Governor by the Governor giving a draft on the Raccon [?] Genl.³ for so much money as and Equivalent for the Powder; the next tower [tour] of duty that I recollect his performing was a tower of duty at Albemarle Barracks as Captain of Militia to guard Burgoyne's troops this was in the year 1779 sometime after that Burgoyne's Troops were ordered from that place and Captain John Martin conducted the Remains of the British Prisoners to Frederick Town in Maryland; after that he was ordered to Service and was in Service as Captain of the Militia at the time that Colonel Tarleton of the British dragoons paid us a visit at Charlottesville Albemarle Virginia and routed the Assembly – he also served a tour at the Siege of York where he received a Majors Commission and retained the same during the War; he might have served other services but this is all I recollect, as part of the time I was in the Continental Army; nor neither do I know the

² FPA W303

³ *Raccon Genl.*

length of the tours he served but I am perfectly well assured that they amounted in all to more than 6 months; I have been well acquainted with Major John Martin for upwards of 50 years he has always been counted and honest & Honorable man and would ever statement he may make may be relied on and further this affiant Saith not.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 29th day of August 1832

S/ James Lewis



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State of Kentucky Barren County

On this 28th day of August 1832 personally appeared before me the undersigned James Murrell a Justice of the Peace for said County Colonel Samuel Murrell⁴ of said County aged 76 years, and made oath that he was a near neighbor to Captain John Martin in Albemarle County State of Virginia and was Ensign in the Militia Company commanded by said Captain Martin, the deponent further states, at the Commencement of the Revolutionary War said Martin marched to Williamsburg the seat of Government of Virginia under the command of Doctor George Gilmore, distance about one hundred fifty miles, and what length of time he was detained in service the deponent does not recollect, not long afterwards a second expedition was ordered, under Colonel Nicholas Lewis said Martin also marched with Colonel Lewis as far as Hanover Courthouse Virginia, Orders were countermanded and the troops marched home, distance about one hundred miles time of service in this tour not recollected, in the year 1779 said Martin served a two months tour as Captain of Militia at the Albemarle Barracks, in the year 1780, marched a division of what was called Burgoyne's prisoners from the Albemarle barracks to the State of Maryland And in the year 1781 said Captain Martin was ordered on duty at Martinsville, not long before the arrival of the Enemy at that place, this deponent on duty under said Martin, length of service not recollected, the same year said Martin, served a tour of two months, which tour ended at the Siege of York & taking of Cornwallis. This deponent reserves to himself all manner of exception to era in stating the length of time of service done by said Martin and the particular dates, as he has nothing to rely on but his memory, but believes that taking the 3 marches to Williamsburg, Hanover Courthouse & the state of Maryland and the small town of Charlottesville together, they could not be performed in less time than 4 months – this added to the 2 full tours of 2 months each, makes 8 months which time this deponent verily believes the said Captain John Martin was in the Service of his Country during the Revolutionary War. Sworn to before me and given under my hand the date and year before written.

S/ Jas. Murrell, JP BC

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County of Clarke & State of Kentucky

On this 11th of June 1833 personally appeared before James Anderson a justice of the peace for said County John Martin a resident of Clarke County Kentucky aged eighty-four last March who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed

⁴ FPA W3031

June 7th 1832.

That he entered the Army of the United States in the year 1775 and that he performed during the War of the Revolution six tours of duty. The first when Governor Dunmore removed the powder on board of one of his Majesty's (George III) ships, he the said John Martin was ordered to Williamsburg under the command of Captain Nicholas Lewis of Albemarle County Virginia where he the said John Martin then resided and that he served as orderly Sergeant to this company and that the Company marched from Albemarle through Louisa County into Hanover County where the march of the company was countermanded the distance about one hundred miles the time to the best of his recollection was 11 days.

The second tour was to Williamsburg under the command of Dr. George Gilmore in 1775 when Governor Dunmore offered Liberty to Slaves who would come on board his Majesty's ships this tour was from Albemarle through Louisa, Goochland & Henrico to Williamsburg General Charles Scott then Colonel Scott had the command there – the distance one hundred & sixty miles time one month & five days, during the 2nd tour he was first or orderly Sergeant.

The third tour was for two months at the Barracks in Albemarle County Virginia Guarding the British Prisoners there during this tour he was Captain of a company of Militia in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Francis Taylor.

The fourth Tour was from Albemarle County to Fredericktown in Maryland he received orders from General Wood to convey the British prisoners from the Barracks to Frederick Town in Maryland there were 200 prisoners and 11 Baggage Wagons they went from Albemarle through Orange, Culpeper, & Loudoun, Colonel Joseph Crockett commanded at Frederick Town at that time during this expedition he bore his own expenses for which he has never received any compensation he at that time bore the commission of Captain – distance supposed to be two hundred twenty-five miles time believed to be twenty-one days.

The fifth tour at Charlottesville when the British under Command of Tarleton routed the Assembly – there being no field officer in the County & he being the oldest Captain received orders from Governor Jefferson to ordered the militia to Charlottesville and there the Assembly debated & debated whether they would supply his men with arms & ammunition (which they had at hand) until the British came and routed them and took the arms & ammunition and destroyed them. His men when they found they could not get arms went home & he remained at the River until the British began to Fort it when he also made his escape. This tour took nine days.

The sixth and last tour was at the Siege of York he left home in July 1781 & proceeded through Goochland and down through Richmond into Henrico where he with his company joined the Marquis de Lafayette. His Regiment was commanded by Colonel Holt Richardson and the Brigade by General Lawson [Robert Lawson] during this Siege he was promoted to the command of a Battalion and acted as a Major two months this tour was for three months and nine days including six days in returning home, a distance about one hundred seventy miles.

He was in actual service as well as he can recollect altogether seven months and twenty-five days to wit one month and sixteen days as an orderly Sergeant two months as Major and the balance of the time as Captain.

He does not know what has become of his commissions – that he was acquainted with General Charles Scott, Captain Holman Rice of the continentals Virginia line Colonel Beverly Randolph & Colonel St. George Tucker.

That he can prove his services by said Rice who now lives in Bath County Kentucky Colonel James Lewis of Franklin can Tennessee Colonel Samuel Murrell of Barren County

Kentucky David Watts of Fayette County Kentucky & Maria Madison of Jessamine County Kentucky. 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 any agency of any state. Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Martin

Recapitulation

As orderly Sergeant one month 16 days

As Captain 4 months 9 days

As Major 2 months and 0 days

Mon: 7 months & 25 days

for which I claim a pension

S/ John Martin

[Facts in file: veteran died December 3, 1837; the file contains no reference to a wife or children.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$127.83 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Sergeant for one month and five days and as a Captain for six months and three days in the Virginia militia.]